

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES

England & Wales · Charity number 1144022

Details

Other names	ACT & CHILDREN'S HOSPICES UK
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	07783702
Registered	2011-09-28
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Together For Short Lives Brunswick Court Brunswick Square Bristol Avon BS2 8PE
Phone	01179897820
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Website	www.togetherforshortlives.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY ARE, AND ARE SPECIFICALLY RESTRICTED TO, PROMOTING, FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT, THE SUPPORT OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITH LIFE-LIMITING AND LIFE-THREATENING CONDITIONS AND THEIR FAMILIES, IN SUCH CHARITABLE WAYS AND BY SUCH CHARITABLE MEANS AS THE TRUSTEES THINK FIT, IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT: SUCH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEIR FAMILIES HAVE AS FULFILLING LIVES AS POSSIBLE; AND SUCH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE RECEIVE THE BEST CARE AT THE END OF LIFE

Activities: Providing information to families about the range of care support available
Supporting organisations to continue to offer the highest standards of care
Raising and distributing essential funding to care organisations
Giving a powerful voice to children, families and providers, ensuring their views influence Government policy

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Other Finance, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability
- **Who:** Children/young People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** NATIONAL
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£6,027,895	£6,595,638	£2,851,361	43
2024-03-31	£6,901,670	£7,629,175	£3,397,370	49
2023-03-31	£6,131,788	£6,179,946	£3,972,879	39
2022-03-31	£3,153,150	£3,366,311	£4,143,354	27
2021-03-31	£3,208,122	£3,235,272	£4,313,665	25

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Andrew Heywood Hughes	Chair	2025-03-31
BRAD MCLEAN		2025-10-01
Dr Lynda Ann Brook		2026-04-23
Jeremy Mark Evans		2024-03-27
Joanna Laddie		2019-11-05
Kirsty Murray		2025-10-01
Mark Winston Smith		2023-09-20
Robert William Lightfoot		2023-09-20
Sarah Lorking		2024-03-27
Sarah Morgan		2025-10-01
Susan Kathryn Hogg		2019-07-30

Accounts

Together for Short Lives

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Registered company number: 7783702

Registered charity numbers:

1144022 (England & Wales)

SC044139 (Scotland)

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Trustees' report
For the year ended 31 March 2025

Trustees

Andrew Heywood Hughes, Chair	(from 01 April 2025)
Adam Smith	(Resigned 01 September 2024)
Bernie Watson	(Resigned 30 November 2024)
Jo Laddie	
Jeremy Evans	
Lisa Kauffmann	(Resigned 09 May 2025)
Mark Smith	
Rob Lightfoot	
Sarah Lorking, Treasurer	
Sarah Talbot-Williams,	(Chair, resigned 31 March 2025)
Stephanie Nimmo	(Resigned 17 June 2025)
Sue Hogg	
Tracy Tait	(Resigned 17 June 2025)

Company registered number

7783702

Charity registered numbers

1144022 (England & Wales)
SCO44139 (Scotland)

Registered office

Suite 1b, Whitefriars, Lewins Mead, Bristol, BS1 2NT

Chief Executive Officer

Nick Carroll (from 07 November 2024)
Andy Fletcher (to 18 October 2024)

Executive team

Nick Carroll
Martin Cordy (from 01 April 2025)
Jo Killip (from 27 January to 04 April 25)
Dr Helena Dunbar (to 28 February 2025)
Mala Langdon (to 31 January 25)
Andy Fletcher (to 18 October 2024)
Kate McSweeney (to 29 April 2024)

Independent auditor

Haysmac LLP, 10 Queen Street Place, London, EC4R 1AG

Bankers

NatWest Plc, 32 Corn Street, Bristol, BS99 7UG
CCLA, Senator House, 85 Queen Victoria Street, London, EC4V 4ET

Investment managers

Sarasin & Partners LLP, Juxon House, 100 St Paul's Churchyard, London, EC4M 8BU

Company Secretary

Martin Cordy

Chair and Chief Executive's Introduction

Welcome to Together for Short Lives' Annual Report and Accounts for 2024-25.

This year has been a testament to the dedication of our staff, supporters, and members, demonstrating what we can achieve together in the face of increasing demand and a challenging operating environment.

Seriously ill children and their families deserve the opportunity to live full and meaningful lives, supported by care that enables them to thrive. By working together, we make this possible.

However, for many families, the journey remains lonely and isolating. Parents and siblings often struggle within a system that does not fully meet their unique and complex needs.

That's why we are here—to ensure families can access high-quality children's palliative (and end of life) care when and where they need it most.

This is how we deliver change:

System change: We advocate for seriously ill children and their families, pushing for change in areas like workforce shortages, funding gaps, and systemic barriers

Improved delivery: We bring professionals together to improve children's palliative care through research, training, and resources, pushing for inclusivity and better care delivery.

Direct support: Through our Family Support Hub, we offer practical, emotional, and financial assistance, connecting families to a compassionate community, & sign posting to existing services

Navigating a Year of Transition

This has been a year of change for our charity. As we reached the conclusion of key projects and adjusted to staffing changes, our commitment to our mission remained unwavering.

Our income reduced as expected, following the conclusion of our £10 million, three-year partnership with Morrisons. However, through this partnership, we achieved significant impact: providing capital expenditure grants to improve hospice facilities, offering memory-making grants for families, delivering unrestricted funding for lifeline care, and, most notably, launching a community outreach project that reached 2202 families in high-prevalence areas.

Additionally, we expanded our cost-of-living support to include a targeted energy assistance programme, providing essential relief for families overwhelmed by rising costs.

Despite these achievements, we, like our member charities, face mounting pressures from rising costs and growing demand, compounded by an increasingly challenging fundraising environment. To ensure long-term sustainability, we reduced core costs in the first half of the 2025/26 financial year through headcount adjustments and continue to closely monitor our financial position.

Looking ahead we remain committed to delivering sustainable services that maximise impact for families and the sector. We will continue to develop an operating model that is focused and aligned, prioritising the areas where we can have most impact and signposting and referring to other partners.

Trustees' report
For the year ended 31 March 2025

As always, we are deeply grateful to our incredible supporters, staff, and volunteers, whose dedication has made our work possible. We also extend our sincere appreciation to our board members for their invaluable guidance and leadership.

We would like to thank Sarah Talbot Williams, Bernie Watson, Andy Fletcher, Mala Langdon, and Helena Dunbar who stepped down this year. We are grateful for their leadership, wisdom and contributions to our mission.

While challenges lay ahead, we are confident that by working collaboratively with our supporters, staff and members, we can overcome them—ensuring that more children and families receive the support they need, when and where they need it most.

Andrew Heywood Hughes
Chair of Trustees

Nick Carroll
Chief Executive

Trustees' Annual Report

The trustees (who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act) present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of Together for Short Lives (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The trustees confirm that the Annual Report and Financial Statements of the charity comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charity's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (second addition - effective 1 January 2019)".

Structure, Governance and Management

Objectives of the charity

The objectives of the charity are promoting for the public benefit the support of children and young people with life-limiting conditions such that:

- children and young people and their families have as fulfilling lives as possible; and
- children and young people receive the best care at the end of life.

Constitution

Together for Short Lives is a registered charity and was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee on 4th October 2011. The constitution of the charity is set out in the Memorandum and Articles of Association. Trustees are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act.

The charity has one wholly owned subsidiary charity: Together for Short Lives (Trading) Ltd (Company number 06434214), a company which is registered in England and Wales and is used for fundraising activities.

Board of Trustees

The charity is governed by its Board of Trustees, which is detailed on page 3. All trustees give of their time freely and no trustee remuneration was paid in the year. Details of trustee expenses and related party transactions are disclosed in notes 7, 8 and 20 to the accounts.

Trustees may hold office for three years. At the end of their first term, they can be re-elected for one further three-year term. Any Trustee who has served two terms of office is not eligible for re-appointment as a Trustee unless there are exceptional reasons. The charity aims to appoint trustees across a wide and diverse range of backgrounds, skills, and regions.

Induction and training of trustees

On appointment, new trustees receive an induction pack containing key information about the charity and its governance structure. New trustees are encouraged to meet with other existing trustees and are invited to visit the charity's offices to meet with the Executive Team and other staff.

Ongoing training for trustees is given as required; in general, all trustees are encouraged to maintain or enhance their knowledge, especially in areas in which they are not expert. There is a trustee

Trustees' report
For the year ended 31 March 2025

development session at each full Board meeting exploring issues such as current trends in fundraising and children's palliative care policy and practice.

Sub Committees of the Board

The trustees perform their governance role via the full Board which meets at least four times a year. During the year there have been three committees which are formally constituted as committees of the Board of Trustees and the Board approves the Terms of Reference.

- Finance, Governance and Fundraising Committee
- Clinical Strategy and Quality Assurance Committee
- Appointments Committee

The recorded actions and minutes of committee meetings are submitted to the Board of Trustees at its next meeting. There is a written scheme of delegation that sets out which decisions are made by the Board, committees, or staff and this is reviewed regularly. The committees therefore have certain delegated authority within their areas of responsibility, and these are subsequently reported to the Board for information. However, in other areas, they are only able to make recommendations to the Board.

Committees are able to co-opt to their membership other individuals who may bring particular expertise to that committee.

Advisory Council

The Advisory Council ensures that our work is better informed by those with lived experience of children's palliative care and those working to deliver it across the UK. Young people, parents of children with life-limiting conditions and representatives from across the children's palliative care sector contribute their expertise and communicate their views on issues affecting children's palliative care to inform and advise the work of Together for Short Lives. It is an integral part of the strategic and operational planning for the charity.

Remuneration for key management staff

The charity aims to ensure that appropriate remuneration packages are set to attract, retain and motivate an appropriate calibre of employees.

Salary benchmarking is undertaken to compare roles with similar positions within the charity and not for profit sector.

Decisions on setting pay levels are made as follows:

- For staff apart from Senior Managers and the Chief Executive, by Senior Managers in conjunction with the Director of Finance & Resources
- For Senior Managers other than Chief Executive, by the Chief Executive
- For the Chief Executive, by the Board of Trustees.
- The Board has final approval of all pay rises across the organisation.

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Safeguarding

Together for Short Lives is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all children, young people, and vulnerable adults who come into contact with our organisation. We recognise our legal, ethical, and regulatory responsibilities and strive to create a safe, supportive, and inclusive environment for all beneficiaries, staff, volunteers, and partners.

The organisation has a Designated Safeguarding Lead and a Deputy Safeguarding Lead who are responsible for embedding safeguarding policy, practice, and culture throughout our work. All safeguarding concerns are logged and reviewed by the Executive Team and then reported to the Clinical Strategy and Quality Assurance Committee and escalated to the Board of Trustees, ensuring robust oversight.

In the past year:

- All staff completed an updated, interactive Level 1 safeguarding training, tailored to our work, including real-life scenarios, reflections, and knowledge checks.
- Our safeguarding policy was revised, and a new child-friendly version was introduced to help ensure accessibility for younger audiences.
- A whistleblowing policy remains in place, offering a confidential route for anyone to raise concerns without fear of repercussion.

We carry out Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks for all new staff, including enhanced checks for those working directly with families via our helpline and community outreach roles. The safeguarding lead, deputy, and helpline staff all undertake additional Level 3 safeguarding training, in line with best practice and our service responsibilities.

In line with our Helpline Standards Accreditation, all Family Support Hub team members participate in structured reflective practice, using a dedicated safeguarding proforma to review how safeguarding is managed in their contact with families.

All safeguarding concerns are recorded securely in our Case Manager system. In the past year, 12 safeguarding concerns were raised. In all cases, procedures were followed, support was offered, and one case was escalated to the police.

Safeguarding remains a priority across all areas of our work, and we are committed to continually improving our practice to ensure we offer the safest and most responsive support to families and professionals.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

Like many charities, we know we still have work to do before we are a fully inclusive organisation where everybody can be themselves and feel that they belong.

Feedback from our annual staff survey suggests we are making progress in being more inclusive. In 2020, only 46% of staff agreed with the statement "I am comfortable being myself at work". In 2025, this figure was 84%, in line with last year's feedback. We will continue to develop and roll out our plans to be a more inclusive organisation.

As well as making internal change, we know that we must develop more inclusive services and

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For the year ended 31 March 2025

support the children's palliative care sector to reach all the children and families who need support. We know from evidence that there is a higher prevalence of children with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions among Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic families, particularly those from Pakistani and South Asian communities.

This year, as part of our Morrisons corporate partnership our community outreach workers have been working to reach more children and families in underserved communities, specifically in three areas where prevalence of life limiting conditions is highest amongst ethnically diverse communities. These posts are raising awareness of children's palliative care, putting the needs of children and families at the heart of service delivery, and enabling families to easily access the help and support they need locally and nationally.

Membership

The charity operates a membership scheme, currently under review, for organisations and professionals working in the children's palliative care sector. We have a paid membership of 53 organisations (which includes all children's hospice services in the UK) and 52 individual care professionals.

Membership Scheme	Number of Memberships
Associate - Abroad	12
Associate - Friend of	21
Associate - Student	3
Individual	52
Organisation - Extra large	17
Organisation - Large	15
Organisation - Med	13
Organisation - Small	8
Team	6
Grand Total	147

The organisation operates a digital professional forum, open to all members and any organisations and individuals working across children's palliative care. This online platform has continued to grow and now includes over 300 professionals, representing a wide range of disciplines and services across the UK. Discussions have recently focused on topics such as bereavement support for siblings, the Children's Palliative Outcome Scale (C-POS), navigating staffing challenges, and best practice for managing anticipatory medications in the home. The forum enables professionals to share experiences, pose questions, and connect with peers on emerging practice, policy updates, and service development. It remains a valued space for learning and collaboration across the sector.

Public benefit

The objects of the organisation are for children and young people with life-limiting conditions to have as fulfilling lives as possible and the best care at the end of life. The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing Together for Short Lives' aims and objectives and in planning our strategic priorities

Trustees' report
For the year ended 31 March 2025

and activities for the year.

Whilst there is greater elaboration below, our strategic priorities to fulfil the public benefit are outlined as follows.

- Widening access to children's palliative care
- Improving the quality of children's palliative care
- Strengthening the sustainability of children's palliative care

The way in which we have achieved the public benefit is outlined in the "Activities, Achievements and Performance" section below.

Vision, Values and Strategy

Our vision and purpose

Together for Short Lives' purpose is to ensure every child, and their family, has high quality children's palliative and end of life care, when and where they need it.

We are here to make sure families can access the right care and support and that those providing it have the skills and resources they need. Together with everyone who provides care and support to these children and families we are here to help them have as fulfilling lives as possible and the very best care at the end of life. Because while we can't change the diagnosis, we can help children and families make the most of their time together.

How we create change

The challenges facing children and families and those who support them are complex. To help address them, Together for Short Lives works to have impact at three levels – with individual families, with services and professionals delivering care and with the wider health and care system.

Strategic direction

During Spring 2025, the Trustees and Executives have worked together to develop a new strategic vision for Together for Short Lives: **United for Impact**. Our first step was to listen. We reviewed research and consulted with members and people with lived experience to understand their needs; what they value, what makes a difference, and what we can deliver effectively.

We have been mindful to avoid duplication and unnecessary competition, and we've looked closely at our workload to ensure we focus on doing fewer things well; making our work manageable but high-impact.

This work has shaped a revised organisational model, or Theory of Change, and marks the beginning of our strategic review process: **United for Impact**. This process aims to bring greater clarity, collaboration, and meaningful results for the children and families we are here to support.

The following changes are proposed within the revised *Theory of Change*:

- **Broader system change work:** we will prioritise and lead sector-wide, national research and initiatives that provide clear, actionable insights to drive meaningful improvements at scale – putting research and policy into clinical practice.
- **Sharper focus:** reducing the number of projects and outputs, in favour of delivering fewer, higher-impact interventions; alongside a high value fundraising strategy with increased collaboration and alignment, and a focus on growing unrestricted, & full cost recovery
- **Stronger communication and measurement:** we will focus on clearer communication, ensuring families and professionals understand our offer, and we will strengthen how we measure and demonstrate impact.
- **Evolving our Family Support Hub:** we will raise awareness and the prominence of the Family Support Hub, using it more effectively to understand and advocate for family users, support engagement, and develop a wholistic offer that meets their needs.

Trustees' report
For the year ended 31 March 2025

- **Deepened collaboration:** we will prioritise co-creation and collaboration, working more often with others and using associates to bring in additional skills and expertise where needed.
- **Better inclusion & representation:** we will broaden and deepen both our Membership and Advisory Council to ensure we are able to listen, understand and build campaigns and services that appropriately meet the needs of families and professionals

Between autumn and winter 2026 the team will meet and work collaboratively on operationalising the strategy to agree organisational priorities and a set of focused and aligned activities with measurable outcomes.

This work will include a support and development programme for the staff to aid their wellbeing and equip them to deliver this change programme.

We will be communicating our new strategy with stakeholders in early 2026.

Our values

1. We put children and families at the heart of everything we do.
2. We are **ambitious** about improving the lives of children and families and stand up for what we believe in.
3. We are **collaborative** and bring people together to deliver the biggest impact.
4. We are **inclusive and open** to new and different views, approaches and experiences

Our strategic priorities

Our strategy sets out a ten-year challenge. We feel that children and families and those who support them deserve a bold ambition and roadmap for change. For too long their needs have been overlooked by those planning and developing health and care policy which has led to this inconsistency. These are big challenges, and they need big and bold solutions.

It is also clear that the world is changing at a rapid rate, exacerbated by the COVID pandemic which will have significant long-term impacts on wellbeing, the health and care system and the financial landscape for years to come. To reflect this changing world, our strategy sets 10-year strategic ambitions, setting out our vision for how we want the world to look different for children and families by 2033.

We will prioritise our shorter-term objectives in a series of over a 2-3 year phases, evaluating and refining them annually to ensure we continue to progress towards our 10-year strategic ambitions. This will enable us to be an agile organisation which can develop longer term impactful programmes but adapt more flexibly to the changing environment.

To steer our work over the next decade, we have set three strategic ambitions to make sure more children and families are able to get the support they need:

Trustees' report
For the year ended 31 March 2025

1. **No family faces the journey alone** – to increase reach so that more children and families can **ACCESS** 24/7 palliative care.
2. **The best care and support** – to improve the **QUALITY** of palliative care so families have the best support.
3. **Support today, tomorrow and every day** – to strengthen the **SUSTAINABILITY** of children's palliative care so families can rely on support.

In the last year our operational priorities were as follows:

- **Maximise funding for existing services and support** – we seek to attract ongoing recurring funding to support the services we already deliver. With a compelling case for support focused on the difference we make to children and to families.
- **New developments that grow or deepen existing work** – we will only look at new developments where it builds out, sustains or embeds existing work or delivery.
- **Full cost recovery** – we will ensure that full cost recovery is built into the bid/pre-project work as well as the delivery of any new development. In addition, we will review the offer to members and how sector support is funded.
- **Improve planning and capacity** – we will review capacity as an Executive Team on a regular monthly basis and look at where the challenges to delivery are and adjust the priorities in the functional plans as we go.

Activities, Achievements and Performance for the public benefit

We have detailed below under each of our activities and achievements for the year.

Supporting families through our family support hub

Over the past year, our Family Support Hub has continued to expand its reach, connecting with more children and families and ensuring they receive the support, guidance, and care they need. Through personalised advice, practical assistance, and compassionate listening, we've worked to remove barriers and advocate for greater access to the services and resources that families of seriously ill children rely on every day. This year was the first full 12 months with a 'call back service' in operation – with the team responding to voicemails and emails but not receiving live calls. Despite this, the number of queries from families and those supporting that were responded to via our helpline and information service increased from 421 (23/24) to 1217 (24/25) – an increase of 200%.

We raised sufficient funds to keep the Butterfly Fund open across the UK for the full year – a grant of £300 for families when their child dies. During the year, 635 Butterfly Fund payments were made compared to 245 the previous year (although Fund was open only for certain areas (Scotland and Morrisons site areas) for 7 months).

We continue to work with 3rd parties to offer enhanced support to families that come through to the Family Support Hub via the helpline service or via the website, for example this year we worked with the following partners:

Partner	2023/24		2024/25	
	Cases	Value	Cases	Value
Turn2Us	61	£94,050	86	£107,816
Rosie's Rainbow Pantry	18	£1800*	97	£9700*

**assumption that one shop valued at £100*

In addition, we secured family grants from the Children in need Emergency Fund (15) and a small handful of other organisations to whom we are able to make family referrals to e.g. LawWorks, REACT.

From 4020 contacts with families, over half of them (2411) received enhanced support in the form of a grant, legal advice, a food shop or resources. In total over the year, families received over £375,000 worth of grants through the family support hub, including 300 £100 vouchers from our partners at M&S Foods. In addition to this, £38,000 worth of food shopping was distributed to families via our Morrison's community outreach project and partners at Rosie's Rainbow Pantry. The monetary value of awards in 2023/24 was not routinely captured so a fair comparison is not available

We continue to support parents to moderate our closed Facebook groups and, for the second year in succession have seen a 20% growth this year in membership. We now have 857 members in total (main group 689 (+107), bereaved group 128 (+40)).

We know that timely, accurate information in a variety of formats is highly valued by families, and we continue to review and update our family information offer to families both online and in print. We have taken opportunities to disseminate family packs through our Morrison's Community Outreach, SGN and Kentown projects.

Throughout the year 82 individual family members joined one of 10 online workshops on a variety of themes. We were delighted to invite speakers to join these events from Sibs (sibling support) and

Claire House Children's Hospice (transition). By comparison, 5 online workshops were held in the previous year, reaching 32 people.

We were also delighted to provide 26 complimentary breaks to families through our corporate partnership with Center Parcs UK. A total of 141 family members and friends enjoyed a three-night stay at a woodland lodge at one of the 5 parcs.

Alongside the Family Hub we support family members who volunteer their time to influence campaigns and inform research into children's palliative care. Our group of Family Experts (101 members) are given monthly opportunities to engage with the sector, sharing their own lived experience of children's palliative care. For the first time we have been able to observe that several new members of this group keen to have their voices heard joined as a result of our campaigns rather than having come through the family hub.

The Kentown Children's Palliative Care programme

We are now entering the final year of the Kentown Children's Palliative Care Programme, a collaborative initiative between Together for Short Lives, The Kentown Wizard Foundation, and Rainbow Trust Children's Charity. This pioneering programme has aimed to strengthen community-based children's palliative care across Lancashire and South Cumbria, ensuring that families of children with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions are better supported, connected, and empowered.

The programme brings together three key, complementary strands of delivery:

- Nursing Care – provided by children's palliative care community nurse specialists, offering clinical expertise, symptom management support, and care coordination.
- Social Care – delivered through dedicated family support workers, providing emotional, practical, and social support to families in their own communities.
- Information and Awareness – focused on helping families navigate the often-complex landscape of health, care and community services, ensuring they can access the support they need, when they need it.

Together, these strands are brought to life through Kentown Support, a community-based service model designed to bridge the gaps between clinical services and everyday family life. At the heart of this work are our Family Support Coordinators, who play a key role in linking families with the right services, supporting care planning, and providing consistent, compassionate contact throughout their journey.

Over the course of the programme, the Kentown team has supported hundreds of families, providing tailored help and building trusted relationships that respond to each family's individual needs and circumstances. As well as direct support, the team has worked to strengthen multi-agency collaboration across the region and raise awareness of children's palliative care within local systems and communities.

As we continue the final year of the programme, we are focusing on:

- Capturing the impact of the service and learning from the experiences of families and professionals.
- Supporting the transition and sustainability planning for future service delivery in the region.
- Sharing key insights from the programme through national forums and conferences, to help influence wider models of integrated, community-based children's palliative care.

There has now been 236 children registered through the referral system with many of them continuing to receive support from more than one strand of the programme. Our coordinators (employed by Together for Short Lives) have contacted over 100 services across the Kentown geographical area. In addition to signposting families to services and other sources of support, the coordinators have been able to provide enhanced support through Together for Short Lives' Family Support Hub. A total of almost £66k was awarded to Kentown families – with £61,600 shared by 33 families through our partnership with Turn2Us. Other food shops and vouchers were offered through our partners at Morrisons (4 Crisis Pantry shops), Rosie's Rainbow Pantry (7 weekly shops) and M&S Foods (30 vouchers).

Reaching families from underserved communities

Launched in January 2023 our Morrison's outreach community project continues to support and connect with families across three areas of the UK where the prevalence of children with life-limiting conditions is significantly higher amongst the non-white British population – Bedford, Luton and Milton Keynes, Birmingham & Solihull and Greater Manchester. Family Support Hub team members reach into services in those areas and, along with the work of the three former community outreach workers funded through our Morrison's partnership, have connected with 255 services in the respective regions, raising awareness of children's palliative care and the support offered through Together for Short Lives and children's hospices.

Events have been run by colleagues across Together for Short Lives' Practice & Service Development team, reaching over 3000 individuals in total. During this reporting period, 198 families across the three regions have been given a Butterfly Grant (£300 for a child who has died of a life-limiting or life-threatening condition) and 206 Crisis Pantries have been delivered to families across the three regions in need providing total of 893 family members with a weekly food shop, totalling a massive £28,578.

In addition to our outreach work funded by Morrisons, we have established a Memory making fund to enable our hospice partners across the UK to undertake a variety of memory making activities enabling families to meet other parents, siblings and build special memories. Since it began 108 applications have now been approved to the value of £139,547, benefiting more than 11300 individual family members.

Our Building a Legacy Together Fund was launched in June 2023 to help children's hospices create a great environment where they can care for families facing the toughest of circumstances. The grants, now coming to the end of its second year, fund children's hospices and at-home services to refurbish rooms, increase capacity by using space more effectively or to purchase new equipment to enhance children's care. In our second round of grant awarding, thirteen children's hospices were given over £516,000 to spend against capital projects.

Supporting families with the cost of energy

Children with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions often face significantly higher energy costs due to the need to power-essential medical equipment and to maintain a safe and warm home environment. Recognising this vulnerability, Together for Short Lives began a three-year strategic partnership with SGN in August 2023 to deliver targeted energy support for families across the Southeast of England.

The project aims to increase access to critical energy safeguards, including simplified registration on the Priority Services Register (PSR), and to provide tailored support to help families facing fuel

Trustees' report
For the year ended 31 March 2025

poverty. A key focus is also on building the knowledge and confidence of professionals — including children's hospice staff — to recognise signs of fuel poverty and connect families with practical advice, tools, and financial assistance.

Through the Family Support Hub and Energy Support Advisor, our dedicated energy support provision enables families struggling with energy costs or debt to access expert advice, resources, and grants to help them stay warm, and supported at home.

Over the course of the project, we are working directly with 13 hospice sites across the SGN Southeast footprint. This includes delivering training workshops for both professionals and families, led by our Energy Support Advisor, alongside co-designed learning resources to embed energy awareness into everyday care practice.

As the cost-of-living crisis continues, this partnership remains a vital part of our broader mission, ensuring no family caring for a seriously ill child is left in the dark, cold, or unsupported.

Building on the success of this model, we are now expanding our work through a new partnership with Cadent, commencing in April 2025, delivering similar support across the North-West and West Midlands. This will include direct family outreach, professional education, and digital engagement to help even more families access the energy safeguards and financial support they need.

Engaging and connecting professionals in children's palliative care

Engaging with health and care professionals and bringing them together to share, learn and improve practice remains a key strand of our strategy. We know from experience the power of strong professional networks in supporting children with complex needs and improving the quality of care provided to families. Over the past year, we have delivered a wide range of opportunities for professionals working across the children's palliative care sector to come together through our forums, networks and events.

We relaunched the Children's Palliative Care Educators Forum, which now has over 120 members and continues to grow. This forum has provided valuable opportunities to hear from expert speakers on topics such as managing conflict in palliative care, sibling support, and benchmarking practices. The forum also serves as a space for professional networking, peer support, and the sharing of learning resources.

Our Leaders of Care Forum, specifically for senior clinical leaders within children's hospices, now includes 93 members, while our Network Leads Forum brings together 65 regional network leads to collaborate and share best practice.

The Joint Research Group, which we co-host with the Association for Paediatric Palliative Medicine (APPM), continues to thrive alongside Dr Emily Harrop, Consultant in Children's Palliative Care and APPM Executive Committee member. The group remains a space for collaborative research, knowledge sharing and shaping the future research agenda across the sector.

Our Transition Forum, co-hosted with Hospice UK, has also continued to provide a valuable space for professionals to share challenges and good practice in supporting young people as they move into adult services. Plans are now progressing to support a major research project, HOPSCOTCH, which aims to develop a complex intervention to facilitate the involvement of general practitioners in the coordination and delivery of care for young people with life-limiting conditions, as part of preparation for transitioning to adult services.

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We have co-hosted a 'Big Conversation' webinar alongside Hospice UK, which attracted over 100 attendees, focused on the development, use and implementation of the Children's Palliative Outcome Scale (C-POS) in clinical practice.

Throughout the year, we have also continued to represent the sector by attending 16 regional children's palliative care networks (meeting 3–4 times per year each), ensuring they remain informed about national policy developments, research, and resources – and acting as a vital link between these networks and national initiatives.

In total, we reached over 1,400 professionals this year through presentations at network meetings and our national forums. Our online professional discussion forum, with 199 active users, remains an active space for dialogue on clinical care, policy, education, and research developments.

Together, these forums, events, and networks continue to play a vital role in strengthening professional practice, improving knowledge exchange, and helping build a stronger, more connected workforce across the children's palliative care sector.

Identifying children who need palliative care

As part of our ongoing work to strengthen the understanding and consistency of children's palliative care across the UK, we have continued to lead a significant sector-wide definitions project, a key component of our wider strategy to improve education, practice and advocacy in children's palliative care.

In April 2023, we secured funding from the True Colours Trust to deliver a comprehensive engagement programme with both professionals and parents across all four UK nations. The aim of this work has been to review and revise the current approach to identifying and categorising children with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions — ensuring it reflects modern practice, better supports families, and enables professionals to more clearly assess and plan care.

Through this programme, we engaged with over 200 stakeholders, including clinicians, educators, researchers, hospices, and parent carers. Drawing on this rich engagement and feedback, we are now developing a multi-layered toolkit, building on the original framework for categorising children with life-limiting conditions first published in 1997.

The updated toolkit will support professionals in multiple ways:

- Recognise when a baby, child or young person is likely to have palliative care needs.
- Assess the child's current health status and plan appropriate care pathways.
- Support the holistic needs of the child and their family — including emotional, social, practical and spiritual dimensions.

The toolkit will also aim to:

- Provide a shared language and framework for use across clinical, educational and policy contexts.
- Support more consistent and equitable access to care, reducing variation in referral and eligibility decisions.
- Enable better data collection, research design and workforce planning.
- Strengthen the sector's ability to advocate for policy change and improved funding models.

Alongside the core definitions, the toolkit will include:

- An explanatory document outlining the rationale and development process.
- Practical guidance on how to apply the categories in day-to-day practice.
- Real-life case examples and scenarios to bring the content to life.
- Supporting materials for education, training and service planning.

As part of our strategic commitment to improving understanding and consistency across the children's palliative care sector, we have continued to lead work on refining and embedding a clear set of definitions for children's palliative care. This work has been developed in close collaboration with professionals across the sector and in response to the increasing need for shared language that reflects the breadth and complexity of palliative care for babies, children and young people.

Professional resources and education

We continue to strengthen and expand our resources for both professionals and families to support high-quality, compassionate care. This year, we worked in partnership with Bliss to develop a new parent-facing resource: *Caring for Your Baby When the Future is Uncertain*. This booklet is designed for parents who have had conversations with their care team—either during pregnancy or shortly after birth—where there is uncertainty about their baby's future, and where palliative care may be part of their journey. It offers information, guidance, and signposting to support families at a profoundly challenging time.

Our support for neonatal palliative care continues to grow. The parent booklet has been widely shared and positively received across neonatal and palliative care settings. We have delivered a series of neonatal palliative care webinars, with over 120 attendees, raising awareness of the resource and improving understanding around communication, uncertainty, and early recognition of palliative care needs. In addition, we were pleased to contribute to the National Neonatal Palliative Care Conference, attended by over 400 professionals in person and virtually, further amplifying the importance of integrated and family-centred support.

Through our partnership with the JP Morgan and the Force for Good Programme, we have made significant progress in developing a bespoke learning platform that will enable us to host, share, and grow our educational content for professionals working with children with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions.

The JP Morgan team has supported us in identifying and building a user-friendly, scalable learning management system that will serve as the central hub for our training and development materials. This is a critical step forward in helping us reach a wider workforce with high-quality, accessible, and practical learning resources that reflect the latest best practice in children's palliative care.

Our first module to be hosted on the new platform is the Simply Learning to Talk project, our communication skills training programme. This programme was developed in response to a recognised need to better support non-specialist professionals, those who may not work directly in children's palliative care but who are likely to come into contact with children with life limiting conditions, and their families. These professionals, often from general health, social care, education, or community settings, frequently face difficult conversations without sufficient training or confidence in how to respond sensitively and effectively.

The online learning programme, titled: "Children's Palliative Care: Learning to Communicate with Families", equips learners with the skills to navigate emotionally charged or uncertain situations, build compassionate relationships, to respond to families with empathy and clarity and to listen effectively.

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The module has been co-produced through engagement with professionals and parents, ensuring it is grounded in real-world experiences and relevant across sectors. It is interactive, practical, and designed for busy professionals who need flexible, accessible training. The programme is now in its final pilot phase, with user testing and feedback currently being gathered. It will be officially launched in May at the Together for Short Lives Conference, where professionals will be invited to access the platform and begin using the course. Our aim is to integrate this training into broader sector development work, and ultimately to support a more confident, compassionate and communication-aware workforce across all services that support children with life limiting and life-threatening conditions, and their families.

Digital resources for families

Use of our online support hub for families and professionals has developed this year with online forms now regularly used to refer families for grants, to contact the hub team and to book appointments for events and with the energy adviser. During the year there were over 61,000 page views from over 27,000 unique visitors, with 611 downloads of family resources recorded.

Campaigning for a better system for seriously ill children and their families

We have continued to campaign to make sure that seriously ill children and their families get the care and support they need. We have rallied our community to give people a voice. And because our system is falling short, we have continued demand change.

Thousands of families caring for seriously ill children face a postcode lottery when accessing high quality children's palliative care. This is particularly stark in children and families' access to 24/7 end of life care at home, provided by nurses and supported by advice from specialist consultants.

Our Short Lives Can't Wait campaign aimed to change this. Running from March to July 2024, this was a multi-channel campaign which comprised print, broadcast and digital media, public affairs and work to engage our members and stakeholders. During phase one, we highlighted the findings of our work to map the extent to which children's palliative care was being planned, funded and provided across the UK, we achieved local radio and newspaper coverage and a total of 74 supportive actions from politicians at Westminster.

In April, we were invited to give oral evidence the House of Commons Health and Social Care Select Committee. We then joined forces with other palliative and end of life care charities to agree a series of joint manifesto asks which we asked the parties contesting the UK General Election to adopt, including a commitment to a new palliative care funding plan. We launched this at Westminster and achieved national and local media coverage across the UK.

Once the General Election had been called, the second phase of Wait campaign, which we launched during Children's Hospice Week (17-23 June), focussed on pressing the parties to commit to overcoming the barriers seriously ill children faced to accessing sustainable, high quality palliative care. We published five 'must-dos' for the new government achieved 54 further supportive actions from election candidates and other politicians across the UK.

Across both phases of Short Lives Can't Wait, we asked the public to sign an open letter to the next Prime Minister. 3,328 people did so, sending a clear, united message that called on the new government to act urgently.

To maintain the pressure, we again made a series of freedom of information (FOI) requests during 2024 and published our 'Built to Last? The State of Children's Palliative Care in 2025' report in

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March. We found that:

- less than a fifth (19%) of integrated care boards (ICBs) in England currently commission services on a formal basis that meet the 24/7 end of life care at home standard
- in Northern Ireland, only one health and social care trust partially meets this standard.
- in Scotland, while some NHS Boards have made progress in expanding 24/7 support, others have not.
- in Wales, only two local health boards—Betsi Cadwaladr and Hywel Dda—formally provide this level of care
- here is an estimated £310 million funding gap for children's palliative care services in England
- there are significant workforce shortages and inconsistencies in the way support is planned and funded by local NHS and council bodies across the UK, which are not being held to account by the UK's governments.

Aligned with new research we commissioned of families who have used our Family Support Hub, we now have a compelling set of evidence that shows that families are feeling abandoned and overwhelmed by a system that is not meeting their needs.

Our 'Built to Last? Securing the Future of Children's Palliative Care' campaign launched on 28 March with coverage across in the Daily Mail, Independent, LBC, Times Radio and ITV Granada as well as regional papers and radio stations across the UK.

Our campaign launch included a Westminster reception hosted by the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for Children Who Need Palliative Care. The event was attended by 32 parliamentarians, many of whom have since tabled written questions to raise the key issues have highlighted.

Throughout 2024/25, we also continued to campaign for more equitable and sustainable funding for children's hospices across the UK. During Children's Hospice Week, we published our annual funding report. Our research found that, despite their importance:

- crucial services, including respite and end of life care, would be cut if the new UK Government failed to maintain the £25 million NHS England (NHSE) funding for children's hospices
- shockingly, local NHS and council funding for children's hospices – which was already patchy and unsustainable – continued to fall during 2023/24
- amid a year of high inflation and growing costs of recruiting and retaining skilled and experienced staff, children's hospices' costs rose during 2023/24
- as deficits grew, children's hospices were increasingly relying on their charitable income and reserves to provide vital care and support.

Our report generated 193 items of online and print coverage, including ITV News, MailOnline and The Independent, reaching a potential audience of 656 million people across the world.

Our campaigning on this issue meant that, once the new UK Government was in place, alongside the co-chairs of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Children's Palliative Care, we were invited to meet with Care Minister Stephen Kinnock in September to discuss the future of NHSE funding for children's hospices.

With no commitment to future funding in place by the Autumn and a cliff-edge fast approaching, we raised the volume with and on behalf of children's hospices in England. Having briefed MPs ahead of a Westminster Hall debate on children's hospice funding and encouraged our supporters to urge their

local politicians to take part, 17 MPs did so and highlighted the urgent need for sustainable funding.

In common with other UK-wide palliative care charities, we expressed our concern at the rise in employer national insurance contributions announced at the Budget by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. We gathered data on the likely impact on children's hospices and found that this would lead to their total charitable expenditure rising by approximately £4.9 million per year from April 2025. Our recent survey findings were featured on the front page of the Daily Express.

We relaunched the APPG for Children Who Need Palliative Care for the new parliament with a drop-in event and roundtable meeting attended by 40 MPs, including a parliamentary aide to Health Secretary Wes Streeting. 18 signed our open letter to Stephen Kinnock, calling on him to address funding shortfalls affecting children's hospices.

The night before, our Chief Executive Nick Carroll had been interviewed live on Sky News alongside Gareth Pierce, Chief Executive of Forget Me Not Children's Hospice. Just a few hours after the event, Wes Streeting confirmed that the Children's Hospice Grant would continue. In December, on a visit to his local children's hospice Haven House, he announced that it would be increased to £26 million for 2026/27.

NHS England later confirmed that they would put in place stronger safeguards to make sure ICBs distributed the funding to children's hospices more quickly in 2026/27. Amid significant pressures on public funding, this represented a significant campaign win for us and our sector.

Alongside our campaigning, we also undertook a range of other activity with politicians and policymakers to improve the system for seriously ill children and their families. We published our new website specifically for ICBs in England at **commissioning.togetherforshortlives.org.uk**. This was designed to help ICBs understand:

- what children and young people's palliative and end of life care is
- which children and young people may need it, and what the characteristics of this population are
- what can be done to enable children and young people to receive high quality personalised palliative and end of life care and support.

Nick Carroll was invited to be part of the Commission on Palliative and End of Life Care launched in 2024. The Commission aimed to influence the NHS 10-Year Plan and improve palliative care provision.

Working closely with our Advisory Council and our Trustees, we further developed and refined our policy position on assisted dying. We lobbied MPs ahead of the House of Commons stages of Kim Leadbeater's Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill, calling on parliamentarians to strengthen safeguards for young people with life-limiting or life-threatening conditions should assisted dying be legalised for adults over the age of 18. We achieved coverage in the media highlighting our concerns.

While significant challenges remain for seriously ill children, their families and the professionals and services that care for them, progress has been made in some of the outcomes we seek to improve during 2024/25:

- 19% of ICBs in England now commission services on a formal basis that meet the 24/7 end of life care at home standard for children; this is an increase on the 14% who did so in 2023/24.
- There are now 24.4 WTE specialist children's palliative care consultants working in the UK, up from 21.4 WTE consultants in 2023/24

- 973 community children's nurses were being employed by the NHS in England, up from 902 in 2023/24.

Amplifying our voice

During 2024/25, our PR work achieved 1,366 individual pieces of media coverage which mentioned Together for Short Lives, a 12% increase on the 1,225 we achieved in 2023/24. Our media reach was over 9.5 billion, exceeding our 3 billion target for the year.

Our social media work achieved over 3.3 million impressions, 36% higher than the 2.49 million we achieved in 2023/24. We achieved a social media engagement rate of 3.8%, which is considered good by industry standards. Engagement tracks how actively involved with our content our audience has been.

Financial review

Overall Financial Performance

The Statement of Financial Activities shows Designated Funds, Unrestricted Funds, Restricted Funds (excluding the National Fundraising Scheme (NFS)) and NFS. The Designated Fund is shown separately from the Unrestricted Fund as it is ring fenced for specific activities (see below).

Restricted funds have been split into two: those for NFS (whose activities are concerned with raising funds for distribution to children's hospice services) and those for other restricted fund projects and partnership such as Morrisons and Kentown. These funds are shown in note 16.

The net deficit for all funds for the year was £546k (2024: net deficit of £576k). Our partnerships and projects have continued to mean high levels of restricted income and subsequent distributions to hospices and families. Unrestricted funding continues to be a challenge; the organisation has identified savings as part of its budget setting process for 2025/26 and will continue to identify income generation opportunities to expand this area of the charity.

Funds for our core work

Funds relating to our core work, as opposed to the National Fundraising Scheme (NFS) and other restricted funds, are shown in the two columns in the Statement of Financial Activities labelled "Unrestricted Funds" and "Restricted Funds (excluding NFS) and Designated Fund".

Income

We achieved gross income of £6,027k (2024: £6,902k). Most of this income is for restricted programmes - the Morrisons' partnership, Kentown Support Programme and NFS.

Designated Fund

A large legacy was received in 2019-20 and ringfenced by the trustees in a Designated Fund. The specific activities on which this fund can be spent must be approved by the trustees and if an ongoing activity, must be self-sustaining within 2 years. Deficits were planned to ensure that the legacy was utilised. During 2024/25 we have spent £nil on new projects (2024: £700k). A decision has been taken by the Board of Trustees to remove this designation and use the reserves to fund unrestricted campaigning and family support work; projects that were originally supported by the designated fund.

Expenditure

Expenditure for the year was £6,596k (2024: £7,629k), the decrease mostly representing a reduction in the level of distributions to hospices and families as a result of the planned end of the Morrisons partnership. Despite the end of this partnership arrangement, Together for Short Lives distributed £3,655k (2024: £4,035k) in charitable grants and funding, £1,614k was spent on our remaining charitable activities (2024: £2,577k) with the remaining £607k (2024: £1,017k) spent on raising funds, including those for NFS.

National Fundraising Scheme (NFS)

This scheme raises income and awareness through national corporate partnerships, and the net income raised is shared with local children's hospice services across the UK who would not

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otherwise be able to access national partnerships.

The scheme raised £1,180k (2024: £834k) during the year from its various fundraising campaigns. After a deduction for direct costs, and a contribution to our core costs, £774k (2024: £378k) was distributed across 39 children's hospices.

Grant Making Policy

Throughout 2024/25 TfSL has made 1,089 grant awards totalling over £839k. The break down of these awards are set out in the table below.

Grants Awarded – 2024/25		
Grant pot	Total £ awarded	No. of grants awarded
Butterfly Fund	£192,900	643
Making Memories Together	£70,964	41
Building a Legacy Together	£518,144	13
Crisis Pantry	£27,221	196
SGN Energy	£30,000	196

Fundraising Strategy

In 2024/25 we created functional plans for all income streams in line with wider organisation's ten-year strategy. Across the fundraising department, the focus continues to be on sustainable growth, maximising unrestricted funding and fully funding projects to maximise our impact. We have continued to be successful at growing our restricted fundraising for projects and programmes but have found it a more challenging environment to grow unrestricted funding.

In October 2024, the Director of Income Generation and Engagement was promoted to Chief Executive Officer (following an external interview process). The fundraising department has since operated with an interim management structure in place, with the Head of Trusts and Foundations and Head of Corporate Partnerships acting up into the Director role. As a team we have refreshed our fundraising strategy in line with the organisational direction and have the following key objectives:

1. **Grow unrestricted income** through trust applications and reporting, new corporate partnerships, annual campaign planning to increase donor engagement and retention in relation to public fundraising, and through increasing the major donor portfolio.
2. **Grow income for the NFS** – we will use key campaign moments to retain and grow the number of NFS partners to secure £1.1m, and continue to explore new ways to cultivate relationships, engage prospective partners and generate income for children's hospices.
3. **Fundraise to support delivery for restricted initiatives:** in line with service delivery plans, we will grow income for the Butterfly Fund and provide effective support in relation to reporting for funded projects and partnerships. Going forwards, for any new partnerships, we will ensure that full cost recovery is built into project budgets to ensure organisational sustainability.

Fundraising performance

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As is the case for many charities, we continue to see the economy as a challenge - inflation, cost of living and higher interest rates continue to influence the ability of some donors to contribute as their disposable income is reduced. We are dependent on the macro environment, which we believe is impossible to predict this year with any degree of confidence. As a result, donors are expecting higher levels of transparency about their contributions, and trust is the cornerstone of success for charities. This means that demonstrating the impact of donations and how supporters are helping our cause is more important than ever.

With the sector under pressure, it is important that there is greater awareness of our cause and the support that is needed. Our place in the children's palliative sector needs to be clearly defined to set ourselves apart, but amongst, the rest. Strategy work planned for 2025/26 will help us to better demonstrate the impact of our work and support fundraising longer term.

Despite the challenging conditions, unrestricted income from trusts and foundations has significantly increased to £101k this year (2024: £65k). Unrestricted income from corporate partners has increased to £190k (2024: £110k); and we received £63k of unrestricted legacy donations in 2024-25, against a budget of £25k. However, this remains a relatively low figure in the context of the organisational budget, and we're striving to find ways to make existing resource work harder and more smartly for us. With less funding available for investment, the focus has been on maximising the net income and ROI of our existing income streams; and ensuring full cost recovery on all project budgets to minimise the charity's core cost base.

Corporate partnerships

2024-25 saw the final months of our partnership with Morrisons, which had raised £10.7m for children's palliative care and children's hospices by the partnership end date (31 October 2024). Highlights from this third year of partnership include our 54 Challenge (a month-long relay in August 2024) which raised £543k, our biggest fundraising campaign with Morrisons. Every Pack Gives Back continued to go from strength to strength - in total we featured products from 33 suppliers including Nestle, Kellogg's, Unilever and Mondelez, raising £726,000 this year. 14 own-brand products, including a Together for Short Lives butterfly bag and teddy, were sold in stores raising a further £342k. And we were awarded Best Short-Term Partnership (Third Sector Business Charity Awards) and Corporate National Partnership of the Year with a Retailer (Charity Times Awards).

Whilst the partnership is officially over, the impact it has had will continue for years to come. Thanks to the Morrisons colleagues, customers, and suppliers, together we:

- Raised £6.5 million for children's hospices, which could provide 215,685 hours of vital care.
- Created precious memories through events and activities for 6,223 family members
- Enabled 30 hospices to complete vital renovations, build new facilities and purchase new equipment, including accessible playgrounds and bereavement counselling cabins.
- Reached 1,415 new families through our community outreach work, enabling more families to access the support they need.
- Provided 756 of families with emergency support, including Cost-of-Living support grants, Crisis pantry Morrisons food deliveries, and Bereavement grants to fund funeral costs.

Total income from corporate partners increased to £1.2m. Our partnership with Hobbycraft matched its largest annual fundraising total to date - £473k (2024: £472k), and income from Center Parcs increased from £222k in 23/24 to £270k in 24/25. In addition, we had ongoing support from valued partners including BGC, Disney, Gravity Active Entertainment, Miss Teen GB and Proxima. As well as launching a new three-year £1m partnership with Peninsula Group (generating £252k in the first year), we secured new partnerships with Lockton Companies, ILG Group, Omni FM, and

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Tribus Digital; and established a strategic partnership with Carabao, who provided meaningful support for families in the form of gifted tickets to Carabao Cup football matches, and welcomed over 100 children and their families, and bereaved parents and siblings, to the home of English football in the first ever 'play on the pitch' charity event to be held at Wembley Stadium.

Trusts and Foundations

Trusts performed strongly against unrestricted and restricted budgets, due to a strong pipeline, key relationships and strong application/reporting mechanisms in place. Significant new gifts were secured and we were successful in securing a long term partnership bid with the CareTech Foundation which is supporting the Family Hub and outreach work across priority areas of the UK.

With our restricted funding, 2024/5 saw the second year of the energy advice service as funded by SGN, with onboarding taking place with Cadent who have agreed to provide funding allowing us to roll the service out across the North West and West Midlands from April 2026.

This was the final year of the work as funded by the Southampton Hospitals Charity which has seen a new communications training package for frontline responders created, and the Definitions project as funded by True Colours Trust is also due to finish in the next few months.

Our fundraising efforts for the Butterfly Fund have continued to see success and detailed prospecting for new funders and its inclusion in our annual Trust mailing helped us to raise the overall total and grow our pipeline. We are looking forward to maximising fundraising opportunities across the organisation for the Fund in 2025/6.

Philanthropy

In 2024-25, Philanthropy performed strongly. With a renewed approach to cultivation following the decision to pause the annual gala event in 2024, and some staffing changes through the year, we were pleased with the outcome – yet believe, with stability in the team and with consistent communication and stakeholder engagement, there is much more potential in our pipeline.

In October 2024 we welcomed several major donors to our event Funding the Future, where guests heard from a family who has benefited from Together for Short Lives' support.

Our Patron Holly Willoughby attended the BGC Charity Day on 11 September 2024, resulting in the largest donation from the day in over 10 years of the partnership.

An auction before Christmas raised almost £10k with a range of prizes including luxury holidays and experiences on offer.

Over the next year we will continue to work on strengthening donor engagement and improving donor tracking. We have already shifted the focus from individual relationships to cause-driven support and will begin work to leverage existing networks to identify and cultivate new major donor prospects.

Public Fundraising

2023/24 was a foundational year for Public Fundraising, having been an area of reactive activity for several years. A Senior Public Fundraising Manager was appointed in June 2023 to establish the income stream, with initial work involving deep dives into the data, processes, and policies (fundraising and organisation wide) needed to embed a Public Fundraising programme.

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Communications to supporters began in May 2024; throughout the year we launched multiple digital and printed communications, including our first multi-channel integrated Christmas Appeal with social media acquisition ads, giving us a baseline to test and build upon when planning future activity. We have already seen newly recruited supporters who, having received further communication, have gone onto make repeat gifts. We have interrogated data to establish an idea of LTV across all segments, established attrition monitoring processes for Regular and Payroll Givers, and explored ways of maximising our programme through joint working with Philanthropy.

A 5-year Public Fundraising strategy had initially been developed based on an investment budget that was then reduced, so a year-to-year strategy approach is being adopted focusing on retention, lowering attrition level, and increasing LTV and ROI, until the organisation can make growth plans once again. We are confident that over time, and with investment and cross-organisation support, Public Fundraising can develop into an income stream that significantly benefits the organisation.

Our supporters

None of this would be possible without the generosity of the individuals, companies and organisations we work who share our passion for the cause. Alongside this we are grateful for the talented and hardworking team of fundraisers who continue to push themselves to secure even greater sums for our mission. Thank you.

Regulation and complaints

To ensure we could maximise our fundraising efforts whilst also remaining compliant with GDPR and the Fundraising Code of Practice set by Fundraising Regulator, a review of our privacy notice, accompanying processes and policies was undertaken with an external consultant. Whilst this was an organisation wide endeavour, it ensured the correct fundraising processes were in place – activity included the creation of MPS/FPS/TPS processes and developing a specific fundraising complaints process.

During this year we gained a better understanding of how supporter communication preferences are gathered and recorded, and processes have been updated to ensure better compliance. The creation of a new Supporter Promise demonstrates our commitment to fundraising in a transparent and responsible manner in line with the Code of Fundraising Practice, charity law and all relevant legislation including General Data Protection Regulation and Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulations.

No complaints about our fundraising activity were received in the year (2024: Nil).

Reserves policy

The trustees of the charity review the reserves policy each year. The Charity is currently facing an uncertain period due to financial pressures and a resulting refocus of the organisation's strategic direction. This refocussing has led to a reduction in the resources required to deliver the new strategic aims. Due to the level of uncertainty during this transitional period, reserves will solely be used to fund the ongoing operation of the Charity. The policy states that the charity will maintain reserves such that it always retains sufficient free reserves to cover the close down costs of the organisation. These have been estimated at being £300k. Our review has identified that we have sufficient Unrestricted Funds to meet this requirement.

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Going Concern

The trustees have assessed the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for at least 12 months after the signing of this report. They are confident that the charity continues to be a going concern. The trustees are continuing to work with the management of the charity to ensure the ongoing financial sustainability of TfSL and to ensure that there is sufficient unrestricted funding to fund the work supporting families, raising money through the NFS scheme, and campaigning for equitable funding and better service provision.

There were no significant events in year that had a financial impact on the charity.

Investment Policy and Performance

The organisation's investment policy is as follows:

- The trustees have a duty to obtain the best financial return on monies raised by TfSL in excess of short term requirements, while keeping that money safe.
- The key risk to the long-term reserves is inflation, and the assets should be invested to mitigate this risk over the long term. The trustees understand that this is likely to mean that investment will be concentrated in real assets and that the capital value will fluctuate.
- TfSL seeks to produce the best financial return within an acceptable level of risk. The investment objective for the long-term reserves is to generate a return of CPI + 4% after fees over 5 year rolling periods whilst generating an income to support the on-going activities of the Charity.
- The investment objective for the short-term reserves is to preserve the capital value with a minimum level of risk. Invested assets should be readily available to meet unanticipated cashflow requirements.
- The investment policy also includes an ethical policy, which states that the trustees choose to invest only in funds that have ethical investment principles and policies, and that are managed by asset managers who have published a "statement of commitment" to the Financial Reporting Council's current UK Stewardship Code. Trustees review the suitability of the investments within the portfolio at least annually. The funds (including Designated Funds) available for long term investment are placed with Sarasin & Partners, in their Endowments Fund for Charities. The fund is measured against a bespoke benchmark and performance against this benchmark is monitored by the Finance & Governance Committee twice per year. The trustees consider the fund's performance over the last year to have been acceptable.

Charity's measure of performance

The charity measures its performance by monitoring various key performance indicators (KPIs) which are reported to the board and sub-committees on a quarterly basis. These reports are also reviewed by cross-departmental groups that focus on each of the four strategic aims. Numerical targets are used where appropriate and performance monitored against these.

During the year we have revised our core Purpose and Theory of Change, working with the external agency Trust Impact. This work is crucial to our plans to better evidence and measure the difference we make and improve how we prioritise our work.

Risk management

The charity encourages risk management at all levels of the organisation. The overall organisational risk register is reviewed monthly at every Executive Team meeting. Key issues and changes are reviewed quarterly by the Finance, Governance and Fundraising Committee and Board of Trustees. The register identifies the major risks to which the charity is exposed together with the actions and

Trustees' report
For the year ended 31 March 2025

systems in place to mitigate or reduce the exposure to those risks. All major projects also have their own risk registers.

The principal risks and uncertainties at the time of writing, and plans and strategies for managing them are:

- **Lack of sustainable unrestricted income** is a risk in every charity. We are currently running planned deficits against our reserves, but it is vital that we secure sustainable recurring unrestricted income for our core activities in the future. This year we have reduced our cost base, and have plans in train in philanthropy and individual giving in particular to secure that income.
- **Loss of key staff** is always a risk but particularly so in the wake of a reduction of staff numbers. We are particularly mindful of workload concerns affecting wellbeing. Regular one to ones, wellbeing sessions, our Employee Assistance Programme and acting on staff survey feedback are some of the measures we take to mitigate the risk.
- **Reputational risk from adverse publicity:** Risk assessments are in place for all our key programmes and events which may have reputational impact. We have a robust and regularly reviewed Crisis Management policy and plan in place. We keep our Patrons and Ambassadors Strategy under regular review.
- **Cyber Incident** affects the organisation's ability to function. There are several ways in which we are mitigating this risk; training for staff on managing their devices and commonly used attack methods such as phishing and supplier fraud, working with our IT supplier to ensure technical barriers are in place and having cyber security insurance.

Future strategy and plans

As part of our ongoing strategic review and planning, we have updated our two-year plan priorities. We have refined them to reflect the current internal and external context:

1. **Financial stability:** focus on the steps required to grow unrestricted income, avoid unnecessary expenditure and reduce our deficit. Robust approval of new work and projects for contribution to overheads and core costs.
2. **Team support:** Recruit key roles, accelerate inductions, listen to teams and manage capacity (& support) accordingly.
3. **Impact & evaluation:** an approach to evaluation that incorporates more outcome measures, enabling us to better demonstrate impact against strategy, theory of change and projects.
4. **Improve operational processes:** review and create manageable action plans for process to improve ineffective process, prioritising those key to income growth & impact.
5. **Develop a membership action plan:** A cross charity understanding of the role of membership; prioritise barriers and opportunities; agree a delivery plan.

Across the summer of 2025, we will undertake a deeper strategic review that looks at how the organisation can best deliver its purpose in an impactful and sustainable manner.

Acknowledgements

Delivering through partnerships

We place great value on a collaborative approach with partners in all areas of our work.

We have launched a new short film called 'Childhood Needs Magic' which aims to dramatically change the way people understand children's palliative care. We have created this alongside Heard, a charity working with people, organisations and the media to inspire content and communication that changes hearts and minds. It has been produced by Catsnake: The Story Agency and has been funded by the True Colours Trust, an independent funder which focusses on improving access to palliative care for babies, children and young people in the UK.

Childhood Needs Magic is narrated by Dr Ranj Singh, a BAFTA award-winning TV and radio presenter, Sunday Times best-selling author, columnist and doctor. Through the eyes of four children, supported by NHS and children's hospice professionals, it shows that every childhood needs magic, no matter how short it might be.

As part of the Ambitions Partnership for Palliative and End of Life Care, we work closely with Hospice UK and other UK-wide palliative care charities to support professionals and services and press for better access to high quality, sustainable children's palliative care.

We have worked collaboratively with the UK's governments and NHS bodies to make sure that the voice of children, young people and their families is heard and the view of our members better represented. Funded by the UK Government and others, through the end of life care consortium of the Health and Wellbeing Alliance we have helped to highlight and share good practice examples of integrated palliative care for children and young people.

As steering group members of the Disabled Children's Partnership, we campaign to make sure that children and young people in England with life-limiting or life-threatening conditions, alongside other disabled children, can access the education, health and social care they need and which is set out in national policy.

We work closely with partners who represent the children's palliative care sector including the Association of Paediatric Palliative Medicine, the European Association for Palliative Care and the International Children's Palliative Care Network.

We work with other service providers in the charitable and statutory sectors.

Our service delivery partners for Kentown Support are Rainbow Trust Children's Charity and NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria ICB. Other charities which support the direct delivery of our family work include Turn2us, Family Fund, Rosie's Rainbow Pantry and LawWorks.

Role of Volunteers

Together for Short Lives benefits from the time and commitment given by volunteers who have helped with administrative duties for the charity on a regular basis, as well as helping on an ad hoc basis. The charity is very grateful to all our volunteers for their time, support and flexibility. and hopes to create further opportunities for volunteer involvement in the future.

Trustees' report
For the year ended 31 March 2025

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also directors of Together for Short Lives for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP.
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

Provision of information to auditors

On 18 November 2024 the charity's auditor changed its name from Haysmacintyre LLP to HaysMac LLP.

Each of the persons who are trustees at the time when this Trustees' Report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware, and
- that the trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a trustee in order to be aware of any information needed by the charitable company's auditors in connection with preparing their report and to establish that the charitable company's auditors are aware of that information.

Small Company Provisions

The directors have prepared this report in accordance with the special provisions of Statutory Instrument 2008/409 under the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

This report was approved by the trustees on and signed on their behalf by:

Andrew Heywood Hughes
Chair

29 September 2025

Independent auditors' report to the members of Together for Short Lives

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Together for Short Lives for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, the Consolidated and Charity Balance Sheets, the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and of the parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of the group's and parent charitable company's net movement in funds, including the income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' Report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially

Trustees' report
For the year ended 31 March 2025

misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the Trustees' Report (which incorporates the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees' Report (which incorporates the directors' report) has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and the parent charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report (which incorporates the directors' report).

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 and the Charity Accounts (Scotland) Regulations (as amended) require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent charitable company; or
- the parent charitable company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 32, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

Trustees' report
For the year ended 31 March 2025

economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

Based on our understanding of the group and the environment in which it operates, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to charity and company law applicable in England, Wales and Scotland, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005.

We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls) and determined that the principal risks were related to revenue recognition, and management override of controls. Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

- Inspecting correspondence with regulators and tax authorities;
- Discussions with management including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulation and fraud;
- Reviewing the controls and procedures of the charity relevant to the preparation of the financial statements to ensure these were in place throughout the year, including during the Covid-19 remote working period;
- Evaluating management's controls designed to prevent and detect irregularities;
- Identifying and testing journals; and
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in their critical accounting estimates.

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

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006, section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 10 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Jane Askew (Senior Statutory Auditor)

10 Queen Street Place
London
EC4R 1AG

for and on behalf of HaysMac LLP
Statutory Auditors

Date:

Consolidated statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Note	General unrestricted funds 2025 £	Designated funds - legacy 2025 £	Restricted Funds excluding NFS 2025 £	Restricted Funds NFS 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
INCOME FROM:							
Donations and legacies	2	794,800	-	3,345,151	1,119,290	5,259,241	5,202,458
Other trading activities	2	44,407	-	515,786	60,304	620,497	1,530,763
Investments	2	106,850	-	-	-	106,850	129,219
Charitable activities	2	30,872	-	-	-	30,872	38,735
Other income	2	10,435	-	-	-	10,435	495
TOTAL INCOME	2	987,364	-	3,860,937	1,179,594	6,027,895	6,901,670
EXPENDITURE ON:							
Raising funds		520,475	-	33,942	52,810	607,227	1,017,140
Charitable activities		833,715	-	4,027,912	1,126,784	5,988,411	6,612,035
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	4	1,354,190	-	4,061,854	1,179,594	6,595,638	7,629,175
Net income/(expenditure) before revaluation		(366,826)	-	(200,917)	0	(567,743)	(727,505)
(Losses)/gains on revaluations of investment assets		21,734	-	-	-	21,734	151,996
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(345,092)	-	(200,917)	-	(546,009)	(575,509)
Transfers between funds	16	955,222	(943,618)	(11,604)	-	0	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS FOR THE YEAR		610,130	(943,618)	(212,521)	-	(546,009)	(575,509)
Total funds at start of year		1,035,480	979,121	1,382,769	-	3,397,370	3,972,879
TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR		1,645,610	35,503	1,170,248	-	2,851,361	3,397,370

All activities relate to continuing operations. The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Full comparatives for the year to 31 March 2025 are shown in notes 2 and 4.

Consolidated Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	11	35,503	76,846
Investments	12	2,497,156	3,325,422
		<u>2,532,659</u>	<u>3,402,268</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stock		8,232	8,306
Debtors	13	371,859	1,542,645
Cash at bank		2,562,591	1,154,527
		<u>2,942,682</u>	<u>2,705,478</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	14	(2,623,980)	(2,710,376)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>318,702</u>	<u>(4,898)</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>2,851,361</u>	<u>3,397,370</u>
CHARITY FUNDS			
Restricted funds NFS	16	-	-
Restricted funds excluding NFS	16	1,170,248	1,382,769
Designated fund – legacy		35,503	979,121
Other unrestricted funds	16	1,645,610	1,035,480
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>2,851,361</u>	<u>3,397,370</u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on

2025 and signed on their behalf, by:

Sarah Lorking, Treasurer

Andrew Heywood Hughes, Chair

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Charity Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2025

	Note	£	2025	£	£	2024	£
FIXED ASSETS							
Tangible assets	11			35,503			76,846
Investments	12			2,502,156			3,330,422
				<u>3,407,268</u>			<u>3,407,268</u>
CURRENT ASSETS							
Debtors	13	882,441			1,843,076		
Cash at bank		2,051,487			851,114		
		<u>2,933,928</u>			<u>2,694,190</u>		
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	14	(2,620,226)			(2,704,088)		
NET CURRENT ASSETS				313,702			(9,898)
NET ASSETS				<u>2,851,361</u>			<u>3,397,370</u>
CHARITY FUNDS							
Restricted funds NFS	16			-			-
Restricted funds excluding NFS	16			1,170,248			1,382,769
Designated fund – legacy				35,503			979,121
Other unrestricted funds	16			1,645,610			1,035,480
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>2,851,361</u>			<u>3,397,370</u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on

2025 and signed on their behalf, by:

Sarah Lorking, Treasurer

Andrew Heywood Hughes, Chair

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

The deficit of the parent charity for the year was £546,009 (2024: deficit of £575,509).

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 March 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Cash inflow from operating activities	a	<u>451,121</u>	<u>(484,604)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest income		17,035	12,613
Investment income		89,815	116,606
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(1,645)	(41,652)
Disposal of tangible fixed assets		1,738	-
Sale of investments		850,000	-
Cash used in investing activities		<u>956,943</u>	<u>87,567</u>
Increase in cash and cash equivalents in the year		1,408,064	(397,037)
Cash and short term investments at the beginning of the year		1,154,527	1,551,564
TOTAL CASH AND SHORT TERM INVESTMENTS AT THE END OF THE YEAR		<u><u>2,562,591</u></u>	<u><u>1,154,527</u></u>

a. RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2025 £	2024 £
Net income/(expenditure)	(546,009)	(575,509)
Depreciation charge	41,250	40,532
Interest income	(17,035)	(12,613)
Investment income	(89,815)	(116,606)
Loss/(gain) on investments	(21,734)	(151,996)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	1,170,786	133,386
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(86,396)	198,178
(Increase)/decrease in stock	74	24
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	<u><u>451,121</u></u>	<u><u>(484,604)</u></u>

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

1.1. Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Together for Short Lives meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

1.2. Preparation of accounts on a going concern basis

The review of our financial position has included forecasting income, expenditure and cashflow, access to available unrestricted funds and detailed planning for potential future events. The trustees consider there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period in excess of 12 months from the approval date of these accounts.

1.3. Company Status

Together for Short Lives is a company limited by guarantee, registered as a company in England and Wales (company number 7783702). The members of the company are the trustees named on page 3. In the event of the Together for Short Lives being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of Together for Short Lives.

1.4. Income

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to income, it is probable that income will be received, and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Donations and gifts are included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when there is entitlement, probability of receipt and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Gifts in kind

Gifts in kind represent assets donated for distribution or use by the charity. Assets given for distribution are recognised as income only when distributed. Assets given for use by the charity are recognised when receivable. Gifts in kind are valued at the amount actually realised from the disposal of the assets or at the price the charity would otherwise have paid for the assets.

Grants

Grants are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which the charity has entitlement to the income, the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably and there is probability of receipt.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Income from charitable activities

Income from charitable activities is recognised as earned as the related services are provided.

Income from other trading activities is recognised as earned as the related goods are provided.

Investment income

Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis once the amounts can be measured reliably.

1.5. Expenditure

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

- Costs of raising funds
- Expenditure on charitable activities

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

Expenditure is allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned based on staff time attributable to each activity.

Expenditure on raising funds for children's hospice services through the National Fundraising Scheme (NFS) is included under "Expenditure on charitable activities", as these are costs that we incur in supporting the children's palliative care sector and so are part of delivering our charitable purpose.

1.6. Allocation of costs

Staff costs are allocated between direct charitable expenditure and support costs based on the time spent on these activities. Other costs are allocated directly to the relevant heading.

1.7. Operating leases

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

1.8. Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

1.6.1. Employee benefits

Short term benefits

Short term benefits including holiday pay are recognised as an expense in the period in which the service is received.

Employee termination benefits

Termination benefits are accounted for on an accruals basis and in line with FRS 102.

Pension scheme

Together for Short Lives operates a defined contribution pension scheme for the benefit of its employees. The assets of the scheme are held independently from those of the Charity in an independently administered fund. The pensions costs charged in the financial statements represent the contributions payable during the year.

1.7. Basis of consolidation

The financial statements consolidate the accounts of Together for Short Lives and its subsidiary undertaking Together for Short Lives (Trading) Ltd. The company has taken advantage of the exemption contained within 408 of the Companies Act 2006 not to present its own Income and Expenditure Account.

1.8. Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date. The Statement of Financial Activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals throughout the year.

Investments in subsidiaries are valued at cost less provision for impairment.
Monies held in deposit accounts are classified as investments within current assets.

1.9. Tangible fixed Assets and depreciation

Fixed assets are initially recorded at cost. Expenditure on fixed assets costing £1,000 or less is written off as incurred.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Leasehold improvements	-	Straight line over the period of the lease
Fixtures and fittings	-	25% straight line
Office equipment	-	33.3% straight line

1.10. Debtors

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

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

1.11. Stock

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Net realisable value is based upon estimated selling price less further costs expected to be incurred to completion and disposal. Provision is made for obsolete and slow-moving items.

The trustees have concluded and agreed that the valuing of shops donated goods for resale on receipt is impractical due to the high volume of low value items, lack of stock system for recording these items and the administrative cost involved. Instead, the income is recognised in the accounts when these goods are sold.

1.12. Creditors and provisions

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

1.13. Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

2. ANALYSIS OF INCOME

	Unrestricted funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds excluding NFS	Restricted Funds NFS	Total funds	Total funds
	2025	2025	2025	2025	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations and legacies						
Donations	731,468	-	3,326,385	1,119,285	5,177,138	5,185,988
Legacies	63,332	-	-	5	63,337	3,795
Grants	-	-	18,766	-	18,766	12,675
	<u>794,800</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,345,151</u>	<u>1,119,290</u>	<u>5,259,241</u>	<u>5,202,458</u>
Other trading activities						
Licensing	-	-	486,482	-	486,482	910,461
Fundraising events	44,383	-	29,304	60,304	133,991	620,302
Conferences	24	-	-	-	24	-
	<u>44,407</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>515,786</u>	<u>60,304</u>	<u>620,497</u>	<u>1,530,763</u>
Investments						
Bank interest	17,035	-	-	-	17,035	12,613
Investment income	89,815	-	-	-	89,815	116,606
	<u>106,850</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>106,850</u>	<u>129,219</u>
Charitable activities						
Membership fees	27,792	-	-	-	27,792	30,204
Conferences	3,080	-	-	-	3,080	8,531
	<u>30,872</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>30,872</u>	<u>38,735</u>
Other income	10,435	-	-	-	10,435	495
Total income	<u>987,364</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,860,937</u>	<u>1,179,594</u>	<u>6,027,895</u>	<u>6,901,670</u>

Comparative analysis for 2024

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Designated Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds excluding NFS 2024 £	Restricted Funds NFS 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Donations and legacies					
Donations	504,312	-	3,979,384	702,292	5,185,988
Legacies	3,795	-	-	-	3,795
Grants	8,450	-	4,225	-	12,675
	<u>516,557</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,983,609</u>	<u>702,292</u>	<u>5,202,458</u>
Other trading activities					
Licensing	880	-	909,581	-	910,461
Fundraising events	341,071	-	147,652	131,579	620,302
Conferences	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>341,951</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,057,233</u>	<u>131,579</u>	<u>1,530,763</u>
Investments					
Bank interest	12,613	-	-	-	12,613
Investment income	116,606	-	-	-	116,606
	<u>129,219</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>129,219</u>
Charitable activities					
Membership fees	30,204	-	-	-	30,204
Conferences	8,531	-	-	-	8,531
	<u>38,735</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>38,735</u>
Other income	495	-	-	-	495
Total income	<u>1,026,957</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,040,842</u>	<u>833,871</u>	<u>6,901,670</u>

3. NET INCOME FROM TRADING ACTIVITIES OF SUBSIDIARY

Together for Short Lives owns 100% of the called up share capital of Together for Short Lives (Trading) Limited, a trading company registered in England and Wales, company number 06434214. A summary of the trading results of Together for Short Lives (Trading) Limited for the year ended 31 March 2025 is shown below. All taxable profits have been transferred to the Charity.

	2025 £	2024 £
Turnover	517,532	910,519
Administrative expenses	(43,365)	(23,418)
Profit after tax	474,167	887,101
Payment under gift aid	(474,167)	(887,101)
Retained profit carried forward	-	-

At 31 March 2025 the total of share capital and reserves for the company was £5,000 (2024: £5,000).

4. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE

	Direct costs Grants 2025 £	Other costs 2025 £	Support costs 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Raising funds					
Raising funds for our core work	-	391,774	162,643	554,417	957,944
Raising funds for NFS income	-	38,187	14,623	52,810	59,274
	-	429,961	177,266	607,227	1,017,218
Charitable Activities					
National Charitable Activities	-	1,432,101	447,013	1,879,114	1,928,544
Cost of generating income for children's hospice (NFS)	-	216,389	82,865	299,254	335,883
Cost of generating income for children's hospice (Morrisons)	-	155,349	-	155,349	312,474
Grants – National Fundraising Scheme (NFS)	774,448	-	-	774,448	378,781
Grants – Morrisons	1,955,988	-	-	1,955,988	2,833,477
Grants – Butterfly Fund	192,300	-	-	192,300	73,200
Grants – Cost of Living Fund	5,100	-	-	5,100	22,050
Grants – Kentown Partners	726,858	-	-	726,858	727,548
Charitable activities	3,654,694	1,803,839	529,878	5,988,411	6,611,957
	3,654,694	2,233,800	707,144	6,595,638	7,629,175

4. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE (Continued)

Comparative analysis for 2024

	Direct costs		Support costs	Total
	Grants	Other costs	costs	
	2024	2024	2024	2024
	£	£	£	£
Raising funds				
Raising funds for our core work	-	788,146	169,798	957,944
Raising funds for NFS income	-	41,724	17,550	59,274
	-	829,870	187,348	1,017,218
Charitable Activities				
National Charitable Activities	-	1,462,369	466,175	1,928,544
Cost of generating income for children's hospice (NFS)	-	236,433	99,450	335,883
Cost of generating income for children's hospice (Morrisons)	-	312,474	-	312,474
Grants – National Fundraising Scheme (NFS)	378,781	-	-	378,781
Grants – Morrisons	2,833,477	-	-	2,833,477
Grants – Butterfly Fund	73,200	-	-	73,200
Grants – Cost of Living Fund	22,050	-	-	22,050
Grants – Kentown Partners	727,548	-	-	727,548
Charitable activities	4,035,056	2,011,276	565,625	6,611,957
	4,035,056	2,841,146	752,973	7,629,175

5. ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT COSTS

	Total	Total
	2025	2024
	£	£
Staff costs	496,539	517,967
Depreciation	41,250	40,532
Governance costs (see note 7)	76,590	75,376
Other administrative costs	92,766	119,098
	707,145	752,973

6. GRANTS TO INSTITUTIONS

	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds excluding NFS 2025 £	Restricted Funds NFS 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
National Fundraising Scheme (NFS)	-	-	774,448	774,448	438,714
Kentown Project	-	1,955,988	-	1,955,988	727,548
Morrisons	-	726,858	-	726,858	2,833,477
Butterfly Fund Grants	-	192,300	-	192,300	73,200
Relief Fund Grants	-	5,100	-	5,100	22,050
	<u>-</u>	<u>2,880,246</u>	<u>774,448</u>	<u>3,654,694</u>	<u>4,094,989</u>

Grants payable under the National Fundraising Scheme are made to member charities providing children's palliative care services across the UK in line with donor wishes.

7. GOVERNANCE COSTS

	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Auditors' remuneration	18,151	19,150
Meeting costs	2,957	823
Trustees travel reimbursed	5,828	3,606
Wages and salaries	41,275	43,056
Employers NI	5,696	5,374
Pension costs	2,683	3,367
	<u>76,590</u>	<u>75,376</u>

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

	2025 £	2024 £
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets:	41,250	40,532
Auditors' remuneration	18,151	19,150
Operating lease payments	21,846	27,020
	<u></u>	<u></u>

During the year, no trustees received any remuneration (2024 Nil).

During the year, no trustees received any benefits in kind (2024 Nil).

During the year, 8 trustees received reimbursement of expenses for travel totalling £5,992 (2024: £3,606).

9. AUDITORS' REMUNERATION	2025 £	2024 £
Fees payable to the charity's auditor for the audit of the charity's annual accounts	14,300	13,000
Fees payable to the charity's auditor in respect of:		
Together for Short Lives (Trading) Ltd	3,851	3,500
Non audit services	-	2,650
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

10. STAFF COSTS	2025 £	2024 £
Staff costs were as follows:		
Wages and salaries	1,660,315	1,889,621
Social security costs	167,446	193,723
Pension costs	101,744	111,270
Restructuring payments	5,325	102,603
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	<u>1,934,830</u>	<u>2,297,217</u>

The restructuring payments were made to employees following departmental restructures.

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

No.	No.
<u>43</u>	<u>49</u>

The number of higher paid employees was:

In the band £60,001 - £70,000	2	-
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	1	4
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	1	-
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	-	1
	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>

Key management remuneration

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the Group were £280,440 (2024: £405,055).

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Group and Charity	Leasehold property improvements £	Fixtures and fittings £	Office equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 April 2024	119,193	18,512	205,000	342,705
Additions	-	-	1,645	1,645
Disposals	-	-	(10,320)	(10,320)
At 31 March 2025	119,193	18,512	196,325	334,030
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2024	101,334	18,512	146,013	265,859
Charge for the year	8,010	-	33,240	41,250
Disposals	-	-	(8,582)	(8,582)
At 31 March 2025	109,344	18,512	170,671	298,527
Net book value				
At 31 March 2025	9,849	-	25,654	35,503
At 31 March 2024	17,859	-	58,987	76,846

12. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

Group	Money Market Fund 2025 £	Listed securities 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Market value				
At 1 April	1,258,302	2,067,120	3,325,422	3,173,426
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	(850,000)	-	(850,000)	-
Revaluations	-	21,734	21,734	151,996
At 31 March	408,302	2,088,854	2,497,156	3,325,422
Group investments at market value comprise:			2025 £	2024 £
Listed investments			2,088,854	2,067,120
Money Market Fund			408,302	1,258,302

All the fixed asset investments are held in the UK

12. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS (continued)

	Money Market Fund 2025 £	Listed securities 2025 £	Investments in subsidiary 2025 £	Total 2025 £
Charity				
Market value				
At 1 April	1,258,302	2,067,120	5,000	3,330,422
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	(850,000)	-	-	(850,000)
Revaluations	-	21,734	-	21,734
At 31 March	408,302	2,088,854	5,000	2,502,156

All the fixed asset investments are held in the UK.

Comparative analysis for 2024

	Money Market Fund 2024 £	Listed securities 2024 £	Investments in subsidiary 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Charity				
Market value				
At 1 April	1,258,302	1,915,124	5,000	3,178,426
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	151,996	-	151,996
At 31 March	1,258,302	2,067,120	5,000	3,330,422

All the fixed asset investments are held in the UK.

13. DEBTORS

	Group		Charity	
	2025 £	2024 £	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	105,826	265,299	55,347	13,250
Amounts owed by group undertakings	-	-	577,611	973,112
VAT Debtor	-	21,710	-	14,380
Other debtors	2,365	14,864	2,365	14,865
Prepayments and accrued income	263,668	1,240,772	247,118	827,469
	371,859	1,542,645	882,441	1,843,076

14. CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	Group		Charity	
	2025 £	2024 £	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	34,245	72,026	34,245	72,026
Other taxation and social security	47,593	70,184	47,593	70,184
VAT creditors	93,699	72,793	96,986	72,793
Other creditors	334,220	74,173	334,220	74,173
Accruals and deferred income	2,114,223	2,421,200	2,107,181	2,414,912
	<u>2,623,980</u>	<u>2,710,376</u>	<u>2,620,225</u>	<u>2,704,088</u>

15. ANALYSIS OF DEFERRED INCOME	Group		Charity	
	2025 £	2024 £	2025 £	2024 £
Deferred income at 1 April	20,398	-	20,398	-
Released to income in the year	(20,398)	-	(20,398)	-
Deferred in the year	188,928	20,398	188,928	20,398
	<u>188,928</u>	<u>20,398</u>	<u>188,928</u>	<u>20,398</u>
Deferred income at 31 March	188,928	20,398	188,928	20,398

Deferred income in 2025 and 2024 relates to Simply Learning to Talk Project.

16. STATEMENT OF FUNDS

	Brought Forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/(out) £	Gains/(Losses) £	Carried Forward £
Designated funds						
Designated fund - Legacy	902,275	-	-	(902,275)	-	0
Fixed asset fund	76,846	-	-	(41,343)	-	35,503
	<u>979,121</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(943,618)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>35,503</u>
General funds						
General Funds	1,035,480	987,364	(1,354,190)	955,222	21,734	1,645,610
Total Unrestricted funds	<u>2,014,601</u>	<u>987,364</u>	<u>(1,354,190)</u>	<u>11,604</u>	<u>21,734</u>	<u>1,681,113</u>

Purpose of designated funds

The Fixed Asset fund

This fund relates to fixed assets and therefore is not available to cover the ongoing costs of the Charity, the balance is equal to the net book value in the accounts of fixed assets held by the charity.

Legacy fund

A decision has been taken by the Board of Trustees to remove this designation and use the reserves to fund unrestricted campaigning and family support work; projects that were originally supported by the designated fund.

	Brought Forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/(out) £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Carried Forward £
Restricted funds: National Fundraising Scheme						
Restricted NFS	-	1,179,594	(1,179,594)	0	-	-
Other restricted funds						
Butterfly Fund	82,392	87,324	(152,832)	-	-	16,884
Family information & support	14,866	-	(14,866)	-	-	0
Disney	139,689	50,000	(14,590)	-	-	175,099
Morrison's (Hospices)	-	1,522,229	(1,522,229)	-	-	0
Morrison's (Project)	838,987	915,992	(995,139)	-	-	759,840
Kentown	57,595	1,013,169	(980,283)	-	-	90,481
SGN	77,457	166,040	(154,238)	-	-	89,259
Other restricted funds	171,783	106,184	(227,677)	(11,604)	-	38,686
	<u>1,382,769</u>	<u>5,040,532</u>	<u>(5,241,448)</u>	<u>(11,604)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,170,249</u>

Purpose of Restricted funds

Restricted NFS

The National Fundraising Scheme (NFS) is concerned with raising funds for distribution to children's hospice services. Further details on the income and costs of the scheme can be found in notes 2, 4 and 6.

Butterfly fund

This Fund provides grants of £300 to bereaved families, and is fully funded by a number of supporters.

Family Information and Support

We also received generous support for our Family Information and Support work this year from a number of funders supporting our helpline, advocacy service and information and resources that we provide for families.

Disney

This fund enables us to work with Disney to create Moments that Matter for seriously ill children and those closest to them, raise awareness of our work and children's palliative care, and raise funds to directly support children's hospice services and Together for Short Lives.

Morrison's (Hospices) and Morrison's (Projects)

Funds raised by Morrison's have been split between those to be directly allocated to hospices, and those that have been awarded to individual hospices based on application for specific project works.

Other restricted funds

Other restricted funds are immaterial amounts granted for restricted purposes; these include grants awarded by NHS England, the Scottish Government and Hospice UK.

Fund Transfers

The transfers from the general fund to the Fixed Asset Designated fund, was required to maintain the balance in the Fixed Asset Fund equal to the net book value of fixed assets in the balance sheet.

The transfer from the National Fundraising Scheme (NFS) Fund to the General Fund represents the share of NFS net income that will go towards the core work of the charity. The proportion of NFS income that is used for our core work varies among the different corporate partners but is usually 15% of the total net income raised.

16. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (CONTINUED)

Comparative analysis for 2024

	Brought Forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/(out) £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Carried Forward £
Designated funds						
Designated fund - Legacy	1,602,275	-	(700,000)	-	-	902,275
Fixed asset fund	75,726	-	(40,532)	41,652	-	76,846
	<u>1,678,001</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(740,532)</u>	<u>41,652</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>979,121</u>
General funds						
General Funds	1,192,660	1,026,957	(1,342,593)	6,460	151,996	1,035,480
	<u>1,192,660</u>	<u>1,026,957</u>	<u>(1,342,593)</u>	<u>6,460</u>	<u>151,996</u>	<u>1,035,480</u>
Total Unrestricted funds	<u>2,870,661</u>	<u>1,026,957</u>	<u>(2,083,125)</u>	<u>48,112</u>	<u>151,996</u>	<u>2,014,601</u>
	Brought Forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/(out) £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Carried Forward £
Restricted funds: National Fundraising Scheme						
Restricted NFS	-	833,871	(773,937)	(59,934)	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>833,871</u>	<u>(773,937)</u>	<u>(59,934)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Other restricted funds						
Butterfly Fund	30,400	136,490	(84,498)	-	-	82,392
Transition Grants	15,000	-	(134)	-	-	14,866
Family information & support	111,701	50,000	(22,012)	-	-	139,689
National Lottery	-	2,618,053	(2,618,053)	-	-	-
Disney	783,508	1,002,088	(946,609)	-	-	838,987
Morrison's (Hospice)	161,609	1,234,211	(1,100,807)	11,822	-	306,835
Morrison's (Project)						
Other restricted funds	<u>1,102,218</u>	<u>5,040,842</u>	<u>(4,772,113)</u>	<u>11,822</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,382,769</u>

17. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds excluding NFS 2025 £	Restricted Funds NFS 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Tangible fixed assets	35,503	0	0	35,503
Fixed asset investments	2,497,156	0	0	2,497,156
Current assets	1,772,433	1,170,249	0	2,942,682
Creditors due within one year	(2,623,980)	0	0	(2,623,980)
	<u>1,681,112</u>	<u>1,170,249</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,851,361</u>

Comparative analysis for 2024:

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds excluding NFS 2024 £	Restricted Funds NFS 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	76,846	-	-	76,846
Fixed asset investments	3,325,422	-	-	3,325,422
Current assets	1,322,709	1,382,769	-	2,705,478
Creditors due within one year	(2,710,376)	-	-	(2,710,376)
	<u>2,014,601</u>	<u>1,382,769</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,397,370</u>

18. PENSION COMMITMENTS

Employer's pension contributions paid in the year ended 31 March 2025 were £101,744 (2024: £111,270). Amounts shown in creditors at the balance sheet date in respect of pension contributions outstanding were £12,957 (2024: £nil).

19. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

At 31 March 2025 the group had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	Land and buildings		Equipment	
Group and charity	2025 £	2024 £	2025 £	2024 £
Within 1 year	27,020	27,020	-	-
Between 2 and 5 years	-	27,020	-	-
	<u>27,020</u>	<u>54,040</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

20. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Several trustees of Together for Short Lives are also either trustees or employees of member charities. Some of these charity members benefit from grants under the National Fundraising Scheme (NFS), but the trustees do not benefit personally. Trustees set the rules of the scheme which determine how the money raised is shared among members, but they are not involved in specific decisions about how NFS money is distributed.

During the year the charity charged its trading subsidiary, Together for Short Lives Trading Limited, £12,316 (2024: £16,246) for management and licensing costs.

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES

England & Wales - Charity number 1144022

Accounts

Together for Short Lives

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 March 2024

Registered company number: 7783702

Registered charity numbers:

1144022 (England & Wales)

SC044139 (Scotland)

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE COMPANY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

Trustees

Sarah Talbot-Williams, Chair from 7 December 2023, previously Vice Chair
Dr Lisa Kauffmann, Chair to 7 December 2023
Bernie Watson, Treasurer
Sue Hogg
Tracy Tait
Jo Laddie
Adam Smith (resigned 1 September 2024)
Stephanie Nimmo
Arlene Honeyman (term ended 19 November 2023)
Paul Obey (term ended 19 November 2023)
Emma Aspinall (20 September 2023 – 27 March 2024)
Mark Smith (appointed 20 September 2023)
Rob Lightfoot (appointed 20 September 2023)
Jeremy Evans (appointed 27 March 2024)
Sarah Lorking (appointed 27 March 2024)

Company registered number

7783702

Charity registered numbers

1144022 (England & Wales)
SCO44139 (Scotland)

Registered office

Suite 1b, Whitefriars, Lewins Mead, Bristol, BS1 2NT

Chief executive officer

Andy Fletcher

Executive team

Nick Carroll
Dr Helena Dunbar
Andy Fletcher
Kate McSweeney (to 29 April 2024)
Mala Langdon

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Independent auditor

Haysmacintyre LLP, 10 Queen Street Place, London, EC4R 1AG

Bankers

NatWest Plc, 32 Corn Street, Bristol, BS99 7UG
CCLA, Senator House, 85 Queen Victoria Street, London, EC4V 4ET

Investment managers

Sarasin & Partners LLP, Juxon House, 100 St Paul's Churchyard, London, EC4M 8BU

Chair and Chief Executive's Introduction

Welcome to Together for Short Lives' Annual Report and Accounts for 2023-24.

We have continued to strive to ensure that we deliver our purpose throughout the year – to ensure that every child and their family has access to high quality palliative and end of life care, when and where they need it. And despite the challenging external environment, we have achieved significant growth in our income and our impact, this year.

Our new strategy, launched this year, focuses on three key aims. Firstly, to improve access to children's palliative care for every child and family that needs it, by growing the reach of our family hub and encouraging new approaches to planning, providing and commissioning care. Secondly, we want to see the quality of this care to be the very best it can be, by ensuring professionals across health and care have the skills and knowledge. And thirdly, we want this care to be sustainable, so that families can rely on it in the future by increasing state funding for services increasingly funded by the voluntary sector.

The impact of our wider family hub has continued to grow, reaching families with support via our helpline, peer to peer support and our Butterfly grants for parents who have lost a child. We also launched a new energy service, through our partnership with Southern Gas Network (SGN) to provide advice and financial support to families facing very high bills as a result of running life-sustaining equipment at home.

We have supported professionals and services to share innovative ways of working, particularly in reaching families and providing care in different ways, and we advocated for continued sustainability funding through this uncertain period. Now in its second year, the transformational Kentown Children's Palliative Care Programme in Lancashire and South Cumbria has continued to grow and reach more families. This innovative and collaborative programme brings together health, social care and co-ordination in an integrated service for children and young people with life-limiting illness and their families.

Our wonderful partnership with Morrisons is now entering its final year, and we are hopeful of raising £10 million to support local children's hospices continue their vital work; and for Together for Short Lives to reach more families who need support, particularly in areas with the largest and most diverse populations of children. We are hugely grateful to all customers and colleagues for their support.

All this has meant a significant growth in our income, to nearly £7 million, our highest ever level of income for a financial year. Despite this growth in income for such important work, we also know that there is much more to do to ensure we deliver our essential work sustainably. Like many charities, we face significant pressures of rising costs and demand alongside an increasingly challenging fundraising environment. We have therefore taken steps this year to reduce our core costs to ensure we are on a sustainable footing. We will continue to focus over the coming year on strengthening the sustainability of our services so we can reach more children and families and build a strong and resilient children's palliative care sector.

As ever, we have been indebted to our amazing supporters, staff and volunteers who have enabled us to deliver so much this year. We would also like to thank all our board members who give their time to support the effective running of the charity. We would particularly like to thank Lisa Kauffmann who had to step down from being the Chair due to ill health. We are grateful for the time and wise counsel she gave us

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
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While there will be challenges ahead, we know that by working collaboratively with our partners, we can meet them and ensure that more children and families get the support they need, when and where they need it.

Sarah Talbot-Williams
Chair of Trustees

Andy Fletcher
Chief Executive

Trustees' Annual Report

The trustees (who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act) present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of Together for Short Lives (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The trustees confirm that the Annual Report and Financial Statements of the charity comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charity's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (second addition - effective 1 January 2019)".

Structure, Governance and Management

Objectives of the charity

The objectives of the charity are promoting for the public benefit the support of children and young people with life-limiting conditions such that:

- children and young people and their families have as fulfilling lives as possible; and
- children and young people receive the best care at the end of life.

Constitution

Together for Short Lives is a registered charity and was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee on 4th October 2011. The constitution of the charity is set out in the Memorandum and Articles of Association. Trustees are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act.

The charity has one wholly owned subsidiary charity: Together for Short Lives (Trading) Ltd (Company number 06434214), a company which is registered in England and Wales and is used for fundraising activities.

Board of Trustees

The charity is governed by its Board of Trustees, which is detailed on page 1. All trustees give of their time freely and no trustee remuneration was paid in the year. Details of trustee expenses and related

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party transactions are disclosed in notes 7, 8 and 20 to the accounts.

Trustees may hold office for three years. At the end of their first term, they can be re-elected for one further three-year term. Any Trustee who has served two terms of office is not eligible for re-appointment as a Trustee unless there are exceptional reasons. The charity aims to appoint trustees across a wide and diverse range of backgrounds, skills, and regions.

Induction and training of trustees

On appointment, new trustees receive an induction pack containing key information about the charity and its governance structure. New trustees are encouraged to meet with other existing trustees and are invited to visit the charity's offices to meet with the Executive Team and other staff.

Ongoing training for trustees is given as required; in general, all trustees are encouraged to maintain or enhance their knowledge, especially in areas in which they are not expert. There is a trustee development session at each full Board meeting exploring issues such as current trends in fundraising and children's palliative care policy and practice.

Sub Committees of the Board

The trustees perform their governance role via the full Board which meets at least four times a year. During the year there have been three committees which are formally constituted as committees of the Board of Trustees and the Board approves the Terms of Reference.

- Finance, Governance and Fundraising Committee
- Clinical Strategy and Quality Assurance Committee
- Appointments Committee

The recorded actions and minutes of committee meetings are submitted to the Board of Trustees at its next meeting. There is a written scheme of delegation that sets out which decisions are made by the Board, committees, or staff and this is reviewed regularly. The committees therefore have certain delegated authority within their areas of responsibility, and these are subsequently reported to the Board for information. However, in other areas, they are only able to make recommendations to the Board.

Committees are able to co-opt to their membership other individuals who may bring particular expertise to that committee.

Advisory Council

The Advisory Council ensures that our work is better informed by those with lived experience of children's palliative care and those working to deliver it across the UK. Young people, parents of children with life-limiting conditions and representatives from across the children's palliative care sector contribute their expertise and communicate their views on issues affecting children's palliative care to inform and advise the work of Together for Short Lives. It is an integral part of the strategic and operational planning for the charity.

Remuneration for key management staff

The charity aims to ensure that appropriate remuneration packages are set to attract, retain and motivate an appropriate calibre of employees.

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Salary benchmarking is undertaken to compare roles with similar positions within the charity and not for profit sector.

Decisions on setting pay levels are made as follows:

- For staff apart from Senior Managers and the Chief Executive, by Senior Managers in conjunction with the Director of Finance & Resources
- For Senior Managers other than Chief Executive, by the Chief Executive
- For the Chief Executive, by the Board of Trustees.

The Board has final approval of all pay rises across the organisation.

The numbers of higher paid employees are:	2024	2023
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	-	1
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	4	3
In the band £80,001 - £90,000		
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	1	1
	5	5

Safeguarding

Together for Short Lives has a duty to keep children and vulnerable groups safe and must fulfil its legal and regulatory responsibilities in relation to protecting children, young people and vulnerable adults at risk. In addition, beneficiaries, staff, volunteers, and everyone in contact with the organisation should feel that they are in a safe, supportive and inclusive environment.

We have a Designated Lead for Safeguarding and two deputies whose responsibility is to ensure that safeguarding policy and culture is embedded across the organisation. All safeguarding incidents are reported and reviewed by the Executive team and the Clinical Strategy and Quality Assurance Committee before they are reported at board level.

All staff completed a new interactive in-house level 1 safeguarding training course, including questions, reflections and case examples. Our safeguarding policy was updated this year and we also implemented a new child friendly version of this. We also have a whistle blowing procedure so anyone can confidentially raise any concerns they have.

We carry out DBS record checks for all new staff and operational volunteers and an enhanced check for those working on our helpline service and in community outreach positions. The designated lead for safeguarding, deputies and the helpline staff also undertake additional enhanced safeguarding training.

In accordance with our Helpline Standards' accreditation, all staff working with families through our family hub service engage in a reflective process and proforma to regularly assess how staff within our family hub team handle their contacts.

Safeguarding concerns are logged securely on our Case Manager System. We had seven safeguarding concerns raised over the year. In all cases procedures were followed and support offered. One case was escalated to the police.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

Like many charities, we know we still have work to do before we are a fully inclusive organisation where everybody can be themselves and feel that they belong.

Feedback from our annual staff survey suggests we are making progress in being more inclusive. In 2020, only 46% of staff agreed with the statement "I am comfortable being myself at work". In 2024, this figure was 85%, in line with last year's feedback. Only 3% of staff disagreed with the statement. While we are encouraged by this progress, we will continue to develop and roll out our plans to be a more inclusive organisation.

As well as making internal change, we know that we must develop more inclusive services and support the children's palliative care sector to reach all the children and families who need support. We know from evidence that there is a higher prevalence of children with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions among Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic families, particularly those from Pakistani and South Asian communities. This year, as part of our Morrisons corporate partnership our community outreach workers have been working to reach more children and families in underserved communities, specifically in three areas where prevalence of life limiting conditions is highest amongst ethnically diverse communities. - Bedford & Luton; Birmingham & Solihull; Greater Manchester - Rochdale, Oldham. These three posts are raising awareness of children's palliative care, putting the needs of children and families at the heart of service delivery, and enabling families to easily access the help and support they need locally and nationally.

Membership

The charity operates a membership scheme, currently under review, for organisations and professionals working in the children's palliative care sector. We have a paid membership of 55 organisations and 17 teams (which includes all children's hospice services in the UK) and 58 individual care professionals. We launched a new online discussion forum for professionals, which has grown steadily over the year and now has 282 members. There have been discussions on a range of topics, for example family support – wheelchair assessments, service delivery – transition and staffing policies, clinical care/symptom management – Policies around CBD and storage of strong opioids.

Public benefit

The objects of the organisation are for children and young people with life-limiting conditions to have as fulfilling lives as possible and the best care at the end of life. The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing Together for Short Lives' aims and objectives and in planning our strategic priorities and activities for the year.

Whilst there is greater elaboration below, our strategic priorities to fulfil the public benefit are outlined as follows.

- Widening access to children's palliative care
- Improving the quality of children's palliative care
- Strengthening the sustainability of children's palliative care

The way in which we have achieved the public benefit is outlined in the "Activities, Achievements and Performance" section below.

Vision, Values and Strategy

Our vision and purpose

Together for Short Lives' purpose is to ensure every child, and their family, has high quality children's palliative and end of life care, when and where they need it.

We are here to make sure families can access the right care and support and that those providing it have the skills and resources they need. Together with everyone who provides care and support to these children and families we are here to help them have as fulfilling lives as possible and the very best care at the end of life. Because while we can't change the diagnosis, we can help children and families make the most of their time together.

How we create change

The challenges facing children and families and those who support them are complex. To help address them, Together for Short Lives works to have impact at three levels – with individual families, with services and professionals delivering care and with the wider health and care system.

System change	Policy decision makers	Working with leaders in governments, the health service, commissioning bodies and delivery organisations to constantly improve the funding, quality, consistency and coordination of children's palliative care.
	Regional Co-ordination	Facilitating cooperation between different sectors and organisations to deliver a more integrated experience of palliative care for children and their families.
Improved delivery	Organisational development	Supporting providers of children's palliative care, to ensure they have the funding, resources and expertise needed to provide a sustainable, consistent, high-quality service.
	Workforce development	Working with the professional workforce delivering children's palliative care, to ensure they have the network, training, resources, confidence and skills they need to provide the best possible care.
Direct support	Children with life-limiting conditions and their families	Providing information and support directly to families of seriously ill children, particularly those who are unable to access that support elsewhere.

Our values

1. We put **children and families at the heart** of everything we do
2. We are **ambitious** about improving the lives of children and families and stand up for what we believe in
3. We are **collaborative** and bring people together to deliver the biggest impact
4. We are **inclusive and open** to new and different views, approaches and experiences

Our strategic priorities

Our strategy sets out a ten-year challenge. We feel that children and families and those who support them deserve a bold ambition and roadmap for change. For too long their needs have been overlooked by those planning and developing health and care policy which has led to this inconsistency. These are big challenges, and they need big and bold solutions.

It is also clear that the world is changing at a rapid rate, exacerbated by the COVID pandemic which will have significant long term impacts on wellbeing, the health and care system and the financial landscape for years to come. To reflect this changing world, our strategy sets 10-year strategic ambitions, setting out our vision for how we want the world to look different for children and families by 2033. We will prioritise our shorter term objectives in a series of over a 2-3 year phases, evaluating and refining them annually to ensure we continue to progress towards our 10-year strategic ambitions. This will enable us to be an agile organisation which can develop longer term impactful programmes, but adapt more flexibly to the changing environment.

To steer our work over the next decade, we have set three strategic ambitions to make sure more children and families are able to get the support they need.

1. **No family faces the journey alone** – to increase reach so that more children and families can **ACCESS** 24/7 palliative care
2. **The best care and support** – to improve the **QUALITY** of palliative care so families have the best support
3. **Support today, tomorrow and every day** – to strengthen the **SUSTAINABILITY** of children's palliative care so families can rely on support

Activities, Achievements and Performance for the public benefit

We have detailed below under each of our strategic headings our activities and achievements for the year.

No family faces the future alone – increasing reach so more children and families can access 24/7 children's palliative care

Over the last year we have continued to reach more children and families and advocated for greater access to the services they need.

Supporting families through our family support hub

We have continued to grow our Family Support core hub offer to reach more families living with a seriously ill child, investing in our helpline and resources for families. We responded to 438 queries from families and those supporting them via our helpline and information service.

Although the Cost of Living Campaign ended in February 2023 we continued to support families on low-income whose child was dependent on technology for their care needs with funds raised the previous year. 86 payments of £250 were processed by the Family Support Hub team.

After a break to raise further funds, we were able to reopen the Butterfly Fund – a grant of £300 for families when their child dies. During the year, 245 Butterfly Fund payments were made.

We continue to work with 3rd parties to offer enhanced support to families that come through to the Family Support Hub via the helpline service or via the website, for example this year we worked with the following partners - Turn2us (44 applications), Rosie's Rainbow Pantry (30 deliveries), Children in need Emergency Fund (6) and a small handful of member services for whom we are able to make family referrals to e.g. Reubens Retreat. From 1210 contacts with families, over half of them (683) received enhanced support in the form of a grant, legal advice, a food shop or resources. In total over the year families received over £180,000 worth of grants through the family support hub and over £16,000 worth of food shopping via our Morrison's community outreach project.

We continue to support parents to moderate our closed Facebook groups. We have seen a 19% growth this year in membership and have 710 members in total (main group 582, bereaved group 128). We know that timely, accurate information in a variety of formats is highly valued by families, and we continue to review and update our family information offer to families both online and in print. Throughout the year 63 individual family members joined one of 4 online workshops on a variety of themes. Two webinars were supported by a donation of Memory Making craft boxes by Hobbycraft.

We were also delighted to provide 24 complimentary breaks to families through our corporate partnership with Center Parcs UK. A total of 118 people (65 adults and 53 children) enjoyed a three-night stay at a woodland lodge at one of the 5 parcs.

Alongside the Family Hub we support family members who volunteer their time to influence campaigns and inform research into children's palliative care. Our group of Family Experts (76 members) are given monthly opportunities to engage with the sector, sharing their own lived experience of children's palliative care.

The Kentown Children's Palliative Care programme

We are now in the second year of the Kentown Children's Palliative Care Programme, a collaborative programme between Together for Short Lives, The Kentown Wizard Foundation and Rainbow Trust Children's Charity.

It is a community focused children's palliative care initiative in Northwest England covering Lancashire

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and South Cumbria. A project with three key complementary delivery elements: Nursing Care, Social Care and Information and Awareness, Kentown Support will be delivered by specialist children's palliative care nurses, family support workers and family service coordinators to link families living across Lancashire and South Cumbria to the services and support that they need. There are now 128 children registered through the referral system with many of them continuing to receive support from more than one strand of the programme.

Our coordinators (employed by Together for Short Lives) have contacted over 100 services across the Kentown geographical area. In addition to signposting families to services and other sources of support, the coordinators have been able to provide enhanced support through Together for Short Lives' Family Support Hub on 79 occasions including 19 Cost of Living grants (total £4,750), 2 Butterfly Grants (£600), 8 Turn2Us grants (total £11,550) and 2 referrals to legal support and 42 weekly shops for families (approx. value £6,300).

Reaching families from underserved communities

Launched in January 2023 our Morrison's outreach community project continues to support and connect with families across three areas of the UK where the prevalence of children with life-limiting conditions is significantly higher amongst the non-white British population – Bedford, Luton and Milton Keynes, Birmingham & Solihull and Greater Manchester. Our three community outreach workers funded through our Morrison's partnership have connected with 197 services in the respective regions, raising awareness of children's palliative care and the support offered through Together for Short Lives and children's hospices.

Events have been run by colleagues across Together for Short Lives' Practice & Service Development team, reaching over 1410 individuals in total. In addition to parents and carers being given information directly by the Community Outreach Workers, a further 142 families have been signposted to our Family Hub for more specialist financial and practical support. 76 families across the three regions have been given a Butterfly Grant (£300 for a child who has died of a life-limiting or life-threatening condition) and 99 crisis pantries have been delivered to families across the three regions in need providing total of 444 family members with a weekly food shop, totalling a massive £14,698.80.

In addition to our outreach work we have established a Memory making fund to enable our hospice partners across the UK to undertake a variety of memory making activities enabling families to meet other parents, siblings and build special memories. 56 applications have now been approved to the value of £61,191 benefiting more than 4700 individual family members.

A second grant, our Building a Legacy Together Fund was launched in June 2023 to help children's hospices create a great environment where they can care for families facing the toughest of circumstances. The grants will fund children's hospices and at-home services to refurbish rooms, increase capacity by using space more effectively or to purchase new equipment to enhance children's care. In our first round of grants - 25 applications were received from 11 hospices and a total of £476,703 awarded for a variety of small capital projects.

Supporting families with the cost of energy

Children with life-limiting conditions have significantly higher energy costs and rely on the supply of power to run vital, life sustaining equipment at home.

In August 2023, recognising the vulnerability of children with life limiting conditions, Together for Short Lives began delivering a new three-year partnership with SGN gas distribution company. The aim of

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the project is to provide access to energy safeguards including simple access to the Priority Services Register and help that addresses fuel poverty tailored to the needs of families, to improve the ability of existing staff and professionals/hospice staff to identify fuel poverty in homes and provide appropriate information and resources to the most vulnerable families.

Our new energy support service provided via the TfSL helpline and established outreach services helps families who are having difficulties with their energy bills or facing energy debt to access information, resources and financial support helping them to stay safe, warm and at home. Over the three-year partnership we will work specifically with 13 hospice sites in the Southeast footprint offering training workshops for families and staff delivered by our energy support officer.

Campaigning for better access to 24/7 support

In March, we launched our first 'Short Lives Can't Wait' report and campaign. This was the culmination of a major project to map the extent to which children and families across the UK can access 24/7 palliative care in a way which meets national quality standards – and the extent to which these services are commissioned.

The project also established the current state of the children's palliative care workforce. We surveyed UK children's hospice organisations and NHS specialist children's palliative care teams on their care workforce, vacancies and staff retention rates.

Our [Short Lives Can't Wait](#) report shows that thousands of families whose children need the support of children's palliative care face a postcode lottery as to whether they receive the right care. Our research has found that:

- Whether the right care is available depends entirely on where you live: only a third of local areas in England are meeting the required standard for 24/7 end of life care for children and young people at home.
- There is an estimated £295 million funding gap for children's palliative care services in England.
- There are significant workforce shortages and inconsistencies in the way support is planned and funded by local NHS and council bodies across the UK, which are not being held to account by the UK's governments.

Our findings were covered exclusively by ITV News. Our story was published online and broadcast in ITV's evening news bulletin with a package featuring an interview with Andy Fletcher.

Andy was interviewed at Westminster, ahead of an All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for Children Who Need Palliative Care reception share our findings with MPs and peers – and to ask for their support in pressing the government to act. The then Minister for Social Care, Helen Whately, responded on behalf of the government.

Our research found that, following our report in 2022, a third (30%) of local NHS areas (known as integrated care board, or ICB, areas) in England are now able to offer 24/7 support at home at the end of a child's life. The number of full-time equivalent specialist GRID training posts for consultants had also increased from one in 2022 to more than seven in 2024.

The best quality care and support – improving the quality of children's palliative care so children and families get the best support

Engaging professionals and sharing good practice

Engaging with health and care professionals and bringing them together to share and learn from one another is a key strand of our strategy. We know from experience the power of networks in supporting children with complex needs.

Over the last year we held a variety of meetings and forums for professionals working across the palliative care sector. including Leaders of Care within children's hospices (78 members), our network leads (57 members), our joint research group which we host jointly with The Association for Paediatric Palliative Medicine (60 members) and our Transition Forum, co-hosted with Hospice UK, (average attendees 24).

In addition to these member Forums, we also attend regularly (3-4 times per year) 16 regional children's palliative care networks to ensure that they are up to date with relevant policy and practice issues that might affect services in their region. During the year we reached over 1200 professionals through presentations at network meetings and our forums.

Our online discussion forum for professionals (149 active users) continues to attract discussions on various topics ranging from clinical matters to policy development and research.

Identifying children who need palliative care

In April 2023 we secured funding from True Colours Trust to run an engagement programme across the UK with professionals and parents to review the existing categories of children with life-limiting conditions and develop and revise the approach to identify and prioritise children who need palliative care in the UK. Following engagement with over 200 stakeholders we are proposing a multilayered toolkit building on the framework for categorising children with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions that was first published in 1997. The toolkit will help professionals caring for families to:-

- **Recognise** a baby/child/young person who is likely to have palliative care needs.
- **Assess** the baby/child's/young person's current health status and plan for palliative care.
- **Support** the baby/child/young person and family's holistic needs.

Resources and education for professionals

We continue to update and develop resources for professionals and families. This year we have worked in partnership with BLISS to develop a resource for parents who have had conversations with their care team either during pregnancy or after birth that their baby's future is uncertain. It aims to provide information and sources of support when there is uncertainty about a baby's future and may need palliative care.

In May we conducted phase 1 engagement and co-production exercise to develop a communications skills training programme which will support and encourage professionals working at generalist level to have better conversations, often in times of crisis, with the growing number of families caring for a seriously ill child. We are working closely with JP Morgan on their Force for Good Programme to help us identify a learning management platform which will enable us to curate the latest research/data on children's palliative care and host comprehensive education and online training including our communications programme.

Support today, tomorrow and every day – strengthening sustainability of children's palliative care

In April and May 2023, we surveyed UK children's hospice organisations to establish how they were being funded. We found that funding for children's hospices in England from local NHS organisations (integrated care boards, or ICBs) was patchy and nowhere near the level that will sustain the crucial hospice services that seriously ill children and families needed.

Despite this, NHS England (NHSE) planned to end the crucial £25 million annual Children's Hospice Grant at the end of 2023/24, which would have led to cuts in vital end of life care, short breaks for respite and services to manage children's symptoms.

Our report was a key milestone in our #SaveTheGrant campaign. Almost 5,000 people signed our petition to save the grant.

The APPG for Children Who Need Palliative Care drop-in for MPs and peers represented another key moment in this campaign. The event coincided with a children's hospice lobby day at Westminster which we organised. Britt, a parent who uses Shooting Star Children's Hospices, and Liam, a young man who uses Claire House Children's Hospice, both attended the day.

Our campaign had an instant impact. Minister of State for Social Care, Helen Whately, attended the APPG and confirmed that the UK Government would commit to continuing the NHS England Children's Hospice Grant for another year (into 2024/25).

Later that afternoon, during a Health and Social Care Select Committee session, Chair Steve Brine asked Secretary of State Steve Barclay about the future of the grant. We also achieved media coverage of our report through a planned radio day.

Later in the year, we published the results of a series of freedom of information (FOI) requests of ICBs in England and collated, analysed and reported responses. These found that in 2022/23, on average, ICBs spent £151 for every case of a life-limiting or life-threatening condition among children and young people aged 0-24 in their local area. However, the amounts spent by each ICB varied by as much as £483 per child or young person.

Our report achieved exclusive UK-wide coverage in The Times.

To support ICBs in overcoming these challenges, we developed [a comprehensive online guide](#) to help them meet their legal duty on palliative and end of life care for children and young people. The website has been informed by local commissioners, who told us what they needed, and draws together key England-wide guidance and service specifications.

Making it happen

We have continued to invest in the development of Together for Short Lives on key initiatives which help deliver the three strategic objectives.

Raising awareness

We have worked with Heard, a creative agency funded by the True Colours Trust, to continue their

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work to shift perceptions and ensure that families and the public understand the huge positive difference that children's palliative care can make. This has included working together to secure national media coverage around the series "Best Interests" – a high profile BBC One drama focussed on a family caring for a serious child starring Sharon Horgan and Michael Sheen.

This complemented Together for Short Lives' sector engagement activity and resources shared to prepare children's hospices and networks for the programme airing and the impact on families.

A message from HRH The Princess of Wales was a key element of Children's Hospice Week 2023, which generated 274 pieces of media coverage reaching an estimated 3.5 billion people across the world. Her Royal Highness said "...I would like to say a huge thank you to all those working in children's hospices. You are a shining light to so many families in their darkest times...".

This coverage included print pieces in the Express and the i Newspaper. On social media, we published 60 different Children's Hospice Week posts across Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn. This generated almost 128,000 impressions with an engagement rate of more than 6%.

Amongst those to engage with us and push our reach were Mason Mount, TV Doctors Sarah Jarvis and Dr Philippa Kaye, Guardian columnist Zoe Williams and Jack Thorne, the writer of Best Interests.

Digital transformation and resources

Our online support hub for families and professionals has grown this year. During the year over 75,000 pages were viewed on the family support section of our website by more than 55,000 users – an increase in users of 70% on the previous year. We also introduced an online form for professionals to make referrals to the Butterfly Fund directly via the website. We have continued to invest in improving the online user experience via the website. As a result of updating Access CRM we had to replace our existing donation and service directory functionality, and this gave us an opportunity to invest in improving the user experience, as well as improving the back-office processes to improve efficiency. Using learnings from our previous 'Catalyst' project, we have identified areas of the website that are most in need of upgrades to improve the user experience and make the content more accessible.

We have produced new content to support our Family Support Hub offer, including new videos which promote our different services and partners.

A great place to work where everyone belongs

We have continued to invest in our culture and team. Our staff survey showed that 95% enjoy the work they do and 92% feel proud to work for Together for Short Lives. We have made progress with ensuring that we are a charity where everyone belongs and can be themselves. Only 3% of staff reported that they did not feel comfortable being themselves at work. We are committed to continuous improvement and use the Birdsong data to benchmark ourselves against other charities. This year we were better than benchmark on 35% of the questions, the same as the charity benchmark on 49% of the questions and worse than benchmark on 16% of the questions. These areas where we score below the benchmark informs our action plan.

Following feedback in the 2023 staff survey, we prioritised improvements to internal communications, wellbeing at work and improving transparency around how pay is set. We were encouraged to see that all three of these areas saw improvements in the 2024 survey.

Sharing our impact

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Our most recent impact report was published in October 2023, and can be viewed in both print and video format https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0_3LwGC-2g for the first time.

Financial review

Overall Financial Performance

The Statement of Financial Activities shows Designated Funds, Unrestricted Funds, Restricted Funds (excluding the National Fundraising Scheme (NFS)) and NFS. The Designated Fund is shown separately from the Unrestricted Fund as it is ring fenced for specific activities (see below).

Restricted funds have been split into two: those for NFS (whose activities are concerned with raising funds for distribution to children's hospice services) and those for other restricted fund projects and partnership such as Morrisons and Kentown. These funds are shown in note 16.

The net deficit for all funds for the year was £576k (2023: net deficit of £170k). Our partnerships and projects have continued to mean high levels of restricted income and subsequent distributions to hospices and families. Unrestricted funding has been a challenge in this period and because the outlook remains uncertain, we took the difficult decision to reduce our staff team by 6 to remain sustainable.

Funds for our core work

Funds relating to our core work, as opposed to NFS and other restricted funds, are shown in the two columns in the Statement of Financial Activities labelled "Unrestricted Funds" and "Restricted Funds (excluding NFS) and Designated Fund".

Income

We achieved gross income of £6,902k (2023: £6,132k). Most of this income is for restricted programmes - the Morrisons' partnership, Kentown Support Programme and NFS.

Designated Fund

A large legacy was received in 2019-20 and ringfenced by the trustees in a Designated Fund. The specific activities on which this fund can be spent must be approved by the trustees and if an ongoing activity, must be self-sustaining within 2 years. Deficits were planned to ensure that the legacy was utilised, and this year we have spent £700k (2023: £626k).

We have invested in:

- Building the Family Hub to provide direct support to families
- Data systems and digital development
- Organisational infrastructure
- Income generation

Expenditure

Expenditure for the year was £7,629k (2023: £6,180k), the increase mostly representing an increase in distributions to hospices and families. £4,035k (2023: £2,650k) was distributed in charitable grants

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

and funding, £2,577k was spent on our remaining charitable activities (2023: £2,591k) with the remaining £1,017k (2023: £939k) spent on raising funds, including those for NFS.

National Fundraising Scheme (NFS)

This scheme raises income and awareness through national corporate partnerships, and the net income raised is shared with local children's hospice services across the UK who would not otherwise be able to access national partnerships.

The scheme raised £834k (2023: £893k) during the year from its various fundraising campaigns, After a deduction for direct costs, and a contribution to our core costs, £378k (2023: £440k) was distributed across 39 children's hospices.

Grant Making Policy

We have had two main grant making policies this year. Established in 2019, the Butterfly Fund provides a £300 grant to families whose child has died. Funding is provided by a number of trusts and foundations, individuals and companies. This year 245 Families received a grant.

Fundraising Strategy

This year we updated our fundraising strategy in line with the new ten year strategy – it continues to focus on sustainable growth by looking to maximise unrestricted funding and fully funded projects to maximise our impact.

At the heart of our strategy is the ambition to become a great fundraising organisation – a whole organisation approach to raising transformational amounts of income for our mission. We continue to bring this to life across the organisation, including training for the whole charity on what great fundraising looks like and their role in it.

We have made modest, long-term investments in capability and capacity to help grow our income particularly in the areas of philanthropy, and individual giving. We have seen initial signs of success from securing new corporate partnerships, increased project funding from Trusts and Foundation, and foundational work undertaken to build longer term relationships with individuals. We have continued to be successful at growing our restricted fundraising for projects and programmes but have found it a more challenging environment to grow vital unrestricted funding.

As a team we have refreshed our fundraising strategy in line with the organisational direction and have developed three clear pillars:

1. **Passionate people** – becoming a connect, inspired and pro-active fundraising team is everything
2. **Painless process** – we will review, resolve and improve every essential interaction and activity required to deliver first class fundraising
3. **Profitable priorities**: a small number of core initiatives that will maximise net income contribution and unrestricted funds i.e., the development of an individual giving function, a £1 million development board, repositioning our corporate offering as a sector leader in social purpose/ESG; a cross sector strategic grant proposition

Fundraising performance

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Inflation, energy prices, global political and economic uncertainty, cost-of-living crisis – the list of adverse factors impacting giving is long; however, we have seen another strong year of income and delivered £6,902k. Whilst we have consolidated our position as a £6 million+ charity, our growth continues to be predominantly in restricted project funding, and we are finding unrestricted income growth harder, hence our fundraising investment focus in philanthropy and individual giving, as well as ensuring full cost recovery on all project budgets.

Corporate partnerships

Our second year in partnership with Morrisons was another success. By the end of March 2024, our partnership total was £7.85m, ahead of our target to achieve £10m over three years. 61 Morrisons' suppliers supported the "Every Pack Gives Back" campaign, raising over £2m funding for our new Community Outreach Project. In August 2023 we delivered the most successful single fundraising campaign in Morrisons' history of charity partnerships – 100% of Morrisons stores and sites participated, raising nearly £500k in just one month. The campaign was recognised at the Better Society Awards, winning Highly Commended in the "Best Employee Fundraising Campaign" category; and the partnership was awarded "Best Short-Term Corporate Partnership" at the Third Sector Business Charity Awards.

Total income from corporate partners increased to over £3.6 million; as well as ongoing support from national partners including Hobbycraft, Center Parcs, Gravity Active Entertainment, and BGC, among others, we secured a new 3-year £1 million partnership with the Peninsula Group, which we look forward to delivering from April 2024. Outside of financial donations, corporate partners provided meaningful support for families in the form of gifted breaks at Center Parcs, specially devised Memory Making Workshops with Hobbycraft, and an immersive Disney Wish experience with Disney and Make a Wish.

Trusts and Foundations

Trusts raised £365k, exceeding target. Funding from SGN created an energy advice service for families, while support from Southampton Hospitals Charity developed a communications training package for frontline responders. Funding from the True Colours Trust allowed us to update the definitions of children's palliative care; and we exceeded our target for the Butterfly Fund.

Unrestricted funding proved more challenging with the end of the current funding agreement with the True Colours Trust, and timescales shifting on several strategic applications. We hope to bring these to conclusion in 24/25. Additionally, we initiated an annual trust mailing and are undertaking network mapping to stimulate growth in this area.

Philanthropy

With a renewed approach to philanthropy following the decision to pause the annual gala in 24/25, efforts are underway to work with donors to support our core service delivery. We secured a new annual £50k gift from a family philanthropic foundation and a £30k match-funding gift for the pledge at the annual ball. The philanthropy team continue to work collaboratively and through personal connections have facilitated a corporate partnership introduction for the NFS worth £1m over 3 years along with a £50k corporate partner.

Our annual ball was held at Grosvenor House Hotel in March 2024, sponsored by Morrisons and in partnership with OK! Magazine. Hosted by patron Simon Cowell, the star-studded night raised £320,000 and was ably compared by Joel Dommett with a performance from Lulu. It was also

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

attended by our patron Mason Mount who arrived fresh from the Manchester United training ground and headed back that night to report for duty the next morning. We are grateful to our patrons and our guests for their commitment to our gala event which the last six years has raised over £2m for our core work. We are planning to rest the event for the next fiscal year to focus our efforts on philanthropy.

Our newest ambassador Alesha Dixon and patron Holly Willoughby attended the BGC Trading Day in September 2023 in support of the annual fundraiser of which TfSL has been a beneficiary for the last seven years, raising more than £320k.

At Christmas, OK! Magazine featured a nine-page spread of our ambassadors, patrons and celeb friends, sharing their special Christmas memories in support of our campaign, Every Moment is A Gift.

In October 2023, Mason Mount visited our outreach team in Manchester and spent a special afternoon with families at a Halloween themed party. Mason also filmed our hero Christmas film with a local family and heard their experience of caring for a seriously ill child.

Looking ahead, we are planning our ball replacement activity, working alongside our patrons to create a unique experience for our supporters.

Our supporters

None of this would be possible without the generosity of the individuals, companies and organisations we work who share our passion for the cause. Alongside this we are grateful for the talented and hardworking team of fundraisers who continue to push themselves to secure even greater sums for our mission. Thank you.

Regulation and complaints

The charity undertakes fundraising activity with its supporters through corporate partnerships, challenge events, a gala ball, payroll giving, and other activities in line with the Fundraising Code of Practice set by Fundraising Regulator.

Our privacy policy, (which is available on our website), states that:

“If you support us, for example by signing up to an event, donating or signing up to a campaign, we will usually collect your name, contact details, and whether you would like to be contacted, and how we would do so.

We use this information to thank you for supporting us and to provide you with further communications about our activities according to your preferences and interests. We also use it to fulfil our legal responsibilities for financial and Gift Aid reporting.

We will keep your data only for as long as necessary.”

In 2023/24 we have developed our individual fundraising approach, and our approach to data protection and policies. We have reviewed best practice in the sector to ensure our processes and policies are of the highest level to ensure an exemplary supporter experience and are currently rolling out training across the teams.

We endeavour for all our fundraising, and any fundraising undertaken on our behalf, to be conducted

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

in a fair, transparent, and compliant manner. We are members of the Fundraising Regulator and ensure all our fundraising activity is carried out in line with the Code of Fundraising Practice, charity law and all relevant legislation including General Data Protection Regulation and Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulations. All Together for Short Lives employees receive training (including mandatory safeguarding training) and support as appropriate and, when planning new activities, we ensure the correct processes and procedures are in place.

We work with partner organisations so that supporters can take part in professionally organised challenge events, and we have clear agreements with those companies who will not use participants' personal details for any other reason.

No complaints about our fundraising activity were received in the year (2023: Nil).

Reserves policy

The trustees of the charity review the reserves policy each year. The policy states that the charity will hold Unrestricted Funds, excluding Designated Funds and those which are tied up in functional fixed assets, sufficient to cover the financial impact of risk, our working capital and so that we can take advantage of unforeseen opportunities as well as those planned.

The policy states that the target reserves should be at least the amount for working capital and financial risk, and at most that including an amount for opportunities. This range should ensure that there is no significant disruption to our charitable activities should there be an unforeseen reduction in income (for example when income does not reach expected levels); or additional expenditure (for example when projects overrun, or unplanned events occur). We have based our projections for the appropriate level of reserves on the basis that the reserves in our target range would provide short-term support until long-term solutions can be established.

Following this calculation for 2023-24, the target reserves for the charity should be between £1,032k and £1,232k (2023: £1,125k-£1,325k). At 31st March 2024 free reserves (unrestricted reserves excluding designated reserves) totalled £1,035k (2023: £1,192k), which is just inside the target range.

Going Concern

The trustees have assessed the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for at least 12 months after the signing of this report. They are confident that the charity continues to be a going concern.

There were no significant events in year that had a financial impact on the charity.

Investment Policy and Performance

The organisation's investment policy is as follows:

- The trustees have a duty to obtain the best financial return on monies raised by TfSL in excess of short term requirements, while keeping that money safe.
- The key risk to the long-term reserves is inflation, and the assets should be invested to mitigate this risk over the long term. The trustees understand that this is likely to mean that investment will be concentrated in real assets and that the capital value will fluctuate.
- TfSL seeks to produce the best financial return within an acceptable level of risk. The investment objective for the long-term reserves is to generate a return of CPI + 4% after fees

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

over 5 year rolling periods whilst generating an income to support the on-going activities of the Charity.

- The investment objective for the short-term reserves is to preserve the capital value with a minimum level of risk. Invested assets should be readily available to meet unanticipated cashflow requirements.
- The investment policy also includes an ethical policy, which states that the trustees choose to invest only in funds that have ethical investment principles and policies, and that are managed by asset managers who have published a “statement of commitment” to the Financial Reporting Council’s current UK Stewardship Code. Trustees review the suitability of the investments within the portfolio at least annually. The funds (including Designated Funds) available for long term investment are placed with Sarasin & Partners, in their Endowments Fund for Charities. The fund is measured against a bespoke benchmark and performance against this benchmark is monitored by the Finance & Governance Committee twice per year. The trustees consider the fund’s performance over the last year to have been acceptable

Charity’s measure of performance

The charity measures its performance by monitoring various key performance indicators (KPIs) which are reported to the board and sub-committees on a quarterly basis. These reports are also reviewed by cross-departmental groups that focus on each of the four strategic aims. Numerical targets are used where appropriate and performance monitored against these.

During the year we have revised our core Purpose and Theory of Change, working with the external agency Trust Impact. This work is crucial to our plans to better evidence and measure the difference we make and improve how we prioritise our work.

Risk management

The charity encourages risk management at all levels of the organisation. The overall organisational risk register is reviewed monthly at every Executive Team meeting. Key issues and changes are reviewed quarterly by the Finance, Governance and Fundraising Committee and Board of Trustees. The register identifies the major risks to which the charity is exposed together with the actions and systems in place to mitigate or reduce the exposure to those risks. All major projects also have their own risk registers.

The principal risks and uncertainties at the time of writing, and plans and strategies for managing them are:

- **Lack of sustainable unrestricted income** is a risk in every charity. We are currently running planned deficits against our reserves, but it is vital that we secure sustainable recurring unrestricted income for our core activities in the future. This year we have reduced our cost base, and have plans in train in philanthropy and individual giving in particular to secure that income.
- **Loss of key staff** is always a risk but particularly so in the wake of a reduction of staff numbers. We are particularly mindful of workload concerns affecting wellbeing. Regular one to ones, wellbeing sessions, our Employee Assistance Programme and acting on staff survey feedback are some of the measures we take to mitigate the risk.
- **Data Protection** We recently conducted a data usage review that has identified some gaps and inconsistencies that we are now addressing with a full programme of new documentation, processes and staff training.

- **Reputational risk** from adverse publicity: Risk assessments are in place for all our key programmes and events which may have reputational impact. We have a robust and regularly reviewed Crisis Management policy and plan in place. We keep our Patrons and Ambassadors Strategy under regular review.
- **Cyber Incident** affects the organisation's ability to function. There are several ways in which we are mitigating this risk; training for staff on managing their devices and commonly used attack methods such as phishing and supplier fraud, working with our IT supplier to ensure technical barriers are in place and having cyber security insurance. We have recently moved to Microsoft 365 Business Premium so that we can adopt advanced security and endpoint device management that aligns with the National Cyber Security Centre's recommendations.

Future strategy and plans

As part of our ongoing strategic review and planning, we have developed an updated two year plan to prioritise our work in line with our strategy and theory of change. This focuses on:

- **Changing the system through campaigns and advocacy** – we will continue to campaign for future funding for the sector to meet the significant shortfall in statutory health and care funding. This means engaging Parliamentarians in the new parliament to push for a long term funding solution for palliative care in hospital, children's hospice and at home. This includes ensuring that the Children's Hospice Grant continues and is distributed by NHS England. We will also continue to roll out our commissioning toolkit to ensure children's palliative care is effectively planned, commissioned and funding at local level.
- **Improving the delivery of children's palliative care** – we will continue to engage with professionals to share good practice in palliative care through networks, forums and events including planning for our UK conference in Manchester in May 2025. We will roll out education and training including the communications training and play and active role in research across the sector. We will finalise and disseminate our tools to support services and professionals to identify and support children who need palliative care and we will finalise our review of membership to ensure we have positive engagement with the sector.
- **Directly supporting families** – we will continue to reach more families through our family support hub and outreach workers, extending access to grants and inline support. We will review family resources to ensure they are relevant and offer families opportunities to shape out work. We will continue to work as part of the Kentown programme and explore future opportunities for this new model considering the independent evaluation. We will continue to reach families in underrepresented communities through our Morrisons outreach project and reach more families with energy support.

Acknowledgements

Delivering through partnerships

We place great value on a collaborative approach with partners in all areas of our work.

The partners who represent palliative and end of life care and disabled children include Hospice UK,

the Council for Disabled Children, the Association of Paediatric Palliative Medicine, the European Association for Palliative Care, and the International Children's Palliative Care Network. We also seek to work collaboratively with UK and country governments and departments to ensure that the voice of children, young people and their families is heard and the view of our members better represented.

We work with other service providers in the charitable and statutory sectors.

Our service delivery partners for Kentown Support are Rainbow Trust Children's Charity and NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria ICB. Other charities which support the direct delivery of our family work include Turn2us, Family Fund, Rosie's Rainbow Pantry and LawWorks.

Role of Volunteers

Together for Short Lives benefits from the time and commitment given by volunteers who have helped with administrative duties for the charity on a regular basis, as well as helping on an ad hoc basis. The charity is very grateful to all our volunteers for their time, support and flexibility. and hopes to create further opportunities for volunteer involvement in the future.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also directors of Together for Short Lives for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP.
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

Provision of information to auditors

Each of the persons who are trustees at the time when this Trustees' Report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware, and
- that the trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a trustee in order to be aware of any information needed by the charitable company's auditors in connection with preparing their report and to establish that the charitable company's auditors are aware of that information.

Small Company Provisions

The directors have prepared this report in accordance with the special provisions of Statutory Instrument 2008/409 under the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

This report was approved by the trustees on and signed on their behalf by:



Sarah Talbot-Williams
Chair

Date: 24 October 2024

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Together for Short Lives for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, the Consolidated and Charity Balance Sheets, the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and of the parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of the group's and parent charitable company's net movement in funds, including the income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' Report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the Trustees' Report (which incorporates the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees' Report (which incorporates the directors' report) has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and the parent charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report (which incorporates the directors' report).

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 and the Charity Accounts (Scotland) Regulations (as amended) require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent charitable company; or
- the parent charitable company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 24, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

Based on our understanding of the group and the environment in which it operates, we identified that

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES

the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to charity and company law applicable in England, Wales and Scotland, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005.

We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls) and determined that the principal risks were related to revenue recognition, and management override of controls. Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

- Inspecting correspondence with regulators and tax authorities;
- Discussions with management including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulation and fraud;
- Reviewing the controls and procedures of the charity relevant to the preparation of the financial statements to ensure these were in place throughout the year, including during the Covid-19 remote working period;
- Evaluating management's controls designed to prevent and detect irregularities;
- Identifying and testing journals; and
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in their critical accounting estimates.

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

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006, section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 10 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Jane Askew (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of
Haysmacintyre LLP
Statutory Auditors

10 Queen Street Place
London
EC4R 1AG

Date: 24 October 2024

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

REGISTERED NUMBER: 07783702

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (incorporating an income and expenditure account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Note	General unrestricted funds 2024 £	Designated funds - legacy 2024 £	Restricted Funds excluding NFS 2024 £	Restricted Funds NFS 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
INCOME FROM:							
Donations and legacies	2	516,557	-	3,983,609	702,292	5,202,458	4,277,885
Other trading activities	2	341,951	-	1,057,233	131,579	1,530,763	1,746,320
Investments	2	129,219	-	-	-	129,219	82,398
Charitable activities	2	38,735	-	-	-	38,735	22,983
Other income	2	495	-	-	-	495	2,202
TOTAL INCOME	2	<u>1,026,957</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,040,842</u>	<u>833,871</u>	<u>6,901,670</u>	<u>6,131,788</u>
EXPENDITURE ON:							
Raising funds		693,932	263,934	-	59,274	1,017,140	939,135
Charitable activities		648,661	476,598	4,772,113	714,663	6,612,035	5,240,811
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	4	<u>1,342,593</u>	<u>740,532</u>	<u>4,772,113</u>	<u>773,937</u>	<u>7,629,175</u>	<u>6,179,946</u>
Net income/(expenditure) before revaluation		(315,636)	(740,532)	268,729	59,934	(727,505)	(48,158)
(Losses)/gains on revaluations of investment assets		<u>151,996</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>151,996</u>	<u>(122,317)</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(163,640)	(740,532)	268,729	59,934	(575,509)	(170,475)
Transfers between funds	16	<u>6,460</u>	<u>41,652</u>	<u>11,822</u>	<u>(59,934)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS FOR THE YEAR		<u>(157,180)</u>	<u>(698,880)</u>	<u>280,551</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(575,509)</u>	<u>(170,475)</u>
Total funds at start of year		<u>1,192,660</u>	<u>1,678,001</u>	<u>1,102,218</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,972,879</u>	<u>4,143,354</u>
TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR		<u><u>1,035,480</u></u>	<u><u>979,121</u></u>	<u><u>1,382,769</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>3,397,370</u></u>	<u><u>3,972,879</u></u>

All activities relate to continuing operations.

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Full comparatives for the year to 31 March 2023 are shown in notes 2 and 4.
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

REGISTERED NUMBER: 07783702

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Note	£	2024	£	£	2023	£
FIXED ASSETS							
Tangible assets	11			76,846			75,726
Investments	12			3,325,422			3,173,426
				<u>3,402,268</u>			<u>3,249,152</u>
CURRENT ASSETS							
Stock			8,306			8,330	
Debtors	13		1,542,645			1,676,031	
Cash at bank			<u>1,154,527</u>			<u>1,551,564</u>	
			2,705,478			3,235,925	
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	14		<u>(2,710,376)</u>			<u>(2,512,198)</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS				(4,898)			723,727
NET ASSETS				<u>3,397,370</u>			<u>3,972,879</u>
CHARITY FUNDS							
Restricted funds NFS	16			-			-
Restricted funds excluding NFS	16			1,382,769			1,102,218
Designated fund - legacy				979,121			1,678,001
Other unrestricted funds	16			<u>1,035,480</u>			<u>1,192,660</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>3,397,370</u>			<u>3,972,879</u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 24 October 2024 and signed on their behalf, by:



B Watson, Treasurer



S Talbot-Williams, Chair

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

REGISTERED NUMBER: 07783702

CHARITY BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Note	2024	2023
		£	£
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	11	76,846	75,726
Investments	12	3,330,422	3,178,426
		<u>3,407,268</u>	<u>3,254,152</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	13	1,843,076	1,834,720
Cash at bank		851,114	1,391,125
		<u>2,694,190</u>	<u>3,225,845</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	14	(2,704,088)	(2,507,118)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>(9,898)</u>	<u>718,727</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>3,397,370</u>	<u>3,972,879</u>
CHARITY FUNDS			
Restricted funds NFS	16	-	-
Restricted funds excluding NFS	16	1,382,769	1,102,218
Designated fund - legacy		979,121	1,678,001
Other unrestricted funds	16	1,035,480	1,192,660
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>3,397,370</u>	<u>3,972,879</u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 24 October 2024 and signed on their behalf, by:

B Watson, Treasurer

S Talbot-Williams, Chair

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

The deficit of the parent charity for the year was £575,509 (2023: deficit of £173,299).

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Cash inflow from operating activities	a	<u>(484,604)</u>	<u>723,576</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest income		12,613	4,667
Investment income		116,606	77,731
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(41,652)	(58,718)
Sale of investments		-	350,000
Cash used in investing activities		<u>87,567</u>	<u>373,680</u>
Increase in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(397,037)	1,097,256
Cash and short term investments at the beginning of the year		1,551,564	454,308
TOTAL CASH AND SHORT TERM INVESTMENTS AT THE END OF THE YEAR		<u>1,154,527</u>	<u>1,551,564</u>

a. RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2024 £	2023 £
Net income/(expenditure)	(575,509)	(170,475)
Depreciation charge	40,532	25,640
Interest income	(12,613)	(4,667)
Investment income	(116,606)	(77,731)
Loss/(gain) on investments	(151,996)	122,317
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	133,386	(562,573)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	198,178	1,399,395
(Increase)/decrease in stock	24	(8,330)
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	<u>(484,604)</u>	<u>723,576</u>

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

1.1. Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Together for Short Lives meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

1.2. Preparation of accounts on a going concern basis

The review of our financial position since the introduction of the COVID-19 control measures has included forecasting income, expenditure and cashflow, access to available unrestricted funds and detailed planning for potential future events. The trustees consider there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period in excess of 12 months from the approval date of these accounts.

1.3. Company Status

Together for Short Lives is a company limited by guarantee, registered as a company in England and Wales (company number 7783702). The members of the company are the trustees named on page 1. In the event of the Together for Short Lives being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of Together for Short Lives.

1.4. Income

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to income, it is probable that income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Donations and gifts are included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when there is entitlement, probability of receipt and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Gifts in kind

Gifts in kind represent assets donated for distribution or use by the charity. Assets given for distribution are recognised as income only when distributed. Assets given for use by the charity are recognised when receivable. Gifts in kind are valued at the amount actually realised from the disposal of the assets or at the price the charity would otherwise have paid for the assets.

Grants

Grants are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which the charity has entitlement to the income, the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably and there is probability of receipt.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Income from charitable activities

Income from charitable activities is recognised as earned as the related services are provided. Income from other trading activities is recognised as earned as the related goods are provided.

Investment income

Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis once the amounts can be measured reliably.

1.5. Expenditure

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

- Costs of raising funds
- Expenditure on charitable activities

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

Expenditure is allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned based on staff time attributable to each activity.

Expenditure on raising funds for children's hospice services through the National Fundraising Scheme (NFS) is included under "Expenditure on charitable activities", as these are costs that we incur in supporting the children's palliative care sector and so are part of delivering our charitable purpose.

1.6. Allocation of costs

Staff costs are allocated between direct charitable expenditure and support costs based on the time spent on these activities. Other costs are allocated directly to the relevant heading.

1.7. Operating leases

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

1.8. Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

1.6. Employee benefits

Short term benefits

Short term benefits including holiday pay are recognised as an expense in the period in which the service is received.

Employee termination benefits

Termination benefits are accounted for on an accruals basis and in line with FRS 102.

Pension scheme

Together for Short Lives operates a defined contribution pension scheme for the benefit of its employees. The assets of the scheme are held independently from those of the Charity in an independently administered fund. The pensions costs charged in the financial statements represent the contributions payable during the year.

1.7. Basis of consolidation

The financial statements consolidate the accounts of Together for Short Lives and its subsidiary undertaking Together for Short Lives (Trading) Ltd. The company has taken advantage of the exemption contained within 408 of the Companies Act 2006 not to present its own Income and Expenditure Account.

1.8. Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date. The Statement of Financial Activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals throughout the year.

Investments in subsidiaries are valued at cost less provision for impairment.

Monies held in deposit accounts are classified as investments within current assets.

1.9. Tangible fixed Assets and depreciation

Fixed assets are initially recorded at cost. Expenditure on fixed assets costing £1,000 or less is written off as incurred.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Leasehold improvements	-	Straight line over the period of the lease
Fixtures and fittings	-	25% straight line
Office equipment	-	33.3% straight line

1.10. Debtors

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

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

1.11. Stock

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Net realisable value is based upon estimated selling price less further costs expected to be incurred to completion and disposal. Provision is made for obsolete and slow-moving items.

The trustees have concluded and agreed that the valuing of shops donated goods for resale on receipt is impractical due to the high volume of low value items, lack of stock system for recording these items and the administrative cost involved. Instead the income is recognised in the accounts when these goods are sold.

1.12. Creditors and provisions

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

1.13. Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

The trustees do not consider there are any other critical judgements or sources of estimation uncertainty requiring disclosure beyond the accounting policies listed above.

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

2. ANALYSIS OF INCOME

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Designated Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds excluding NFS 2024 £	Restricted Funds NFS 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Donations and legacies						
Donations	504,312	-	3,979,384	702,292	5,185,988	3,795,536
Legacies	3,795	-	-	-	3,795	20,000
Grants	8,450	-	4,225	-	12,675	462,349
	<u>516,557</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,983,609</u>	<u>702,292</u>	<u>5,202,458</u>	<u>4,277,885</u>
Other trading activities						
Licensing	880	-	909,581	-	910,461	1,071,355
Fundraising events	341,071	-	147,652	131,579	620,302	608,075
Conferences	-	-	-	-	-	66,890
	<u>341,951</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,057,233</u>	<u>131,579</u>	<u>1,530,763</u>	<u>1,746,320</u>
Investments						
Bank interest	12,613	-	-	-	12,613	4,667
Investment income	116,606	-	-	-	116,606	77,731
	<u>129,219</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>129,219</u>	<u>82,398</u>
Charitable activities						
Membership fees	30,204	-	-	-	30,204	19,433
Conferences	8,531	-	-	-	8,531	3,550
	<u>38,735</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>38,735</u>	<u>22,983</u>
Other income	495	-	-	-	495	2,202
Total income	<u>1,026,957</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,040,842</u>	<u>833,871</u>	<u>6,901,670</u>	<u>6,131,788</u>

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Comparative analysis for 2023

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Designated Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds excluding NFS 2023 £	Restricted Funds NFS 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Donations and legacies					
Donations	302,852	-	2,711,555	781,129	3,795,536
Legacies	20,000	-	-	-	20,000
Grants	82,675	-	379,674	-	462,349
	<u>405,527</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,091,229</u>	<u>781,129</u>	<u>4,277,885</u>
Other trading activities					
Licensing	42,447	-	1,028,908	-	1,071,355
Fundraising events	468,733	-	27,594	111,748	608,075
Conferences	66,890	-	-	-	66,890
	<u>578,070</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,056,502</u>	<u>111,748</u>	<u>1,746,320</u>
Investments					
Bank interest	4,667	-	-	-	4,667
Investment income	77,731	-	-	-	77,731
	<u>82,398</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>82,398</u>
Charitable activities					
Membership fees	19,433	-	-	-	19,433
Conferences	3,550	-	-	-	3,550
	<u>22,983</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>22,983</u>
Other income	2,202	-	-	-	2,202
Gain/(Loss) on revaluation of investments					
Total income	<u>1,091,180</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,147,731</u>	<u>892,877</u>	<u>6,131,788</u>

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

3. NET INCOME FROM TRADING ACTIVITIES OF SUBSIDIARY

Together for Short Lives owns 100% of the called up share capital of Together for Short Lives (Trading) Limited, a trading company registered in England and Wales, company number 06434214. A summary of the trading results of Together for Short Lives (Trading) Limited for the year ended 31 March 2023 is shown below. All taxable profits have been transferred to the Charity.

	2024 £	2023 £
Turnover	910,519	1,071,299
Administrative expenses	(23,418)	(20,927)
Profit after tax	887,101	1,050,372
Payment under gift aid	(887,101)	(1,050,372)
Retained profit carried forward	-	-

At 31 March 2024 the total of share capital and reserves for the company was £5,000 (2023: £5,000).

4. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE

	Direct costs Grants 2024 £	Other costs 2024 £	Support costs 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Raising funds					
Raising funds for our core work	-	788,146	169,798	957,944	885,041
Raising funds for NFS income	-	41,724	17,550	59,274	54,094
	-	829,870	187,348	1,017,218	939,135
Charitable Activities					
National Charitable Activities	-	1,462,369	466,175	1,928,544	1,943,556
Cost of generating income for children's hospice (NFS)	-	236,433	99,450	335,883	306,533
Cost of generating income for children's hospice (Morrisons)	-	312,474	-	312,474	341,051
Grants – National Fundraising Scheme (NFS)	378,781	-	-	378,781	439,797
Grants – Morrisons	2,833,477	-	-	2,833,477	1,941,724
Grants – Butterfly Fund	73,200	-	-	73,200	102,900
Grants – Cost of Living Fund	22,050	-	-	22,050	165,250
Grants – Kentown Partners	727,548	-	-	727,548	
Charitable activities	4,035,056	2,011,276	565,625	6,611,957	5,240,811
	4,035,056	2,841,146	752,973	7,629,175	6,179,946

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

4. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE (Continued)

	Direct costs		Support	
	Grants	Other costs	costs	Total
	2023	2023	2023	2023
	£	£	£	£
Comparative analysis for 2023				
Raising funds				
Raising funds for our core work	-	720,932	164,109	885,041
Raising funds for NFS income	-	36,544	17,550	54,094
	-	757,476	181,659	939,135
Charitable Activities				
National Charitable Activities	-	1,545,630	397,926	1,943,556
Cost of generating income for children's hospice (NFS)	-	207,083	99,450	306,533
Cost of generating income for children's hospice (Morrisons)	-	341,051	-	341,051
Grants – National Fundraising Scheme (NFS)	439,797	-	-	439,797
Grants – Improving Transition for Young People Awards	1,941,724	-	-	1,941,724
Butterfly Fund Grants	102,900	-	-	102,900
Grants – Relief Fund	165,250	-	-	165,250
Charitable activities	2,649,671	2,093,764	497,376	5,240,811
	2,649,671	2,851,240	679,035	6,179,946

5. ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT COSTS

	Total	Total
	2024	2023
	£	£
Staff costs	517,967	427,243
Depreciation	40,532	25,640
Governance costs (see note 7)	75,376	66,258
Other administrative costs	119,098	159,894
	752,973	679,035

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

6. GRANTS TO INSTITUTIONS

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds excluding NFS 2024 £	Restricted Funds NFS 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
National Fundraising Scheme (NFS)	-	-	438,714	438,714	439,797
Kentown Project	-	727,548	-	727,548	-
Morrisons	-	2,833,477	-	2,833,477	1,941,724
Butterfly Fund Grants	-	73,200	-	73,200	102,900
Relief Fund Grants	-	22,050	-	22,050	165,250
	-	3,656,275	438,714	4,094,989	2,649,671

Grants payable under the National Fundraising Scheme are made to member charities providing children's palliative care services across the UK in line with donor wishes.

7. GOVERNANCE COSTS

	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Auditors' remuneration	19,150	17,025
Meeting costs	823	2,393
Trustees travel reimbursed	3,606	4,116
Wages and salaries	43,056	35,515
Employers NI	5,374	4,432
Pension costs	3,367	2,777
	75,376	66,258

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

	2024 £	2023 £
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets:	40,532	25,640
Auditors' remuneration	19,150	17,025
Operating lease payments	27,020	27,020

During the year, no trustees received any remuneration (2023 Nil).
During the year, no trustees received any benefits in kind (2023 Nil).
During the year, 11 trustees received reimbursement of expenses for travel totalling £3,606 (2023: 0 trustees).

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
9. AUDITORS' REMUNERATION		
Fees payable to the charity's auditor for the audit of the charity's annual accounts	13,000	11,460
Fees payable to the charity's auditor in respect of:		
Together for Short Lives (Trading) Ltd	3,500	3,125
Non audit services	2,650	2,440
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

	2024	2023
	£	£
10. STAFF COSTS		
Staff costs were as follows:		
Wages and salaries	1,889,621	1,551,306
Social security costs	193,723	164,209
Pension costs	111,270	89,820
Restructuring payments	102,603	38,500
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	<u>2,297,217</u>	<u>1,843,835</u>

The Restructuring payments were made to employees following departmental restructures.

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

No.	No.
49	39
<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The number of higher paid employees was:

In the band £60,001 - £70,000	-	1
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	4	3
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	-	
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	1	1
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>

Key management remuneration

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the Group were £405,055 (2023: £399,180).

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Group and Charity	Leasehold property improvements £	Fixtures and fittings £	Office equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 April 2023	119,193	18,512	163,348	301,053
Additions	-	-	41,652	41,652
	<u>119,193</u>	<u>18,512</u>	<u>205,000</u>	<u>342,705</u>
At 31 March 2024	119,193	18,512	205,000	342,705
	<u>119,193</u>	<u>18,512</u>	<u>205,000</u>	<u>342,705</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2023	96,228	18,512	110,587	225,327
Charge for the year	5,106	-	35,426	40,532
	<u>101,334</u>	<u>18,512</u>	<u>146,013</u>	<u>265,859</u>
At 31 March 2024	101,334	18,512	146,013	265,859
	<u>101,334</u>	<u>18,512</u>	<u>146,013</u>	<u>265,859</u>
Net book value				
At 31 March 2024	17,859	-	58,987	76,846
	<u>17,859</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>58,987</u>	<u>76,846</u>
At 31 March 2023	22,965	-	52,761	75,726
	<u>22,965</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>52,761</u>	<u>75,726</u>

12. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

Group	Money Market Fund 2024 £	Listed securities 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Market value				
At 1 April	1,258,302	1,915,124	3,173,426	3,645,743
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	(350,000)
Revaluations	-	151,996	151,996	(122,317)
	<u>1,258,302</u>	<u>2,067,120</u>	<u>3,325,422</u>	<u>3,173,426</u>
At 31 March	1,258,302	2,067,120	3,325,422	3,173,426
	<u>1,258,302</u>	<u>2,067,120</u>	<u>3,325,422</u>	<u>3,173,426</u>
Group investments at market value comprise:			2024 £	2023 £
Listed investments			2,067,120	1,915,124
Money Market Fund			1,258,302	1,258,302
			<u>3,325,422</u>	<u>3,173,426</u>

All the fixed asset investments are held in the UK

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

12. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS (continued)

	Money Market Fund 2024 £	Listed securities 2024 £	Investments in subsidiary 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Charity				
Market value				
At 1 April	1,258,302	1,915,124	5,000	3,178,426
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	151,996	-	151,996
At 31 March	1,258,302	2,067,120	5,000	3,330,422

All the fixed asset investments are held in the UK.

Comparative analysis for 2023

	Money Market Fund 2023 £	Listed securities 2023 £	Investments in subsidiary 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Charity				
Market value				
At 1 April	1,608,302	2,037,441	5,000	3,650,743
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	(350,000)	-	-	(350,000)
Revaluations	-	(122,317)	-	(122,317)
At 31 March	1,258,302	1,915,124	5,000	3,178,426

All the fixed asset investments are held in the UK.

13. DEBTORS

	Group		Charity	
	2024 £	2023 £	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	265,299	203,248	13,250	52,800
Amounts owed by group undertakings	-	-	973,112	1,100,710
VAT Debtor	21,710	11,088	14,380	3,759
Other debtors	14,864	444	14,865	444
Prepayments and accrued income	1,240,772	1,461,251	827,469	677,007
	1,542,645	1,676,031	1,843,076	1,834,720

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

14. CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	Group		Charity	
	2024 £	2023 £	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	72,026	118,148	72,026	118,148
Other taxation and social security	70,184	43,227	70,184	43,227
VAT creditors	72,793	22,157	72,793	22,157
Other creditors	74,173	203,140	74,173	203,140
Accruals and deferred income	2,421,200	2,125,526	2,414,912	2,120,446
	<u>2,710,376</u>	<u>2,512,198</u>	<u>2,704,088</u>	<u>2,507,118</u>

15. ANALYSIS OF DEFERRED INCOME	Group		Charity	
	2024 £	2023 £	2024 £	2023 £
Deferred income at 1 April	-	4,740	-	4,740
Released to income in the year	-	(4,740)	-	(4,740)
Deferred in the year	20,398	-	20,398	-
	<u>20,398</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,398</u>	<u>-</u>
Deferred income at 31 March	<u>20,398</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,398</u>	<u>-</u>

Deferred income in 2024 and 2023 relates to Simply Learning to Talk Project.

16. STATEMENT OF FUNDS

	Brought Forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/(out) £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Carried Forward £
Designated funds						
Designated fund - Legacy	1,602,275	-	(700,000)	-	-	902,275
Fixed asset fund	75,726	-	(40,532)	41,652	-	76,846
	<u>1,678,001</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(740,532)</u>	<u>41,652</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>979,121</u>
General funds						
General Funds	1,192,660	1,026,957	(1,342,593)	6,460	151,996	1,035,480
Total Unrestricted funds	<u>2,870,661</u>	<u>1,026,957</u>	<u>(2,083,125)</u>	<u>48,112</u>	<u>151,996</u>	<u>2,014,601</u>

Purpose of designated funds

The Fixed Asset fund

This fund relates to fixed assets and therefore is not available to cover the ongoing costs of the Charity, the balance is equal to the net book value in the accounts of fixed assets held by the charity.

Legacy fund

The trustees have designated a large legacy from 2019-20 to be invested in key strategic areas for children's palliative care – see Trustees' Annual Report.

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Brought Forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/(out) £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Carried Forward £
Restricted funds: National Fundraising Scheme						
Restricted NFS	-	833,871	(773,937)	(59,934)	-	-
Other restricted funds						
Butterfly Fund	30,400	136,490	(84,498)	-	-	82,392
Family information & support	15,000	-	(134)	-	-	14,866
Disney	111,701	50,000	(22,012)	-	-	139,689
Morrisons (Hospices)	-	2,618,053	(2,618,053)	-	-	-
Morrisons (Project)	783,508	1,002,088	(946,609)	-	-	838,987
Other restricted funds	161,609	1,234,211	(1,100,807)	11,822	-	306,835
	<u>1,102,218</u>	<u>5,040,842</u>	<u>(4,772,113)</u>	<u>11,822</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,382,769</u>

Purpose of Restricted funds

Restricted NFS

The National Fundraising Scheme (NFS) is concerned with raising funds for distribution to children's hospice services. Further details on the income and costs of the scheme can be found in notes 2, 4 and 6.

Butterfly fund

This Fund provides grants of £300 to bereaved families, and is fully funded by a number of supporters.

Transition Grants (2023)

This is our funding programme which seeks to address the significant difference in care experienced by young adults in their transition from children's to adult services.

Family Information and Support

We also received generous support for our Family Information and Support work this year from a number of funders supporting our helpline, advocacy service and information and resources that we provide for families. The deficit at the end of the year will be covered by income received in 2021-22.

Relief fund

The Relief fund was established in May 2020 in response to COVID-19 to provide 500 grants of £200 to families in need. The funding was provided by a number of trusts and foundations, individuals and companies and all the funds were distributed within 3 months.

National Lottery (2023)

This grant has enabled us to support families during COVID-19 by increasing capacity and access to the helpline (including LiveChat), expanding peer support and online communities, providing up to date information on COVID-19 and connecting and supporting the palliative care services that the families use.

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

16. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (CONTINUED)

Other restricted funds

Other restricted funds are immaterial amounts granted for restricted purposes; these include grants awarded by NHS England, the Scottish Government and Hospice UK.

Fund Transfers

The transfers from the general fund to the Fixed Asset Designated fund, was required to maintain the balance in the Fixed Asset Fund equal to the net book value of fixed assets in the balance sheet.

The transfer from the National Fundraising Scheme (NFS) Fund to the General Fund represents the share of NFS net income that will go towards the core work of the charity. The proportion of NFS income that is used for our core work varies among the different corporate partners, but is usually 15% of the total net income raised.

Comparative analysis for 2023

	Brought Forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/(out) £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Carried Forward £
Designated funds						
Designated fund - Legacy	2,261,700	-	(432,612)	(226,813)	-	1,602,275
Fixed asset fund	42,648	-	(25,640)	58,718	-	75,726
General funds						
General Funds	1,537,893	1,091,180	(1,438,767)	124,671	(122,317)	1,192,660
Total Unrestricted funds	3,842,241	1,091,180	(1,897,019)	(43,424)	(122,317)	2,870,661

	Brought Forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/(out) £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Carried Forward £
Restricted funds: National Fundraising Scheme						
Restricted NFS	-	892,877	(800,424)	(92,453)	-	-
Other restricted funds						
Butterfly Fund	(106,637)	123,028	(128,481)	142,490	-	30,400
Transition Grants	72,887	-	(31,933)	(40,954)	-	-
Family information & support	(15,780)	15,000	(11,341)	27,121	-	15,000
National Lottery	(821)	-	-	821	-	-
Disney	145,681	50,000	(83,980)	-	-	111,701
Morrisons (Hospice)	(56,738)	2,339,513	(2,282,775)	-	-	-
Morrisons (Project)	230,168	822,968	(269,628)	-	-	783,508
Other restricted funds	32,353	797,222	(674,365)	6,399	-	161,609
	301,113	4,147,731	(3,482,503)	135,877	-	1,102,218

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

17. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds excluding NFS 2024 £	Restricted Funds NFS 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	76,846	-	-	76,846
Fixed asset investments	3,325,422	-	-	3,325,422
Current assets	1,322,709	1,382,769	-	2,705,478
Creditors due within one year	(2,710,376)	-	-	(2,710,376)
	<u>2,014,601</u>	<u>1,382,769</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,397,370</u>

Comparative analysis for 2023:

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds excluding NFS 2023 £	Restricted Funds NFS 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	75,726	-	-	75,726
Fixed asset investments	3,173,426	-	-	3,173,426
Current assets	2,133,707	1,102,218	-	3,235,925
Creditors due within one year	(2,512,198)	-	-	(2,512,198)
	<u>2,870,661</u>	<u>1,102,218</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,972,879</u>

18. PENSION COMMITMENTS

Employer's pension contributions paid in the year ended 31 March 2024 were £111,270 (2023: £89,820). Amounts shown in other creditors at the balance sheet date in respect of pension contributions outstanding were £nil (2023: £164).

19. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

At 31 March 2024 the group had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	Land and buildings		Equipment	
Group and charity	2024 £	2023 £	2024 £	2023 £
Within 1 year	27,020	21,364	-	-
Between 2 and 5 years	27,020	46,289	-	-
	<u>54,040</u>	<u>67,653</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

20. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Several trustees of Together for Short Lives are also either trustees or employees of member charities. Some of these charity members benefit from grants under the National Fundraising Scheme (NFS), but the trustees do not benefit personally. Trustees set the rules of the scheme which determine how the money raised is shared among members, but they are not involved in specific decisions about how NFS money is distributed.

During the year the charity charged its trading subsidiary, Together for Short Lives Trading Limited, £16,246 (2023: £17,397) for management and licensing costs.

Accounts

Together for Short Lives

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 March 2023

Registered company number: 7783702

Registered charity numbers:

1144022 (England & Wales)

SC044139 (Scotland)

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES

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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE COMPANY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

Trustees

Dr Hilary Cass OBE, Chair (term ended 23 March 2023, and retired as trustee)
Dr Lisa Kauffmann, Chair (appointed 9 September 2022, term as Chair started 23 March 2023)
Sarah Talbot-Williams, Vice Chair
Bernie Watson, Treasurer
Arlene Honeyman
Paul Obey
Sue Hogg (re appointed 29 June 2022)
Tracy Tait (re appointed 29 June 2022)
Jo Laddie (re appointed 13 December 2022)
Adam Smith (re appointed 13 December 2022)
Stephanie Nimmo (re appointed March 2023)
Toby Porter (resigned 3 November 2022)

Company registered number

7783702

Charity registered numbers

1144022 (England & Wales)
SCO44139 (Scotland)

Registered office

Suite 1b, Whitefriars, Lewins Mead, Bristol, BS1 2NT

Chief executive officer

Andy Fletcher

Executive team

Nick Carroll
Dr Helena Dunbar
Andy Fletcher
Myra Johnson (to September 2022)
Kate McSweeney (from Jan 2023)
Mala Langdon

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
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TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Independent auditor

Haysmacintyre LLP, 10 Queen Street Place, London, EC4R 1AG

Bankers

NatWest Plc, 32 Corn Street, Bristol, BS99 7UG
CCLA, Senator House, 85 Queen Victoria Street, London, EC4V 4ET

Investment managers

Sarasin & Partners LLP, Juxon House, 100 St Paul's Churchyard, London, EC4M 8BU

Chair and Chief Executive's Introduction

Welcome to Together for Short Lives' Annual Report and Accounts for 2022-23.

This has been a significant year in the development of Together for Short Lives and children's palliative care in the UK. We have continued to strive to ensure that we deliver our purpose – to ensure that every child and their family has access to high quality palliative and end of life care, when and where they need it. And despite the challenging external environment and rising cost of living, we have achieved significant growth in our income and our impact.

As the leading UK charity for children's palliative care, we know that the growing number of children with life-limiting conditions and their families face many challenges. We know caring round the clock places huge pressure on families and, despite some brilliant services in hospital, children's hospice and in the community, many struggle to get the support they need. And for many the cost of living crisis is compounding these challenges.

We are proud to have developed a Cost of Living Fund to support families with their energy costs. In all we were able to share £165,000 to families caring for children who were dependent on electrical equipment to keep well. Over 650 households from across the UK received a payment of £250. The impact of our wider family hub has continued to grow, reaching families with support via our helpline, peer to peer support and our Butterfly grants for parents who have lost a child.

We have supported professionals and services to share innovative ways of working, particularly in reaching families and providing care in different ways and advocated for continued sustainability funding through this uncertain period. In September we were really delighted to welcome more than 280 delegates to our two-day conference – 'Unlocking Potential – the key to quality children's palliative care'. The conference was very well received, and delegates particularly valued the sharing of good practice and the opportunity to network with others working in children's palliative care.

We were delighted to launch the collaborative Kentown Children's Palliative Care Programme in Lancashire and South Cumbria. This innovative programme brings together health, social care and co-ordination in an integrated service for children and young people with life-limiting illness and their families. We are pleased to be working with all the local NHS Trusts, Rainbow Trust Children's Charity and Kentown Wizard Foundation as well as partners and services across the region. The programme will be independently evaluated, and we are really looking forward to seeing its impact in action.

Our wonderful partnership with Morrisons continues to go from strength to strength and we are hugely grateful to all customers and colleagues for their support. It has already raised a huge amount to support local children's hospices continue their vital work. And it is also supporting partnerships between Together for Short Lives and local services to reach more families who need support, particularly in areas with the largest and most diverse populations of children. And while there continues to be significant pressure on the economy, our fundraising performance has continued to be strong.

Despite this growth, we know there is so much more to do to reach children and families and build a strong and sustainable children's palliative care sector. That's why we recently launched our new strategy which sets a new ten-year vision for children's palliative care to guide our work. We will focus on improving access, quality and sustainability of children's palliative care so more children and families can benefit from high quality support when and where they need it. We are continuing to use our designated fund from a significant one-off legacy in 2019 to invest both in our services, support and impact as well as our fundraising to ensure long term sustainability. Our planned deficit this year

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

and for the next two years will invest in our strategy to continue to improve access, quality and sustainability in children's palliative care and ensure we can continue to be here for families in the future.

As ever, we have been indebted to our amazing supporters, staff and volunteers who have enabled us to deliver so much this year.

While there will be challenges ahead, we know that by working collaboratively with our partners, we can meet them and ensure that more children and families get the support they need, when and where they need it.

Dr Lisa Kauffmann
Chair of Trustees

Andy Fletcher
Chief Executive

Trustees' Annual Report

The trustees (who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act) present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of Together for Short Lives (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The trustees confirm that the Annual Report and Financial Statements of the charity comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charity's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (second addition - effective 1 January 2019)".

Structure, Governance and Management

Objectives of the charity

The objectives of the charity are promoting for the public benefit the support of children and young people with life-limiting conditions such that:

- children and young people and their families have as fulfilling lives as possible; and
- children and young people receive the best care at the end of life.

Constitution

Together for Short Lives is a registered charity and was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee on 4th October 2011. The constitution of the charity is set out in the Memorandum and Articles of Association. Trustees are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act.

The charity has one wholly owned subsidiary charity: Together for Short Lives (Trading) Ltd (Company number 06434214), a company which is registered in England and Wales and is used for fundraising activities.

Board of Trustees

The charity is governed by its Board of Trustees, which is detailed on page 1. All trustees give of their time freely and no trustee remuneration was paid in the year. Details of trustee expenses and related party transactions are disclosed in note 7 and note 20 to the accounts.

Trustees may hold office for three years. At the end of their first term, they can be re-elected for one further three-year term. Any Trustee who has served two terms of office is not eligible for re-appointment as a Trustee unless there are exceptional reasons. The charity aims to appoint trustees across a wide and diverse range of backgrounds, skills, and regions.

Induction and training of trustees

On appointment, new trustees receive an induction pack containing key information about the charity and its governance structure. To support their induction, new trustees are matched with an existing

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

trustee in a "buddy scheme". In addition, new trustees are encouraged to meet with other existing trustees and are invited to visit the charity's offices to meet with the Executive Team and other staff.

Ongoing training for trustees is given as required; in general, all trustees are encouraged to maintain or enhance their knowledge, especially in areas in which they are not expert. There is a trustee development session at each full Board meeting exploring issues such as current trends in fundraising and children's palliative care policy and practice.

Sub Committees of the Board

The trustees perform their governance role via the full Board which meets at least four times a year. During the year there have been three committees which are formally constituted as committees of the Board of Trustees and the Board approves the Terms of Reference.

- Finance, Governance and Fundraising Committee
- Clinical Strategy and Quality Assurance Committee
- Appointments Committee

The recorded actions and minutes of committee meetings are submitted to the Board of Trustees at its next meeting. There is a written scheme of delegation that sets out which decisions are made by the Board, committees, or staff and this is reviewed regularly. The committees therefore have certain delegated authority within their areas of responsibility, and these are subsequently reported to the Board for information. However, in other areas, they are only able to make recommendations to the Board.

Committees are able to co-opt to their membership other individuals who may bring particular expertise to that committee.

Advisory Council

The Advisory Council ensures that our work is better informed by those with lived experience of children's palliative care and those working to deliver it across the UK. Young people, parents of children with life-limiting conditions and representatives from across the children's palliative care sector contribute their expertise and communicate their views on issues affecting children's palliative care to inform and advise the work of Together for Short Lives. It is an integral part of the strategic and operational planning for the charity.

Remuneration for key management staff

The charity aims to ensure that appropriate remuneration packages are set to attract, retain and motivate an appropriate calibre of employees.

Salary benchmarking is undertaken to compare roles with similar positions within the charity and not for profit sector.

Decisions on setting pay levels are made as follows:

- For staff apart from Senior Managers and the Chief Executive, by Senior Managers in conjunction with the Director of Finance & Resources
- For Senior Managers other than Chief Executive, by the Chief Executive

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

- For the Chief Executive, by the Board of Trustees.

The Board has final approval of all pay rises across the organisation.

The numbers of higher paid employees are:	2023	2022
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	1	3
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	3	1
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	1	1
	5	5

Safeguarding

Together for Short Lives has a duty to keep children and vulnerable groups safe and must fulfil its legal and regulatory responsibilities in relation to protecting children, young people and vulnerable adults at risk. In addition, beneficiaries, staff, volunteers, and everyone in contact with the organisation should feel that they are in a safe, supportive and inclusive environment.

We have a Designated Lead for Safeguarding whose responsibility is to ensure that safeguarding policy and culture is embedded across the organisation. All safeguarding incidents are reported and reviewed by the Executive team and the Clinical Strategy and Quality Assurance Committee before they are reported at board level.

All staff complete an annual pre-recorded safeguarding refresher and all new staff complete a level 1 safeguarding pre-recording and quiz. We also have a whistle blowing procedure so anyone can confidentially raise any concerns they have.

We carry out DBS record checks for all new staff and volunteers and an enhanced check for those working on our helpline service and in community outreach positions. The designated lead for safeguarding and the helpline staff also undertake additional enhanced safeguarding training.

In accordance with our Helpline Standards' accreditation, all staff working with families through our family hub service engage in a reflective process and proforma to regularly assess how staff within our family hub team handle their contacts.

Safeguarding concerns are logged securely on our Case Manager System. We had eleven safeguarding concerns raised over the year. In all cases procedures were followed and support offered. Two cases were escalated to the police, two cases were referred for further professional help. A common thread highlighted during several of the incidents was mothers expressing desperation and suicidal thoughts and as a result further training was instigated for Practice and Service Development team to enable them to understand and identify red flags associated with potential suicide and support families further.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

Like many charities, we know we still have work to do before we are a fully inclusive organisation where everybody can be themselves and feel that they belong.

Feedback from our annual staff survey suggests we are making progress in being more inclusive. In 2020, only 46% of staff agreed with the statement "I am comfortable being myself at work". In 2023, this figure had risen to 86%. While we are encouraged by this progress, we will continue to develop and roll out our plans to be a more inclusive organisation.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

As well as making internal change, we know that we must develop more inclusive services and support the children's palliative care sector to reach all the children and families who need support. We know from evidence that there is a higher prevalence of children with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions among Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic families, particularly those from Pakistani and South Asian communities. This year, as part of our Morrisons corporate partnership we appointed three community outreach workers covering three areas where prevalence of life limiting conditions is highest amongst ethnically diverse communities. - Bedford & Luton; Birmingham & Solihull; Greater Manchester - Rochdale, Oldham. These three posts are raising awareness of children's palliative care, putting the needs of children and families at the heart of service delivery, and enabling families to easily access the help and support they need locally and nationally.

Membership

The charity operates a membership scheme, currently under review, for organisations and professionals working in the children's palliative care sector. We have a paid membership of 62 organisations and 21 teams (which includes all children's hospice services in the UK) and 73 individual care professionals. We also have 46 associate members (abroad/friend of/student) who have signed up to receive information from us. We launched a new online discussion forum for professionals, which has grown steadily over the year and now has 325 members. There have been discussions on a range of topics, for example, moving and handling of young people after death, medicines management, referral/eligibility criteria for children's hospices and sharing role descriptions for new posts.

Public benefit

The objects of the organisation are for children and young people with life-limiting conditions to have as fulfilling lives as possible and the best care at the end of life. The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing Together for Short Lives' aims and objectives and in planning our strategic priorities and activities for the year.

Whilst there is greater elaboration below, our strategic priorities to fulfil the public benefit are outlined as follows.

- A strong and sustainable palliative care sector.
- Supporting and empowering children, young people and families who require palliative care services.
- Striving for joined up policy, services, care and support for children and families.
- Greater understanding and support for children's palliative care

The way in which we have achieved the public benefit is outlined in the "Activities, Achievements and Performance" section below.

Vision, Values and Strategy

Our vision and purpose

This is the final year of our five-year strategy and we have spent much of the last year reviewing our purpose and developing a new strategy.

Together for Short Lives' purpose is to ensure every child, and their family, has high quality children's palliative and end of life care, when and where they need it.

We are here to make sure families can access the right care and support and that those providing it have the skills and resources they need. Together with everyone who provides care and support to these children and families we are here to help them have as fulfilling lives as possible and the very best care at the end of life. Because while we can't change the diagnosis, we can help children and families make the most of their time together.

How we create change

The challenges facing children and families and those who support them are complex. To help address them, Together for Short Lives works to have impact at three levels – with individual families, with services and professionals delivering care and with the wider health and care system.

System change	Policy decision makers	Working with leaders in governments, the health service, commissioning bodies and delivery organisations to constantly improve the funding, quality, consistency and coordination of children's palliative care.
	Regional Co-ordination	Facilitating cooperation between different sectors and organisations to deliver a more integrated experience of palliative care for children and their families.
Improved delivery	Organisational development	Supporting providers of children's palliative care, to ensure they have the funding, resources and expertise needed to provide a sustainable, consistent, high-quality service.
	Workforce development	Working with the professional workforce delivering children's palliative care, to ensure they have the network, training, resources, confidence and skills they need to provide the best possible care.
Direct support	Children with life-limiting conditions and their families	Providing information and support directly to families of seriously ill children, particularly those who are unable to access that support elsewhere.

Our values

1. We put **children and families at the heart** of everything we do
2. We are **ambitious** about improving the lives of children and families and stand up for what we believe in
3. We are **collaborative** and bring people together to deliver the biggest impact
4. We are **inclusive and open** to new and different views, approaches and experiences

Our strategic priorities 2018-23

There are 99,000+ children and young people living in the UK with health conditions that are life-limiting or life-threatening and the number is rising.

These children and their families rely on a network of many excellent and invaluable services which make up children's palliative care which is available across the UK: hospitals, children's hospices, community children's nurses, social care providers, educators, wish-makers, therapists, psychologists, sibling workers, bereavement counsellors and many, many more. Our five-year strategy aims to provide a voice for these children and their families and to enable much needed support to the sector.

A strong and sustainable children's palliative care sector for the 99,000+

There are serious risks to the long-term sustainability of the children's palliative care sector. The number of babies, children and young people with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions is growing, and they are living longer with complex conditions. Policy and funding are not keeping pace with their needs, and many individuals and vital charities struggle to develop new and sustainable fundraising income. As a result, services are overstretched, and family support is inadequate.

Supported and empowered children, young people and families

The support children and families receive is patchy and variable. Choice remains a laudable public policy aim but is severely limited by the availability of funded services. Families face a postcode lottery of support, and many of them struggle to get access to the services and support they need. This can leave families feeling frustrated, isolated and alone while facing the challenge of providing 24/7 care for their child.

Joined up policy, services, care and support for children and families

Services are not adequately or consistently joined up around the family and their needs. Policy-makers, funders and commissioners too often operate independently leading to inefficient or ineffective funding arrangements. Families and professionals continue to be frustrated by the lack of co-ordination across health and wider care services, which significantly increases the burden on those seeking care and those providing care.

Changing hearts and minds: Greater understanding and support for children's palliative care

There is a low-level understanding of children's palliative care in both public and wider professional arenas. Too often knowledge of hospice and palliative care is focused on end of life, as opposed to also achieving a quality of life. This creates barriers to good policy making, efficient and effective care

and support. There is a cultural and societal fear of death and discomfort with talking about it, especially in relation to children. This compounds families' sense of isolation and loneliness.

Activities, Achievements and Performance for the public benefit

We have detailed below under each of our strategic headings our activities and achievements for the year.

A strong and sustainable children's palliative care sector for the 99,000+

In 2022/23 we campaigned for seriously ill children and young people and their families to have wider access to the lifeline palliative care and support they need:

24/7 access to care

In 2022, we published our #EveryDayEveryNight report and campaign, which included a range of interactive digital maps enabling the public to find out if quality standards in access to children's palliative care are being met in their local area.

We wrote to senior stakeholders and secured meetings with government officials, Labour shadow health and social care minister Feryal Clark MP and officials working for the Children's Commissioner for England. We handed our #EveryDayEveryNight open letter to 10 Downing Street; this achieved almost 2,000 signatures and details of supporters who signed up to support future campaigns.

This mapping supported further media and campaigning activity in January – February 23 where we secured broadcast coverage on Sky and

All-Party Parliamentary Party Group for Children Who Need Palliative Care activity

On June 22 we held an All-Party Parliamentary Party Group for Children Who Need Palliative Care Children's Hospice Week drop-in for MPs and peers at Westminster. We were joined by parent Ananda Gill who shared her experience of caring for Charlie, her seriously ill son, and the impact that the care and support provided by Haven House Children's Hospice has had on her, Charlie and her family.

Twelve MPs and one peer joined us including Care and Mental Health Minister Gillian Keegan. The event enabled us to talk to them about the findings of our latest children's hospice funding report – and to ask them to support our campaign to ask the government to protect and extend the NHS England Children's Hospice Grant; we launched a campaign encouraging the public to write to their MP to ask for their support on this issue.

In November 22 we held a reception for the APPG for Children Who Need Palliative Care reception at Westminster. Parents, professionals and services joined us to explain to MPs and Peers the impact of the cost of living crisis for families whose children depend upon special electrical equipment to stay alive. As a result of parent Sophie's speech at the APPG, Siobhain McDonagh MP, Chair of the APPG, helped to secure a grant for Sophie from KidsOut for Isabel's hydrotherapy pool. Immediately following the event, Siobhain asked the Chancellor at the Treasury Select Committee to meet with the group to discuss the impacts of the current cost of living crisis.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
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In February 23 we ran the APPG annual general meeting where Lord Balfe agreed to be the APPG's co-chair. A bereaved parent, Manraj, spoke to MPs and Peers about her son Anjun and the care she received from her local hospice.

The Children's Hospice Grant

In April 23 NHS England officials wrote to Children's Hospices in England saying "2023/24 marks the final year of the current NHS England grant agreement. We encourage hospices to work closely with their local integrated care boards (ICBs) on longer-term commissioning arrangements." To support a campaign to save the grant, we launched our annual funding survey and wrote to key decision makers in Whitehall and Government and political parties to make the case for maintaining and ringfencing the £25m grant.

Our Transition guide for families

In 22/23 launched and promoted our new [Transition guide for families](#) and our updated [Transition pathway](#). This pathway is written for professionals, predominantly for those working in children's and adult hospice and palliative care services, but also for any professionals who are supporting young adults with life-limiting conditions and their families, whether they work in health, social care, education or other settings.

Raising awareness in Parliament

Other activity in Parliament has included:

- We were mentioned in the House of Lords on 24 May during the second reading debate of a government bill designed to ensure that children and adults deemed to be in the last 12 months of their lives have fast-tracked access to benefits. We used the debate to request that peers ask the government to extend access to the DLA mobility component to children under the age of three who need bulky medical equipment. The minister responding to the debate, Baroness Stedman-Scott, said that she was confident that the Disabled People's Minister, Chloe Smith, would be willing to meet with us to discuss the issue.
- Ahead of House of Lords oral question on end of life care - in relation to Archie Battersbee -we met with Labour's shadow health and social care team via our meeting with Feryal Clark MP's team, and peers. As a result, the minister mentioned us and our NHS-funded resource.
- We took part in roundtable meetings with the Children's Minister and the Care Minister organised by the Council for Disabled Children to influence the government's review of special educational needs and disabilities in England.
- We liaised with members in Northern Ireland and Wales to discuss how we can support and add value to public affairs and policy work.
- We submitted written evidence to the House of Commons Health and Select Committee's inquiry into assisted dying and assisted suicide. We submitted evidence to Patricia Hewitt's review into the way in which integrated care systems in England should operate.
- We made a representation to HM Treasury ahead of Budget 2023 and reacted following the Budget itself.

Changing hearts and minds: Greater understanding and support for children's palliative care

During the year we raised awareness of the needs of children and families and the services they rely on, sharing stories on our website and through proactive media and social media campaigns.

Our awareness raising and campaigning has focused on the cost-of-living crisis and its impact on the families we are here for, including working with the Daily Express on a campaign to end the disability bills crisis. We have campaigned to ensure families can access to the right services, where and when they need them and invested in marketing and awareness campaigns to reach the growing numbers of children with life-limiting conditions and their families.

We have stepped up our story telling, using powerful video content to connect with families. We have worked with families over the last year on a series of blogs, to amplify the family voice, including Lindsey's blog for Christmas day Jane's blog for grief awareness week and Stacey's blog for world prematurity day.

Alongside our own awareness campaigning we have engaged with sector wide campaigns to increase our reach to families including through, Baby Loss Awareness Week, Dying Matters Week, Child Cancer Awareness Month, the Disabled Children's Partnership and many awareness days for specific conditions like Batten, Trisomy and Rett Disease.

The Cost-of-Living crisis

Mindful of the significant impact of rising energy prices on families and services, we focused our campaign efforts on the Cost of Living crisis. We sent a joint letter from leaders of organisations representing and providing services to disabled children on cost of living; this achieved media coverage and conducted several meetings with MPs secured as part of cost of living campaign asking them to press the UK Government on this issue.

The Cost of Living Support Fund was established at a time when spiralling energy costs were making headline news. During winter 2022/3 Together for Short Lives provided a total on £165,000 to families caring for children who were dependent on electrical equipment to keep well. Over 650 households from across the UK received a payment of £250 having been referred to us by their children's palliative care team. While the majority of recipients put the funds against high energy bills, others decided to use it for general living costs.

Through November to December we posted 67 times across our social channels about the fund, and in total our posts had nearly 100,000 impressions and we saw over 7,000 engagements: on average each post saw an engagement rate of 5.35%, which was pleasing. Our comms were led by two powerful case studies – George and Isabel – and these powerful stories played well on our social media channels: pictured below is our best performing Facebook post featuring George which reached 14,000 users (for context an 'average' post in 2022 would expect to reach 2-3,000 users).

We also achieved some notable media coverage: mum Carolynne appeared on Woman's Hour with Kate Winslett and kindly promoted the grants, we also placed a family story piece about Isabel and her mum Sophie on Sky News's website in the week before Christmas, which led to a spike in donations.

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Our Annual Ball

April saw the Together for Short Lives Ball named in each of the top ten highest-reach articles, which were about celebrities that attended the function. The highest-reaching article in was from *Mirror Online*, which mentioned an interview with Bruno Tonioli (a new judge on *Britain's Got Talent* and guest at the ball) at the TfSL Ball. Simon Cowell and the TfSL Ball were also included in the month's second highest-reach article on *Express.co.uk*, which showed a video of Simon Cowell attending the ball before the article reported on an interview with his co-stars.

Patrons and Ambassadors

Our patron relationships continue to deepen with ongoing stewardship. Notable activity surrounded Mason Mount and his two-day pop-up shop in Knightsbridge in July 2022 which raised over £22k on the weekend using customised donated Nike stock. Further online activity raised a further £13k after the event and generated considerable coverage on social media and in the media. Peter Andre performed at our annual gala with Simon Cowell once again returning to his hosting duties. His endorsement of Morrisons's partnership has generated a further opportunity to engage them as headline sponsor for another year. Alesha Dixon will be announced as an official ambassador of TfSL in 2023 with a view to engaging her long term as a patron. Holly Willoughby shouted out our very own Mala Langdon and Helena Dunbar on Instagram to celebrate International Women's Day.

Children's Hospice Week #ForTheChildren

The theme for Children's Hospice Week 2022 was #ForTheChildren - highlighting the core purpose of the UK's 54 children's hospices and working to change perceptions. Throughout the week we shared some really moving family stories that show how important each individual child is to the amazing local hospices who care for them.

Families described their hospice as their 'safe place', helping them feel like they were in 'expert hands' to create memories to last a lifetime. One Dad said of his local hospice, 'without places like this, our situation would be close to impossible. It needs to carry on, it's so important.'

On the second day of Children's Hospice Week, HRH The Duchess of Cambridge, as Royal Patron for East Anglia's Children's Hospices sent a personal message of support asking everyone to join her in celebrating the extraordinary work the UK's 54 children's hospices do for children and young people with life-limiting conditions, helping families make the most of their lives together, no matter how short.

Over the period 13 Jun – 14 July we had 702 pieces of media coverage around Children's Hospice Week, with an AVE value of £772k. This is a significant increase on last year's coverage and is due to the ongoing generous support from HRH The Duchess of Cambridge, as Royal Patron for East Anglia's Children's Hospices. Also this year we received a very high volume of media coverage following Nurse Francesca's epic cycle challenge.

During the week of Children's Hospice Week #childrenshospiceweek was used in a total of 3,640 posts, by 1,672 different authors. The # saw a total of 152,790 engagements with posts (engagements here are defined as any kind of like or reaction, shares, comments or link clicks), with an average of 42 engagements per post. In total the # had a reach of 37.1million potential impressions. The sentiment of activity on the #childrenshospiceweek tag was 98% positive.

Digital transformation and resources

Our online support hub for families and professionals has grown this year. During the year over 81,000 pages were viewed on the family support section of our website, by more than 45,000 users – an increase in users of nearly 60% on the previous year – we also saw a 20% increase in the user of our LiveChat service on the website, which gives users an opportunity to chat with our helpline team directly via the website.

We have continued to invest in improving the online user experience via the website. As a result of updating our CRM product ThankQ we had to replace our existing donation and service directory functionality, and this gave us an opportunity to invest in improving the user experience, as well as improving the back-office processes to improve efficiency. Using learnings from our previous 'Catalyst' project, we have identified areas of the website that are most in need of upgrades to improve the user experience and make the content more accessible.

We have produced new content to support our Family Support Hub offer, including new videos which promote our different services and partners.

This year it was decided as an organisation that we would not continue with the Pif Tick standard due to the sheer volume of work and pressures on resources to maintain the standard through an assessment each year. Instead, we are working towards a new, internal standard that all staff who work across our information and resources will follow. Our new Communications Officer is due to start in July and she will support this work.

Sharing our impact

Our last impact report was published in October 2023, and can be viewed in both print and video format https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0_3LwGC-2g for the first time.

Supported and empowered children, young people and families

We have continued to grow our Family Support core hub offer to reach more families living with a seriously ill child, investing in our helpline and resources for families. We responded to 659 queries from families and those supporting them via our helpline and information service (307), our LiveChat facility (194) and email (158). This year we have been recording the number of families requiring more enhanced support as a result of the initial call. 322 families have received follow up support to access appropriate services in their locality and funding.

At the start of the year we had 68 families being supported through our 'Voices for Families' legal advice and support service and 24 new cases were opened from April through to November when referrals to the service were paused. The 60 cases active at the end of the year will continue to receive support. Although we have ended our formal arrangement with LawWorks we are now able to refer families contacting us directly to them as they continue to provide volunteer legal professional support to families, advocating for their needs when they are faced with difficult issues such as inadequate care packages or inappropriate housing.

This year has seen the launch of the Kentown programme, The Kentown Children's Palliative Care Programme is a collaborative programme between Together for Short Lives, The Kentown Wizard Foundation and Rainbow Trust Children's Charity. It is a community focused children's palliative care initiative in Northwest England covering Lancashire and South Cumbria. A project with three key complementary delivery elements: Nursing Care, Social Care and Information and Awareness,

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Kentown Support will be delivered by specialist children's palliative care nurses, family support workers and family service coordinators to link families living across Lancashire and South Cumbria to the services and support that they need.

The Butterfly Fund, providing £300 to families at the death of their child, supported 333 families before it was paused in November 2022. At this time, we launched our Cost of Living Support Fund campaign – a payment of £250 to families living on means-tested benefits whose child was reliant on electrical equipment to remain stable. 664 received grants in the period Nov-Mar 2023.

We continue to provide financial support through our existing informal and formal partnerships which include Turn2us (44 applications), Rosie's Rainbow Pantry (30 deliveries), Children in need Emergency Fund (6) and a small handful of member services for whom we are able to make family referrals to e.g. Reubens Retreat.

We also saw a growth in peer to peer support, with membership of our private Together for Short Lives Family Facebook group, increasing to 489 members. We also host a Facebook group for bereaved parents, "Still Their Parent" which has 107 members. We support parents to moderate these groups themselves and welcomed one new parent moderator this year.

We know that timely, accurate information in a variety of formats is highly valued by families, and we continue to review and update our family information offer to families both online and in print. We were pleased to launch a new resource for families supporting their child through the transition to adult services in Spring 2023 and have disseminated over 150 hard copies in response to online requests.

Throughout the year 115 individual family members joined one of 5 online workshops on a variety of themes. Two webinars supported by a donation of Memory Making craft boxes by Hobbycraft saw a total of 97 sign ups.

Alongside the Family Hub we support family members who volunteer their time to influence campaigns and inform research into children's palliative care. Our group of Family Experts grew from 70 to 93 members through the year and are given monthly opportunities to engage with the sector, sharing their own lived experience of children's palliative care.

Joined up policy, services, care and support for children and families

We hold a variety of meetings and forums for professionals, including those working in practice educator roles (86 members), Family Support roles (49 members) and one for Leaders of Care within children's hospices (62 members). We also have a Research Group of 54 academics that we host jointly with Association for Paediatric Palliative Medicine. The Transition Forum, co-hosted with Hospice UK, met 4 times last year with an average of 18 attendees. In addition to these member Forums, we also hold meetings for the Chairs of regional children's palliative care networks to ensure that they are up to date with relevant policy and practice issues that might affect services in their region.

Working in partnership with the Martin House Research Centre and the Association of Paediatric Palliative Medicine, we host a UK wide Collaborative Paediatric Palliative Care Network (CoPPAR). In the last year we held 3 CoPPAR webinars attended by 108 professionals: *Patient Public Involvement*, *Working with your local clinical research network* and *Research Careers in paediatric palliative care*.

Our online discussion forum for professionals continues to attract discussions on various topics ranging from clinical matters to policy development and research.

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In September we held our **two day conference** – ‘Unlocking Potential – the key to quality children’s palliative care’. We had 282 delegates from across the sector who attended the conference. The standard of speakers was exceptional and the evaluations received were outstanding.

This year we published our new edition of **Stepping Up** which sets out the standards for good quality support for young people with life-limiting conditions across the three phases of transition, preparing, for transition, during transfer and settling into adult services. The updated pathway has a greater focus on the role of adult services in supporting transition and was developed in collaboration with Hospice UK. Alongside the pathway aimed at professionals and commissioners, we have published a new booklet for parents to help guide them through their decisions and steps to transitioning their young person.

Financial review

Overall Financial Performance

The Statement of Financial Activities shows Designated Funds, Unrestricted Funds, Restricted Funds (excluding the National Fundraising Scheme (NFS)) and NFS. The Designated Fund is shown separately from the Unrestricted Fund as it is ring fenced for specific activities (see below).

Restricted funds have been split into two: those for The National Fundraising Scheme (whose activities are concerned with raising funds for distribution to children’s hospice services) and those for other restricted fund projects and partnership such as Morrisons and Kentown. These funds are shown in note 16.

The net deficit for all funds for the year was £48k (2022: net deficit of £213k). Our partnerships and projects have meant a large increase in restricted income and distributions to hospices and families. Unrestricted Funding has been harder to raise this year, and we have plans in place to grow our income here over the medium term; the main pillar of this is the investment we are making in Individual Giving.

Funds for our core work

Funds relating to our core work, as opposed to the NFS and other restricted funds, are shown in the two columns in the Statement of Financial Activities labelled “Unrestricted Funds” and “Restricted Funds (excluding NFS) and Designated Fund”.

Income

We achieved gross income of £6,132k (2022: £3,053k). This large increase in income is due to the amount raised by the Morrisons’ partnership and the Kentown Support Programme.

Designated Fund

The money from the large legacy received in 2019 and 2020 has been ringfenced by the trustees in a Designated Fund. The specific activities on which this fund can be spent must be approved by the trustees and if an ongoing activity, must be self-sustaining within 2 years.

Phase one of our planned spend was focussed on building capacity. While we have spent money on ongoing direct services, there has been a focus on building a sustainable base from which to support children and their families and professionals in the sector in the long term. This includes implementing our five-year fundraising strategy as well developing digital tools to extend our reach.

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Activities this year have included investment in:

- Direct support to families via the Family hub
- Data systems and digital development
- Organisational infrastructure
- Income generation

Expenditure

Expenditure for the year was £6,180k (2022: £3,366k), considerably higher than the prior year mostly due to our partnership with Morrisons which means that we distribute fundraising to hospices. Of this, £2,650k (2022: £931k) was distributed in all charitable grants and funding, £2,591k was spent on our remaining charitable activities (2022: £1,527k) with the remaining £939k (2022: £908k) spent on raising funds, including those for The National Fundraising Scheme.

National Fundraising Scheme (NFS)

This scheme raises income and awareness through national corporate partnerships, and the net income raised is shared with local children's hospice services across the UK who would not otherwise be able to access national partnerships.

The scheme raised £893k (2022 £1,272k) during the year from its various fundraising campaigns, After a deduction for direct costs, and a contribution to our core costs, £440k (2022: £707k) was distributed across 39 children's hospices.

Grant Making Policy

We have had two main grant making policies this year. Established in 2019, the Butterfly Fund provides a £300 grant to families whose child has died. Funding is provided by a number of trusts and foundations, individuals and companies.

We paused the Butterfly Fund in November 2020 so that we could focus on distributing emergency Cost of Living Grants of £250 to families living on means-tested benefits whose child was reliant on electrical equipment to remain stable.

Fundraising Strategy

This was year three of our five-year fundraising strategy – a sustainable growth plan that looks to deliver increased income to fund our projects and services in line with the growing prevalence and unmet need.

At the heart of our strategy is the ambition to become a great fundraising organisation – a whole organisation approach to raising transformational amounts of income for our mission. We continue to bring this to life across the organisation, including training for the whole charity on what great fundraising looks like and their role in it.

We have made measured investments in capability and capacity to help grow our income particularly in the areas of philanthropy, trusts and corporate fundraising. We have seen initial signs of success from securing a £10 million partnership with Morrisons, a more robust pipeline of prospects and funding

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from Trusts and Foundation, and the advancement of a growth strategy for our philanthropy work.

As a team we have refreshed our fundraising strategy in line with the organisational direction and have developed three clear pillars:

1. **Passionate people** – becoming a connect, inspired and pro-active fundraising team is everything
2. **Painless process** – we will review, resolve and improve every essential interaction and activity required to deliver first class fundraising
3. **Profitable priorities**: a small number of core initiatives that will maximise net income contribution and unrestricted funds i.e., the development of an individual giving function, a £1 million development board, repositioning our corporate offering as a sector leader in social purpose/ESG; a cross sector strategic grant proposition

Fundraising performance

Despite the challenging environment for fundraising (with the cost-of-living pressures the public are facing), we have seen a year of strong income growth and delivered £5,957k, our highest ever year of fundraised income. This was capped off by taking second place in the Fundraising Team of the year category at the Third Sector Charity awards. Our recognition highlighted the progression the team have made in securing the largest ever partnership, and grant from a trust and our most successful Gala Ball.

As such the year had a dual focus of ensuring we provide exceptional support and care for the partners and donors who generously entrusted us with their money; and synchronously working to ensure plans are in place to sustain the income growth over the coming years.

We have had a successful first full year of working with Morrisons and remain on track to deliver £10 million over the three years. Morrisons sponsored the Gala Ball helping to raise nearly £400k and we got the Community outreach project underway. We also started to deliver Making Memory grants and set up the process to launch capital expenditure grants in 2023/24.

Our Trust team had a good year and secured £365k, which was a strong performance for a new team that was operating with reduced headcount for part of the year. They closed the year in a very positive way with several six figure grants already committed for 23/24.

We had a strong year working with corporate partners raising over £3 million, and receiving positive news from Center Parcs that they would commit to a further three years, taking the length of the partnership up to ten years in total.

We were able to react with significant agility as an organisation and secure funding of over £200k, to launch and deliver an emergency cost of living grant fund for families over the final quarter of 2023. This was a great success and a real boon for collaborative working, with fantastic media coverage, strong fundraising from existing and new supporters – and the development of more strategic conversations that have opened up potential new funding sources.

None of this would be possible without the generosity of the individuals, companies and organisations we work who share our passion for the cause. Alongside this we are grateful for the talented and hardworking team of fundraisers who continue to push themselves to secure even greater sums for our mission. Thank you

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
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The charity undertakes fundraising activity with its supporters through corporate partnerships, challenge events, a gala ball, payroll giving, and other activities in line with the Fundraising Code of Practice set by Fundraising Regulator.

Our privacy policy, (which is available on our website), states that:

"If you support us, for example by signing up to an event, donating or signing up to a campaign, we will usually collect your name, contact details, and whether you would like to be contacted, and how we would do so.

We use this information to thank you for supporting us and to provide you with further communications about our activities according to your preferences and interests. We also use it to fulfil our legal responsibilities for financial and Gift Aid reporting.

We will keep your data only for as long as necessary."

In 2023/24 we will be developing our individual fundraising approach and review best practice in the sector to ensure our processes and policies are of the highest level to ensure an exemplary supporter experience.

We endeavour for all our fundraising, and any fundraising undertaken on our behalf, to be conducted in a fair, transparent, and compliant manner. We are members of the Fundraising Regulator and ensure all our fundraising activity is carried out in line with the Code of Fundraising Practice, charity law and all relevant legislation including General Data Protection Regulation and Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulations. All Together for Short Lives employees receive training (including mandatory safeguarding training) and support as appropriate and, when planning new activities, we ensure the correct processes and procedures are in place.

We work with partner organisations so that supporters can take part in professionally organised challenge events, and we have clear agreements with those companies who will not use participants' personal details for any other reason.

No complaints about our fundraising activity were received in the year.

Reserves policy

The trustees of the charity review the reserves policy each year. The policy states that the charity will hold Unrestricted Funds, excluding Designated Funds and those which are tied up in functional fixed assets, sufficient to cover the financial impact of risk, our working capital and so that we can take advantage of unforeseen opportunities as well as those planned.

The policy states that the target reserves should be at least the amount for working capital and financial risk, and at most that including an amount for opportunities. This range should ensure that there is no significant disruption to our charitable activities should there be an unforeseen reduction in income (for example when income does not reach expected levels); or additional expenditure (for example when projects overrun, or unplanned events occur). We have based our projections for the appropriate level of reserves on the basis that the reserves in our target range would provide short-term support until long-term solutions can be established.

Following this calculation for 2022-23, the policy means that the target reserves for the charity should be between £1,125k and £1,325k (2022: £933k-£1,262k). At 31st March 2023 general reserves (unrestricted reserves excluding designated reserves) totaled £1,192k (2022: £1,520k), which is

within the target range.

Going Concern

The trustees are confident that the charity continues to be a going concern, particularly with the additional income secured under both the Morrisons and Kentown partnerships.

There were no significant events in year that had a financial impact on the charity.

Investment Policy and Performance

The organisation's investment policy is as follows:

- For working capital, to ensure adequate cash flow, the equivalent of at least three months' expenditure should be held in instantly accessible cash deposits.
- Any additional funds held on a temporary basis, such as money raised for members through the National Fundraising Scheme, will be invested in cash deposits over an appropriate period so as to maximise return while ensuring the money is available when needed.
- Funds held in excess of the above will be invested over the longer term with the overall aim to achieve long term capital growth. The aim is to ensure that the reserves maintain their real capital value in the long term and should at least exceed inflation (as measured by RPI).
- The investment policy also includes an ethical policy, which states that the trustees choose to invest only in funds that have ethical investment principles and policies, and that are managed by asset managers who have published a "statement of commitment" to the Financial Reporting Council's current UK Stewardship Code. Trustees review the suitability of the investments within the portfolio at least annually.
- The funds (including Designated Funds) available for long term investment are placed with Sarasin & Partners, in their Endowments Fund for Charities. The fund is measured against a bespoke benchmark and performance against this benchmark is monitored by the Finance & Governance Committee twice per year. The trustees consider the fund's performance over the last year to have been acceptable.

Charity's measure of performance

The charity measures its performance by monitoring various key performance indicators (KPIs) which are reported to the board and sub-committees on a quarterly basis. These reports are also reviewed by cross-departmental groups that focus on each of the four strategic aims. Numerical targets are used where appropriate and performance monitored against these.

During the year we have revised our core Purpose and Theory of Change, working with the external agency Trust Impact. This work is crucial to our plans to better evidence and measure the difference we make and improve how we prioritise our work.

Risk management

The charity encourages risk management at all levels of the organisation. The overall organisational risk register is reviewed monthly at every Executive Team meeting. Key issues and changes are reviewed quarterly by the Finance, Governance and Fundraising Committee and Board of Trustees. The register identifies the major risks to which the charity is exposed together with the actions and systems in place to mitigate or reduce the exposure to those risks. All major projects also have their

own risk registers.

The principal risks and uncertainties at the time of writing, and plans and strategies for managing them are:

- **Safeguarding** – as Together for Short Lives grows its impact on children and families, including through its direct support, risk around safeguarding has grown. This is being mitigated at all levels of the organisation, through robust Safeguarding incident within our online peer 2 peer support groups. Volunteers may have to manage an actual or potential safeguarding incident, especially out of hours. These volunteers have been trained and have access to support from a member of staff at all times.
- **Cyber Incident** affects the organisation's ability to function. There are several ways in which we are mitigating this risk; training for staff on managing their devices and commonly used attack methods such as phishing and supplier fraud, working with our IT supplier to ensure technical barriers are in place and having cyber security insurance.
- **Reputational risk** from adverse publicity: Risk assessments are in place for all our key programmes and events which may have reputational impact. We have a robust and regularly reviewed Crisis Management policy and plan in place. We keep our Patrons and Ambassadors Strategy under regular review.
- **Loss of key staff** is always a risk but particularly so in an insecure employment market where it is difficult to recruit. Furthermore, the pressures of new ways of working and the organisation expanding at speed means that we have to be particularly mindful of workload and wellbeing. Regular one to ones, acting on staff survey feedback and actively developing staff are some of the measures we take to mitigate the risk.
- **Lack of sustainable unrestricted income** is a risk in every charity. We are currently running planned deficits against our reserves, but it is vital that we secure sustainable recurring unrestricted income for our core activities in the future. We have plans in train in philanthropy and individual giving in particular to secure that income.

Future strategy and plans

Setting a ten-year vision – our strategic approach

We have developed a new strategy which sets out a ten-year challenge. We feel that children and families and those who support them deserve a bold ambition and roadmap for change. For too long their needs have been overlooked by those planning and developing health and care policy which has led to this inconsistency. These are big challenges, and they need big and bold solutions.

It is also clear that the world is changing at a rapid rate, exacerbated by the COVID pandemic which will have significant long term impacts on wellbeing, the health and care system and the financial landscape for years to come. To reflect this changing world, our strategy sets 10-year strategic ambitions, setting out our vision for how we want the world to look different for children and families by 2033. We will prioritise our shorter term objectives in a series of over a 2-3 year phases, evaluating and refining them annually to ensure we continue to progress towards our 10-year strategic ambitions. This will enable us to be an agile organisation which can develop longer term impactful programmes, but adapt more flexibly to the changing environment.

Our strategic ambitions

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

To steer our work over the next decade, we have set three strategic ambitions to make sure more children and families are able to get the support they need.

1. **No family faces the journey alone** – to increase reach so that more children and families can **ACCESS** 24/7 palliative care
2. **The best care and support** – to improve the **QUALITY** of palliative care so families have the best support
3. **Support today, tomorrow and every day** – to strengthen the **SUSTAINABILITY** of children's palliative care so families can rely on support

Our objectives 2023-25

In order to achieve our three strategic ambitions, we have set out a number of objectives to be achieved in the first phase, between 2023 and 2025. This will be the first phase of our strategy and we will review these objectives as the external landscape changes to progress towards our 10 year strategic ambitions.

Strategic ambition 1: Improving access – No family faces the journey alone

- We will **lead an integrated campaign of advocacy** to ensure every child and family can access 24/7 care and support.
- We will **extend the reach of our family hub** so that all children who need palliative care can access it
- We will **stimulate and help develop new models of care** to reach and support more children and families

Strategic ambition 2: Improving quality – The best care and support

Objectives for 2023-25:

- We will **create a leading Centre of Excellence in children's palliative care** with the very latest data, evidence and insight in one place
- We will **develop a workforce strategy** to help address the urgent gaps in the children's palliative care workforce
- We will **develop common definitions and quality standards** in children's palliative care to ensure consistency across the UK

Strategic ambition 3: Improving Sustainability – support today, tomorrow and every day

Objectives for 2023-25:

- We will **advocate for better funding** for children's palliative care in all four nations so that more money is going into children's palliative care
- We will **support health and care commissioning** of children's palliative care so care is better planned and resourced

- We will **grow funding to support the sector** to innovate and collaborate

Making it happen – the development of Together for Short Lives

To achieve this ambition, Together for Short Lives will need to continue to change to ensure we are in the best shape possible to deliver for children, families and the services that support them.

We have begun this process with investments in Programmes and Service Development, fundraising and communications, the review of the Purpose, Theory of Change and our values. But there is still work to do to ensure that our growth is sustainable and we have the resources and ways of working to deliver impact for children and families and the people who support them.

This means the development four enabling strategies and plans:

- **Our people and culture** – investing in making Together for Short Lives a great place to work, developing our people and a culture that delivers real impact
- **The money and the mission** – raising more money to deliver our mission and building a great fundraising organisation. Reviewing our model of working to ensure we have the right systems and resources to deliver for the long term
- **Digital first** – to be led by data and insight in understanding need and our impact and exploring how we can better use digital tools and innovations to reach more people
- **Telling our story** – elevating our brand so that we are better able to reach families, professionals and the public. Telling powerful stories and communicating the difference we make internally and externally.
- **An inclusive organisation where everyone belongs** – continuing to develop our work to make Together for Short Lives a diverse and inclusive where everyone belongs and to ensure that we reach the high prevalence of families from different communities.

Acknowledgements

Delivering through partnerships

We place great value on a collaborative approach with partners in all areas of our work.

The partners who represent palliative and end of life care and disabled children include Hospice UK, the Council for Disabled Children, the Association of Paediatric Palliative Medicine, the European Association for Palliative Care, and the International Children's Palliative Care Network. We also seek to work collaboratively with UK and country governments and departments to ensure that the voice of children, young people and their families is heard and the view of our members better represented.

We work with other service providers in the charitable and statutory sectors.

Our service delivery partners for Kentown Support are Rainbow Trust Children's Charity and NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria ICB. Other charities which support the direct delivery of our family work include Turn2us, Family Fund, Rosie's Rainbow Pantry and LawWorks,

Role of Volunteers

Together for Short Lives benefits from the time and commitment given by volunteers who have helped with administrative duties for the charity on a regular basis, as well as helping on an ad hoc basis. The charity is very grateful to all our volunteers for their time, support and flexibility. and hopes to create further opportunities for volunteer involvement in the future.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also directors of Together for Short Lives for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP.
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

Provision of information to auditors

Each of the persons who are trustees at the time when this Trustees' Report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware, and
- that the trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a trustee in order to be aware of any information needed by the charitable company's auditors in connection with preparing their report and to establish that the charitable company's auditors are aware of that information.

Small Company Provisions

The directors have prepared this report in accordance with the special provisions of Statutory Instrument 2008/409 under the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

This report was approved by the trustees on and signed on their behalf by:



Dr Lisa Kauffmann
Chair

Date 13.07.2023

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Together for Short Lives for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, the Consolidated and Charity Balance Sheets, the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and of the parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of the group's and parent charitable company's net movement in funds, including the income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' Report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the Trustees' Report (which incorporates the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees' Report (which incorporates the directors' report) has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and the parent charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report (which incorporates the directors' report).

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 and the Charity Accounts (Scotland) Regulations (as amended) require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent charitable company; or
- the parent charitable company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 24, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

Based on our understanding of the group and the environment in which it operates, we identified that

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES

the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to charity and company law applicable in England, Wales and Scotland, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005.

We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls) and determined that the principal risks were related to revenue recognition, and management override of controls. Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

- Inspecting correspondence with regulators and tax authorities;
- Discussions with management including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulation and fraud;
- Reviewing the controls and procedures of the charity relevant to the preparation of the financial statements to ensure these were in place throughout the year, including during the Covid-19 remote working period;
- Evaluating management's controls designed to prevent and detect irregularities;
- Identifying and testing journals; and
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in their critical accounting estimates.

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

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006, section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 10 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Lee Stokes (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of
Haysmacintyre LLP
Statutory Auditors

10 Queen Street Place
London
EC4R 1AG

Date: 13 July 2023

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (incorporating an income and expenditure account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Note	General unrestricted funds 2023 £	Designated funds - legacy 2023 £	Restricted Funds excluding NFS 2023 £	Restricted Funds NFS 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
INCOME FROM:							
Donations and legacies	2	405,527	-	3,091,229	781,129	4,277,885	1,786,736
Other trading activities	2	578,070	-	1,056,502	111,748	1,746,320	1,268,059
Investments	2	82,398	-	-	-	82,398	55,759
Charitable activities	2	22,983	-	-	-	22,983	34,066
Other income	2	2,202	-	-	-	2,202	8,530
TOTAL INCOME	2	1,091,180	-	4,147,731	892,877	6,131,788	3,153,150
EXPENDITURE ON:							
Raising funds		702,443	182,598	-	54,094	939,135	908,082
Charitable activities		736,324	275,654	3,482,503	746,330	5,240,811	2,458,230
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	4	1,438,767	458,252	3,482,503	800,424	6,179,946	3,366,311
Net income/(expenditure) before revaluation		(347,587)	(458,252)	665,228	92,453	(48,158)	(213,162)
(Losses)/gains on revaluations of investment assets		(122,317)	-	-	-	(122,317)	42,851
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(469,904)	(458,252)	665,228	92,453	(170,475)	(170,311)
Transfers between Funds	16	124,671	(168,095)	135,877	(92,453)	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS FOR THE YEAR		(345,233)	(626,347)	801,105	-	(170,475)	(170,311)
Total funds at start of year		1,537,893	2,304,348	301,113	-	4,143,354	4,313,665
TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR		1,192,660	1,678,001	1,102,218	-	3,972,879	4,143,354

All activities relate to continuing operations.

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Full comparatives for the year to 31 March 2022 are shown in notes 2 and 4.

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

REGISTERED NUMBER: 07783702

**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2023**

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	11	75,726	42,648
Investments	12	3,173,426	3,645,743
		<u>3,249,152</u>	<u>3,688,391</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stock		8,330	-
Debtors	13	1,676,031	1,113,458
Cash at bank		1,551,564	454,308
		<u>3,235,925</u>	<u>1,567,766</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(2,512,198)</u>	<u>(1,112,803)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>723,727</u>	<u>454,963</u>
NET ASSETS		<u><u>3,972,879</u></u>	<u><u>4,143,354</u></u>
CHARITY FUNDS			
Restricted funds NFS	16	-	-
Restricted funds excluding NFS	16	1,102,218	301,113
Designated fund - legacy		1,678,001	2,304,348
Other unrestricted funds	16	1,192,660	1,537,893
TOTAL FUNDS		<u><u>3,972,879</u></u>	<u><u>4,143,354</u></u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 13.07.2023 and signed on their behalf, by:

Bernie Watson

B Watson, Treasurer

L. Kauffmann

Dr L Kauffmann, Chair

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

REGISTERED NUMBER: 07783702

CHARITY BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	11	75,726	42,648
Investments	12	3,178,426	3,650,743
		<u>3,254,152</u>	<u>3,693,391</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	13	1,834,720	1,089,677
Cash at bank		1,391,125	396,573
		<u>3,225,845</u>	<u>1,486,250</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	14	(2,507,118)	(1,036,287)
		<u></u>	<u></u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>718,727</u>	<u>449,963</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>3,972,879</u>	<u>4,143,354</u>
CHARITY FUNDS			
Restricted funds NFS	16	-	-
Restricted funds excluding NFS	16	1,102,218	301,113
Designated fund - legacy		1,678,001	2,304,348
Other unrestricted funds	16	1,192,660	1,537,893
		<u></u>	<u></u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>3,972,879</u>	<u>4,143,354</u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 13.07.2023 and signed on their behalf, by:

Bernie Watson

B Watson, Treasurer

L. Kauffmann

Dr L Kauffmann, Chair

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

The deficit of the parent charity for the year was £173,299 (2022: deficit of £170,311).

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Cash inflow from operating activities	a	<u>723,576</u>	<u>(429,302)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest income		4,667	52
Investment income		77,731	55,707
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(58,718)	(43,554)
Sale of investments		350,000	-
Cash used in investing activities		<u>373,680</u>	<u>12,205</u>
Increase in cash and cash equivalents in the year		1,097,256	(417,097)
Cash and short term investments at the beginning of the year		454,308	871,405
TOTAL CASH AND SHORT TERM INVESTMENTS AT THE END OF THE YEAR		<u>1,551,564</u>	<u>454,308</u>

a. RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2023 £	2022 £
Net income/(expenditure)	(170,475)	(170,311)
Depreciation charge	25,640	15,987
Interest income	(4,667)	(52)
Investment income	(77,731)	(55,707)
Loss/(gain) on investments	122,317	(42,851)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(562,573)	110,030
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	1,399,395	(286,398)
Increase in stock	(8,330)	-
Net cash inflow from operating activities	<u>723,576</u>	<u>(429,302)</u>

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

1.1. Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Together for Short Lives meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

1.2. Preparation of accounts on a going concern basis

The review of our financial position since the introduction of the COVID-19 control measures has included forecasting income, expenditure and cashflow, access to available unrestricted funds and detailed planning for potential future events. The trustees consider there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period in excess of 12 months from the approval date of these accounts.

1.3. Company Status

Together for Short Lives is a company limited by guarantee, registered as a company in England and Wales (company number 7783702). The members of the company are the trustees named on page 1. In the event of the Together for Short Lives being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of Together for Short Lives.

1.4. Income

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to income, it is probable that income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Donations and gifts are included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when there is entitlement, probability of receipt and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Gifts in kind

Gifts in kind represent assets donated for distribution or use by the charity. Assets given for distribution are recognised as income only when distributed. Assets given for use by the charity are recognised when receivable. Gifts in kind are valued at the amount actually realised from the disposal of the assets or at the price the charity would otherwise have paid for the assets.

Grants

Grants are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which the charity has entitlement to the income, the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably and there is probability of receipt.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Income from charitable activities

Income from charitable activities is recognised as earned as the related services are provided. Income from other trading activities is recognised as earned as the related goods are provided.

Investment income

Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis once the amounts can be measured reliably.

1.5. Expenditure

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

- Costs of raising funds
- Expenditure on charitable activities

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

Expenditure is allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned based on staff time attributable to each activity.

Expenditure on raising funds for children's hospice services through the National Fundraising Scheme (NFS) is included under "Expenditure on charitable activities", as these are costs that we incur in supporting the children's palliative care sector and so are part of delivering our charitable purpose.

1.6. Allocation of costs

Staff costs are allocated between direct charitable expenditure and support costs based on the time spent on these activities. Other costs are allocated directly to the relevant heading.

1.7. Operating leases

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

1.8. Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

1.6. Employee benefits

Short term benefits

Short term benefits including holiday pay are recognised as an expense in the period in which the service is received.

Employee termination benefits

Termination benefits are accounted for on an accruals basis and in line with FRS 102.

Pension scheme

Together for Short Lives operates a defined contribution pension scheme for the benefit of its employees. The assets of the scheme are held independently from those of the Charity in an independently administered fund. The pensions costs charged in the financial statements represent the contributions payable during the year.

1.7. Basis of consolidation

The financial statements consolidate the accounts of Together for Short Lives and its subsidiary undertaking Together for Short Lives (Trading) Ltd. The company has taken advantage of the exemption contained within 408 of the Companies Act 2006 not to present its own Income and Expenditure Account.

1.8. Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date. The Statement of Financial Activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals throughout the year.

Investments in subsidiaries are valued at cost less provision for impairment.

Monies held in deposit accounts are classified as investments within current assets.

1.9. Tangible fixed Assets and depreciation

Fixed assets are initially recorded at cost. Expenditure on fixed assets costing £1,000 or less is written off as incurred.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Leasehold improvements	-	Straight line over the period of the lease
Fixtures and fittings	-	25% straight line
Office equipment	-	33.3% straight line

1.10. Debtors

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

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

1.11. Stock

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Net realisable value is based upon estimated selling price less further costs expected to be incurred to completion and disposal. Provision is made for obsolete and slow-moving items.

The trustees have concluded and agreed that the valuing of shops donated goods for resale on receipt is impractical due to the high volume of low value items, lack of stock system for recording these items and the administrative cost involved. Instead the income is recognised in the accounts when these goods are sold.

1.12. Creditors and provisions

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

1.13. Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Critical judgements – legacy income recognition

During the year, the charity received notification of a residual legacy. The administration of the estate remains ongoing. In the Trustees judgement there is insufficient information available to measure the legacy due to the charity and therefore only the interim distribution received after the year end has been recognised in these accounts.

The trustees do not consider there are any other critical judgements or sources of estimation uncertainty requiring disclosure beyond the accounting policies listed above.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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2. ANALYSIS OF INCOME

	Unrestricted funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds excluding NFS	Restricted Funds NFS	Total funds	Total funds
	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations and legacies						
Donations	302,852	-	2,711,555	781,129	3,795,536	1,466,987
Legacies	20,000	-	-	-	20,000	24,718
Grants	82,675	-	379,674	-	462,349	295,032
	<u>405,527</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,091,229</u>	<u>781,129</u>	<u>4,277,885</u>	<u>1,786,737</u>
Other trading activities						
Licensing	42,447	-	1,028,908	-	1,071,355	625,603
Fundraising events	468,733	-	27,594	111,748	608,075	642,456
Conferences	66,890	-	-	-	66,890	-
	<u>578,070</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,056,502</u>	<u>111,748</u>	<u>1,746,320</u>	<u>1,268,059</u>
Investments						
Bank interest	4,667	-	-	-	4,667	52
Investment income	77,731	-	-	-	77,731	55,707
	<u>82,398</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>82,398</u>	<u>55,759</u>
Charitable activities						
Membership fees	19,433	-	-	-	19,433	34,066
Conferences	3,550	-	-	-	3,550	-
	<u>22,983</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>22,983</u>	<u>34,066</u>
Other income	2,202	-	-	-	2,202	8,530
Total income	<u>1,091,180</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,147,731</u>	<u>892,877</u>	<u>6,131,788</u>	<u>3,196,002</u>

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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Comparative analysis for 2022

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Designated Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds excluding NFS 2022 £	Restricted Funds NFS 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Donations and legacies					
Donations	306,246	-	319,968	840,773	1,466,987
Legacies	24,718	-	-	-	24,718
Grants	227,195	-	62,837	5,000	295,032
	<u>558,159</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>382,805</u>	<u>845,773</u>	<u>1,786,736</u>
Other trading activities					
Licensing	70,028	-	264,034	291,541	625,603
Fundraising events	507,717	-	-	134,739	642,456
Conferences	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>577,745</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>264,034</u>	<u>426,280</u>	<u>1,268,059</u>
Investments					
Bank interest	52	-	-	-	52
Investment income	55,707	-	-	-	55,707
	<u>55,759</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>55,759</u>
Charitable activities					
Membership fees	34,066	-	-	-	34,066
Conferences	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>34,066</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>34,066</u>
Other income	8,530	-	-	-	8,530
Gain/(Loss) on revaluation of investments	42,851	-	-	-	42,851
Total income	<u><u>1,277,110</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>646,839</u></u>	<u><u>1,272,053</u></u>	<u><u>3,196,002</u></u>

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

3. NET INCOME FROM TRADING ACTIVITIES OF SUBSIDIARY

Together for Short Lives owns 100% of the called up share capital of Together for Short Lives (Trading) Limited, a trading company registered in England and Wales, company number 06434214. A summary of the trading results of Together for Short Lives (Trading) Limited for the year ended 31 March 2023 is shown below. All taxable profits have been transferred to the Charity.

	2023	2022
	£	£
Turnover	1,071,299	624,222
Administrative expenses	(20,927)	(17,077)
Profit after tax	1,050,372	607,145
Payment under gift aid	(1,050,372)	(607,145)
Retained profit carried forward	-	-

At 31 March 2023 the total of share capital and reserves for the company was £5,000 (2022: £5,000). Net assets were £1,103,461 (2022: £710,369) and net liabilities were £1,098,461 (2022: £705,369).

4. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE

	Direct costs	Support			
	Grants	Other costs	costs	Total	Total
	2023	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Raising funds					
Raising funds for our core work	-	720,932	164,109	885,041	834,725
Raising funds for NFS income	-	36,544	17,550	54,094	73,356
	-	757,476	181,659	939,135	908,081
Charitable Activities					
National Charitable Activities	-	1,545,630	397,926	1,943,556	1,081,622
Cost of generating income for children's hospice (NFS)	-	207,083	99,450	306,533	359,143
Cost of generating income for children's hospice (Morrisons)	-	341,051	-	341,051	248,585
Grants – National Fundraising Scheme (NFS)	439,797	-	-	439,797	707,276
Grants – Improving Transition for Young People Awards	1,941,724	-	-	1,941,724	-
Grants – Butterfly Fund	102,900	-	-	102,900	129,604
Grants – Cost of Living Fund	165,250	-	-	165,250	100,000
Charitable activities	2,649,671	2,093,764	497,376	5,240,811	2,626,230
	2,649,671	2,851,240	679,035	6,179,946	3,534,311

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

4. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE (Continued)

	Direct costs		Support	
	Grants	Other costs	costs	Total
<i>Comparative analysis for 2022</i>	2022	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£	£
Raising funds				
Raising funds for our core work	-	650,287	184,438	834,725
Raising funds for NFS income	-	54,922	18,434	73,356
	-	705,209	202,872	908,081
Charitable Activities				
National Charitable Activities	94,450	716,301	202,871	1,013,622
Cost of generating income for children's hospice (NFS)	-	260,577	98,566	359,143
Cost of generating income for children's hospice (Morrisons)	-	248,585	-	248,585
Grants – National Fundraising Scheme (NFS)	707,276	-	-	707,276
Grants – Improving Transition for Young People Awards	-	-	-	-
Butterfly Fund Grants	129,604	-	-	129,604
Grants – Relief Fund	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	931,330	1,225,464	301,437	2,458,230
	931,330	1,930,672	504,309	3,366,311

In 2022, £73,356 of expenditure on raising funds was restricted to NFS, and £834,725 was unrestricted.

£573,272 of expenditure on charitable activities was restricted, £1,066,418 was restricted to NFS and £818,540 was unrestricted.

5. ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT COSTS

	Total	Total
	2023	2022
	£	£
Staff costs	427,243	301,898
Depreciation	25,640	15,987
Governance costs	66,258	48,292
Other administrative costs	159,894	138,132
	679,035	504,309

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

6. GRANTS TO INSTITUTIONS

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds excluding NFS 2023 £	Restricted Funds NFS 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
National Fundraising Scheme (NFS)	-	-	439,797	439,797	707,276
Improving Transitions for Young People Fund	-	-	-	-	32,068
Morrison's	-	1,941,724	-	1,941,724	-
Butterfly Fund Grants	-	102,900	-	102,900	129,604
Relief Fund Grants	-	165,250	-	165,250	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>2,209,874</u>	<u>439,797</u>	<u>2,649,671</u>	<u>868,948</u>

Grants payable under the National Fundraising Scheme are made to member charities providing children's palliative care services across the UK in line with donor wishes.

7. GOVERNANCE COSTS

	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Auditors' remuneration	17,025	14,260
Meeting costs	2,393	942
Trustees travel reimbursed	4,116	2,901
Wages and salaries	35,515	25,095
Employers NI	4,432	3,463
Pension costs	2,777	1,631
	<u>66,258</u>	<u>48,292</u>

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

	2023 £	2022 £
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets:	25,640	15,987
Auditors' remuneration	17,025	14,460
Operating lease payments	530	4,621
	<u></u>	<u></u>

During the year, no trustees received any remuneration (2022 Nil).
During the year, no trustees received any benefits in kind (2022 Nil).
During the year, 11 trustees received reimbursement of expenses for travel totalling £4,116 (2022: 0 trustees).

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
9. AUDITORS' REMUNERATION		
Fees payable to the charity's auditor for the audit of the charity's annual accounts	11,460	9,550
Fees payable to the charity's auditor in respect of:		
Together for Short Lives (Trading) Ltd	3,125	2,500
Non audit services	2,440	2,210
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

	2023	2022
	£	£
10. STAFF COSTS		
Staff costs were as follows:		
Wages and salaries	1,551,306	1,141,731
Social security costs	164,209	125,156
Pension costs	89,820	73,380
Ex gratia payments	38,500	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	<u>1,843,835</u>	<u>1,340,267</u>

The ex gratia payments were made to employees following departmental restructures.

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

No.	No.
39	27
<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The number of higher paid employees was:

In the band £60,001 - £70,000	1	3
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	3	3
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	1	-
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	-	1
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	<u>5</u>	<u>7</u>

Key management remuneration

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the Group were £399,180 (2022: £521,391).

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Group and Charity	Leasehold property improvements £	Fixtures and fittings £	Office equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 April 2022	115,553	18,512	108,270	242,335
Additions	3,640	-	55,078	58,718
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
At 31 March 2023	119,193	18,512	163,348	301,053
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2022	89,583	18,512	91,592	199,687
Charge for the year	6,645	-	18,995	25,640
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
At 31 March 2023	96,228	18,512	110,587	225,327
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net book value				
At 31 March 2023	22,965	-	52,761	75,726
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
At 31 March 2022	25,970	-	16,678	42,648
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

12. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Money Market Fund 2023 £	Listed securities 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Group				
Market value				
At 1 April	1,608,302	2,037,441	3,645,743	3,602,892
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	(350,000)	-	(350,000)	-
Revaluations	-	(122,317)	(122,317)	42,851
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
At 31 March	1,258,302	1,915,124	3,173,426	3,645,743
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Group investments at market value comprise:			2023 £	2022 £
Listed investments			1,915,124	2,037,441
Money Market Fund			1,258,302	1,608,302
			<u> </u>	<u> </u>

All the fixed asset investments are held in the UK

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

12. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS (continued)

	Money Market Fund 2023 £	Listed securities 2023 £	Investments in subsidiary 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Charity				
Market value				
At 1 April	1,608,302	2,037,441	5,000	3,650,743
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	(350,000)	-	-	(350,000)
Revaluations	-	(122,317)	-	(122,317)
At 31 March	<u>1,258,302</u>	<u>1,915,124</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>3,178,426</u>

All the fixed asset investments are held in the UK.

Comparative analysis for 2022

	Money Market Fund 2022 £	Listed securities 2022 £	Investments in subsidiary 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Charity				
Market value				
At 1 April	1,608,302	1,994,590	5,000	3,607,892
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	42,851	-	42,851
At 31 March	<u>1,608,302</u>	<u>2,037,441</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>3,650,743</u>

All the fixed asset investments are held in the UK.

13. DEBTORS

	Group		Charity	
	2023 £	2022 £	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	203,248	396,610	52,800	8,010
Amounts owed by group undertakings	-	-	1,100,710	628,853
VAT Debtor	11,088	-	3,759	-
Other debtors	444	1,432	444	1,432
Prepayments and accrued income	1,461,251	715,416	677,007	451,382
	<u>1,676,031</u>	<u>1,113,458</u>	<u>1,834,720</u>	<u>1,089,677</u>

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

14. CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	Group		Charity	
	2023 £	2022 £	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	118,148	66,758	118,148	66,758
Other taxation and social security	43,227	36,467	43,227	36,467
VAT creditors	22,157	-	22,157	-
Other creditors	203,140	152,341	203,140	81,010
Accruals and deferred income	2,125,526	857,237	2,120,446	852,052
	<u>2,512,198</u>	<u>1,112,803</u>	<u>2,507,118</u>	<u>1,036,287</u>

15. ANALYSIS OF DEFERRED INCOME	Group		Charity	
	2023 £	2022 £	2023 £	2022 £
Deferred income at 1 April	4,740	1,519	4,740	1,519
Released to income in the year	(4,740)	(1,519)	(4,740)	(1,519)
Deferred in the year	-	4,740	-	4,740
	<u>-</u>	<u>4,740</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,740</u>
Deferred income at 31 March	-	4,740	-	4,740

Deferred income in 2022 related to Simply Learning to Talk Project.

16. STATEMENT OF FUNDS

	Brought Forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/(out) £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Carried Forward £
Designated funds						
Designated fund - Legacy	2,261,700	-	(432,612)	(226,813)	-	1,602,275
Fixed asset fund	42,648	-	(25,640)	58,718	-	75,726
General funds						
General Funds	1,537,893	1,091,180	(1,438,767)	124,671	(122,317)	1,192,660
Total Unrestricted funds	<u>3,842,241</u>	<u>1,091,180</u>	<u>(1,897,019)</u>	<u>(43,424)</u>	<u>(122,317)</u>	<u>2,870,661</u>

Purpose of designated funds

The Fixed Asset fund

This fund relates to fixed assets and therefore is not available to cover the ongoing costs of the Charity, the balance is equal to the net book value in the accounts of fixed assets held by the charity.

Legacy fund

During the year the charity received the second and final payment of £1,272k of the large legacy notified in 2020. The trustees have designated this legacy to be invested in key strategic areas for children's palliative care – see Trustees' Annual Report.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Brought Forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/(out) £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Carried Forward £
Restricted funds: National Fundraising Scheme						
Restricted NFS	-	892,877	(800,424)	(92,453)	-	-
Other restricted funds						
Butterfly Fund	(106,637)	123,028	(128,481)	142,490	-	30,400
Transition Grants	72,887	-	(31,933)	(40,954)	-	-
Family information & support	(15,780)	15,000	(11,341)	27,121	-	15,000
National Lottery	(821)	-	-	821	-	-
Disney	145,681	50,000	(83,980)	-	-	111,701
Morrisons (Hospices)	(56,738)	2,339,513	(2,282,775)	-	-	-
Morrisons (Project)	230,168	822,968	(269,628)	-	-	783,508
Other restricted funds	32,353	797,222	(674,365)	6,399	-	161,609
	<u>301,113</u>	<u>4,147,731</u>	<u>(3,482,503)</u>	<u>135,877</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,102,218</u>

Purpose of Restricted funds

Restricted NFS

The National Fundraising Scheme (NFS) is concerned with raising funds for distribution to children's hospice services. Further details on the income and costs of the scheme can be found in notes 2, 4 and 6.

Butterfly fund

This Fund provides grants of £300 to bereaved families, and is fully funded by a number of supporters.

Transition Grants

This is our funding programme which seeks to address the significant difference in care experienced by young adults in their transition from children's to adult services.

Family Information and Support

We also received generous support for our Family Information and Support work this year from a number of funders supporting our helpline, advocacy service and information and resources that we provide for families. The deficit at the end of the year will be covered by income received in 2021-22.

Relief fund

The Relief fund was established in May 2020 in response to COVID-19 to provide 500 grants of £200 to families in need. The funding was provided by a number of trusts and foundations, individuals and companies and all the funds were distributed within 3 months.

National Lottery

This grant has enabled us to support families during COVID-19 by increasing capacity and access to the helpline (including LiveChat), expanding peer support and online communities, providing up to date information on COVID-19 and connecting and supporting the palliative care services that the families use.

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16. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (CONTINUED)

Other restricted funds

Other restricted funds are immaterial amounts granted for restricted purposes; these include grants awarded by NHS England, the Scottish Government and Hospice UK.

Fund Transfers

The transfers from the general fund to the Fixed Asset Designated fund, was required to maintain the balance in the Fixed Asset Fund equal to the net book value of fixed assets in the balance sheet.

The transfer from the National Fundraising Scheme (NFS) Fund to the General Fund represents the share of NFS net income that will go towards the core work of the charity. The proportion of NFS income that is used for our core work varies among the different corporate partners, but is usually 15% of the total net income raised.

Comparative analysis for 2022

	Brought Forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/(out) £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Carried Forward £
Designated funds						
Designated fund - Legacy	2,600,555	-	(338,855)	-	-	2,261,700
Fixed asset fund	15,081	-	(15,987)	43,554	-	42,648
General funds						
General Funds	1,520,483	1,234,258	(1,298,424)	38,725	42,851	1,537,894
Total Unrestricted funds	4,136,119	1,234,258	(1,653,266)	82,279	42,851	3,842,241
	Brought Forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/(out) £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Carried Forward £
Restricted funds: National Fundraising Scheme						
Restricted NFS	-	1,272,054	(1,139,775)	(132,279)	-	-
Other restricted funds						
Butterfly Fund	13,283	30,370	(150,290)	-	-	(106,637)
Transition Grants	132,272	-	(59,385)	-	-	72,887
Family information & support	(1,900)	-	(13,880)	-	-	(115,780)
National Lottery	93	-	(914)	-	-	(821)
Disney	-	100,000	(4,319)	50,000	-	145,681
Morrisons (Hospice)	-	191,847	(248,585)	-	-	(56,738)
Morrisons (Project)	-	264,034	(33,866)	-	-	230,168
Other restricted funds	33,798	60,587	(62,032)	-	-	32,353
	177,546	646,839	(573,271)	50,000	-	301,113

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

17. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds excluding NFS 2023 £	Restricted Funds NFS 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	75,726	-	-	75,726
Fixed asset investments	3,173,426	-	-	3,173,426
Current assets	2,133,707	1,102,218	-	3,235,925
Creditors due within one year	(2,512,198)	-	-	(2,512,198)
	<u>2,870,661</u>	<u>1,102,218</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,972,879</u>

Comparative analysis for 2022:

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds excluding NFS 2022 £	Restricted Funds NFS 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	42,648	-	-	42,648
Fixed asset investments	3,645,743	-	-	3,645,743
Current assets	1,233,570	301,113	-	1,534,883
Creditors due within one year	(1,079,720)	-	-	(1,079,720)
	<u>3,842,241</u>	<u>301,113</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,143,354</u>

18. PENSION COMMITMENTS

Employer's pension contributions paid in the year ended 31 March 2023 were £89,820 (2022: £73,380). Amounts shown in other creditors at the balance sheet date in respect of pension contributions outstanding were £164 (2022: £12,686).

19. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

At 31 March 2023 the group had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	Land and buildings		Equipment	
Group and charity	2023 £	2022 £	2023 £	2022 £
Within 1 year	21,364	21,364	-	530
Between 2 and 5 years	46,289	69,433	-	-
	<u>67,653</u>	<u>90,797</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>530</u>

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

At 31 March 2023 the group was entitled to receive the following income under non-cancellable operating leases:

	2023	2022
Group and Charity	£	£
Within 1 year	-	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	-	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

20. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Several trustees of Together for Short Lives are also either trustees or employees of member charities. Some of these charity members benefit from grants under the National Fundraising Scheme (NFS), but the trustees do not benefit personally. Trustees set the rules of the scheme which determine how the money raised is shared among members, but they are not involved in specific decisions about how NFS money is distributed.

During the year the charity charged its trading subsidiary, Together for Short Lives Trading Limited, £17,397 (2022: £10,779) for management and licensing costs.

Accounts

Together for Short Lives

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022

Registered company number: 7783702

Registered charity numbers:

1144022 (England & Wales)

SC044139 (Scotland)

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE COMPANY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

Trustees

Dr Hilary Cass OBE, Chair
Sarah Talbot-Williams, Vice Chair (re-appointed 19 May 2021)
Bernie Watson, Treasurer (re-appointed 22 November 2021)
Arlene Honeyman
Paul Obey
Sue Hogg
Tracy Tait
Toby Porter
Jo Laddie
Adam Smith
Stephanie Nimmo
Alaana Linney (resigned 15 May 2021)

Company registered number

7783702

Charity registered numbers

1144022 (England & Wales)
SCO44139 (Scotland)

Registered office

Suite 1b, Whitefriars, Lewins Mead, Bristol, BS1 2NT

Chief executive officer

Andy Fletcher

Executive team

Nick Carroll
Dr Helena Dunbar
Andy Fletcher
Myra Johnson
Mala Langdon

Independent auditor

Haysmacintyre LLP, 10 Queen Street Place, London, EC4R 1AG

Bankers

NatWest Plc, 32 Corn Street, Bristol, BS99 7UG
CCLA, Senator House, 85 Queen Victoria Street, London, EC4V 4ET

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE COMPANY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

Investment managers

Sarasin & Partners LLP, Juxon House, 100 St Paul's Churchyard, London, EC4M 8BU

Solicitors

Veale Wasbrough Vizards, Narrow Quay House, Narrow Quay, Bristol BS1 4QA

Chair and Chief Executive's introduction

Welcome to Together for Short Lives' Annual Report and Accounts for 2021-22.

It has been another extraordinary, exciting and challenging year for us all. The impact of COVID-19 has continued to be felt by the children, young people and families at the centre of our work as well as the many wonderful professionals and services delivering children's palliative care locally. And like all charities, the pandemic has presented continued uncertainty for Together for Short Lives.

But while it has been a challenging time in many ways, we are very proud of what we have achieved this year. The impact of our family hub has continued to grow, reaching families with support via our helpline, peer support, Voices for Families legal advocacy service and our Butterfly grants for children who have lost a child. We have supported professionals and services to share innovative ways of working, particularly in reaching families and providing care in different ways and advocated for continued sustainability funding through this uncertain period.

Despite the uncertainty, our fundraising performance has been strong. We are delighted to have been chosen as Morrisons' charity partner for the next three years. As well as providing valuable funds for children's hospices, the partnership is a unique opportunity to reach more families, particularly those from under-represented groups. We want to build on the potential for increased awareness through the partnership to tell family stories of the importance of children's palliative care and to build greater understanding of what they need. In addition, we have worked with national partners to explore testing a new model of integrated care, bringing together health, social care and co-ordination.

We know the number of children with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions is growing. And that many of them are living with greater medical complexity, putting additional pressure on families, professionals and the wider sector.

We are more determined than ever to shine a light on what these children and families need and ensure that they get the right support. This year we have begun work on a new vision and strategy to meet the challenge head on, to reach more families so they can access palliative care, to improve the quality and consistency of care and ensure it is sustainable for the long term.

As ever, we have been indebted to our amazing supporters, staff and volunteers who have enabled us to deliver so much this year. As a consequence of their generous support and our prudent management of costs, we will end the year in a good financial position and ready to step up to the challenge of growing need and demand.

While there will be challenges ahead, we know that by working collaboratively with our partners, we can meet them and ensure that more children and families receive the support they need, when and where they need it.



Dr Hilary Cass OBE
Chair of Trustees



Andy Fletcher
Chief Executive

Trustees' Annual Report

The trustees (who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act) present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of Together for Short Lives (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The trustees confirm that the Annual Report and Financial Statements of the charity comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charity's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (second addition - effective 1 January 2019)".

Structure, Governance and Management

Objectives of the charity

The objectives of the charity are promoting for the public benefit the support of children and young people with life-limiting conditions such that:

- children and young people and their families have as fulfilling lives as possible; and
- children and young people receive the best care at the end of life.

Constitution

Together for Short Lives is a registered charity and was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee on 4th October 2011. The constitution of the charity is set out in the Memorandum and Articles of Association. Trustees are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act.

The charity has one wholly owned subsidiary charity: Together for Short Lives (Trading) Ltd (Company number 06434214), a company which is registered in England and Wales and is used for fundraising activities.

Board of Trustees

The charity is governed by its Board of Trustees, which is detailed on page 1. All trustees give of their time freely and no trustee remuneration was paid in the year. Details of trustee expenses and related party transactions are disclosed in note 7 and note 20 to the accounts.

Trustees may hold office for three years. At the end of their first term, they can be re-elected for one further three-year term. Any Trustee who has served two terms of office is not eligible for re-appointment as a Trustee unless there are exceptional reasons. In July 2020, because of the stability required in the pandemic, the trustees voted to waive the two-term restriction to re-elect Hilary Cass for a shorter third term of two years. The third term will end on 31 March 2023. We will begin the open process to recruit a new Chair in the summer of 2022 to enable an effective handover and transition.

The charity aims to appoint trustees across a wide range of backgrounds, skills, and regions.

Induction and training of trustees

On appointment, new trustees receive an induction pack containing key information about the charity and its governance structure. To support their induction, new trustees are matched with an existing trustee in a "buddy scheme". In addition, new trustees are encouraged to meet with other existing trustees and are invited to visit the charity's offices to meet with the Executive Team and other staff.

Ongoing training for trustees is given as required; in general, all trustees are encouraged to maintain or enhance their knowledge, especially in areas in which they are not expert. There is a trustee development session at each full Board meeting exploring issues such as current trends in fundraising and children's palliative care policy and practice.

Sub Committees of the Board

The trustees perform their governance role via the full Board which meets at least four times a year. During the year there have been three committees which are formally constituted as committees of the Board of Trustees and the Board approves the Terms of Reference.

- Finance, Governance and Fundraising Committee
- Appointments Committee
- Clinical Strategy and Quality Assurance Committee

The recorded actions and minutes of committee meetings are submitted to the Board of Trustees at its next meeting. There is a written scheme of delegation that sets out which decisions are made by the Board, committees, or staff and this is reviewed regularly. The committees therefore have certain delegated authority within their areas of responsibility, and these are subsequently reported to the Board for information. However, in other areas, they are only able to make recommendations to the Board.

Committees are able to co-opt to their membership other individuals who may bring particular expertise to that committee.

The Clinical Strategy and Quality Assurance Committee was established in March 2022, following a review of the Board's committee structure. The Committee oversees the assurance and governance arrangements related to activities involving direct service provision. The committee will make recommendations to the Board of the quality of provision of these services to children, young people and families. In doing so, the Committee will ensure that any risks associated with service provision are managed and mitigated appropriately. The focus of the committee is on strategy, performance and assurance rather than operational matters.

Advisory Council

The Advisory Council was established in 2019 to ensure that our work was better informed by those with lived experience of children's palliative care and those working to deliver it across the UK. Young people, parents of children with life-limiting conditions and representatives from across the children's palliative care sector contribute their expertise and communicate their views on issues affecting children's palliative care to inform and advise the work of Together for Short Lives. It is an integral part of the strategic and operational planning for the charity.

Remuneration for key management staff

The charity aims to ensure that appropriate remuneration packages are set to attract, retain and motivate an appropriate calibre of employees.

Salary benchmarking is undertaken to compare roles with similar positions within the charity and not for profit sector.

Decisions on setting pay levels are made as follows:

- For staff apart from Senior Managers and the Chief Executive, by Senior Managers in conjunction with the Director of Finance & Resources
- For Senior Managers other than Chief Executive, by the Chief Executive
- For the Chief Executive, by the Board of Trustees.

The Board has final approval of all pay rises across the organisation.

The numbers of higher paid employees are:

In the band £60,001 - £70,000	3	3
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	1	1
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	1	1
	5	5

Safeguarding

Together for Short Lives has a duty to keep children and vulnerable groups safe and must fulfil its legal and regulatory responsibilities in relation to protecting children, young people and vulnerable adults at risk. In addition, beneficiaries, staff, volunteers, and everyone in contact with the organisation should feel that they are in a safe, supportive and inclusive environment.

Following a benchmarking exercise conducted in May 2021 using the Children England Guidance (2019) "Everyone's Business Safeguarding for Trustees several changes were made: -

- New designated safeguarding lead role in the organisation with clinical background
- Updated safeguarding policy
- Level 1 safeguarding training delivered to all staff, volunteers, trustees
- Level 1 safeguarding training pre-recording and quiz for induction of all new staff
- Establishment of a new subcommittee of the Board of Trustees that oversees assurance and governance arrangements involving direct service provision and all matters relating to child and adult safeguarding.

We also have a whistle blowing procedure, so anyone can confidentially raise any concerns they have. Safeguarding is a standing agenda item at every Executive Team meeting.

We carry out DBS record checks for all new staff and volunteers and an enhanced check for those working on our helpline service with families. The designated lead for safeguarding and the helpline staff have additional enhanced safeguarding training.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

As our service is remote rather than face to face, we have specific procedures that relate to a helpline service. This year we achieved the Helpline Standards' accreditation, and we received a commendation for our safeguarding processes and procedures, in particular our new reflective process and proforma to regularly assess how helpline advisors handle their contacts.

Safeguarding concerns are logged securely on our Case Manager System. We had four safeguarding concerns raised over the year, two of which were thread alerts from our Facebook group. In all cases procedures were followed and support offered, there was no need for further escalation outside of the organisation.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

Like many charities, we know we have work to do before we are a fully inclusive organisation where everybody can be themselves and feel that they belong.

We started this work by joining the Employers' Network for Equality and Inclusion (ENEI) and using their tools to benchmark ourselves against others and also develop action plans to improve. We have continued to work with our staff EDI group, designed to take forward the action plan. This group also has a key role in sharing ideas and good practice. We have implemented changes to our recruitment processes, showing all salaries and removing requirements for a degree unless it is a necessity and removing all names, schools and universities from applications.

We have also made changes to our annual leave policy to give all staff flexibility in how they take public holidays, removing the necessity to take time at Christmas and Easter but instead have more choice in when they take time off.

Feedback from our annual staff survey suggests we are making progress in being more inclusive. In 2020, only 46% of staff agreed with the statement 'This charity acts fairly in its dealings with everyone (regardless of age, sex, ethnicity, disability and all protected characteristics)'. In 2022, this figure had risen to 83%. While we are encouraged by this progress, we will continue to develop and roll out our plans to be a more inclusive organisation.

As well as making internal change, we know that we must develop more inclusive services and support the children's palliative care sector to reach all the children and families who need support. We know from evidence that there is a higher prevalence of children with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions among Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic families, particularly those from Pakistani and South Asian communities. This year we undertook a review of literature around barriers to accessing children's palliative care and spoke to families and professionals about these challenges and what potentially can be done to overcome them. The report will help to inform our ongoing work to reach more families and increase access to children's palliative care.

Membership

The charity operates a membership scheme for organisations and professionals working in the children's palliative care sector. We have a paid membership of 121 organisations and teams (which includes all children's hospice services in the UK) and 79 individual care professionals. We also have 655 associate members who have signed up to receive information from us. We launched a new online discussion forum for professionals, which has grown steadily over the year and now has 275 members. There have been discussions on a range of topics, for example, the use of controlled drugs, referral/eligibility criteria for children's hospices and sharing role descriptions for new posts.

Public benefit

The objects of the organisation are for children and young people with life-limiting conditions to have as fulfilling lives as possible and the best care at the end of life. The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing Together for Short Lives' aims and objectives and in planning our strategic priorities and activities for the year.

Whilst there is greater elaboration below, our strategic priorities to fulfil the public benefit are outlined as follows.

- A strong and sustainable palliative care sector.
- Supporting and empowering children, young people and families who require palliative care services.
- Striving for joined up policy, services, care and support for children and families.
- Greater understanding and support for children's palliative care

The way in which we have achieved the public benefit is outlined in the "Activities, Achievements and Performance" section below.

Our Strategy

Our vision

For children and young people with life-limiting conditions to have as fulfilling lives as possible, and the best care at the end of life.

Underpinning this vision is a commitment to the rights of all children and young people to a fulfilling life, regardless of their health, ethnicity, social or economic circumstances.

Our mission

Our mission is to secure the best quality of life and best end of life care for children who will have short lives.

Our values

Our values enable us to deliver our strategy:

We listen to families and our work is shaped by what they tell us

Families are at the heart of everything we do. We listen to children, young people and families and our work is shaped by their experiences and needs.

We are compassionate and responsive

We are compassionate and caring about everything we do. We are open, honest and responsive to the needs of children, young people and families, and everyone we work with.

We will collaborate and bring people together

We will bring the children's palliative care sector together so that we can achieve more for children, young people and families. We will work in partnership, collaborate, share expertise and bring a unifying spirit to children's palliative care.

We are innovative, creative and will act as a catalyst for change

We are innovative, creative and unafraid to challenge the status quo. We will always go the extra mile and explore new ways of working to deliver the very best for children, young people and families.

We are passionate and determined

We are passionate, determined, and ambitious about helping children, young people and families to live as full lives as possible. We will not stop until every family gets the care, support and services that they need.

Our strategic priorities

There are 99,000+ children and young people living in the UK with health conditions that are life-limiting or life-threatening and the number is rising.

These children and their families rely on a network of many excellent and invaluable services which make up children's palliative care which is available across the UK: hospitals, children's hospices, community children's nurses, social care providers, educators, wish-makers, therapists, psychologists, sibling workers, bereavement counsellors and many, many more. Our five-year strategy aims to provide a voice for these children and their families and to enable much needed support to the sector.

A strong and sustainable children's palliative care sector for the 99,000+

There are serious risks to the long-term sustainability of the children's palliative care sector. The number of babies, children and young people with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions is growing, and they are living longer with complex conditions. Policy and funding are not keeping pace with their needs, and many individuals and vital charities struggle to develop new and sustainable fundraising income. As a result, services are overstretched, and family support is inadequate.

Supported and empowered children, young people and families

The support children and families receive is patchy and variable. Choice remains a laudable public policy aim but is severely limited by the availability of funded services. Families face a postcode lottery of support, and many of them struggle to get access to the services and support they need. This can leave families feeling frustrated, isolated and alone while facing the challenge of providing 24/7 care for their child.

Joined up policy, services, care and support for children and families

Services are not adequately or consistently joined up around the family and their needs. Policy-makers, funders and commissioners too often operate independently leading to inefficient or ineffective funding arrangements. Families and professionals continue to be frustrated by the lack of co-ordination across health and wider care services, which significantly increases the burden on those seeking care and those providing care.

Changing hearts and minds: Greater understanding and support for children's palliative care

There is a low-level understanding of children's palliative care in both public and wider professional arenas. Too often knowledge of hospice and palliative care is focused on end of life, as opposed to also achieving a quality of life. This creates barriers to good policy making, efficient and effective care and support. There is a cultural and societal fear of death and discomfort with talking about it, especially in relation to children. This compounds families' sense of isolation and loneliness.

Activities, Achievements and Performance for the public benefit

We have detailed below under each of our strategic headings our activities and achievements for the year.

A strong and sustainable children's palliative care sector for the 99,000+

In 2021/22 we campaigned for seriously ill children and young people and their families to have wider access to the lifeline palliative care and support they need:

As a result of our joint campaigning with Marie Curie, Hospice UK, Sue Ryder and the Alzheimer's Society, the government decided to introduce a new legal duty for local NHS organisations in England (integrated care boards, or ICBs) to plan and fund the palliative care they consider appropriate for meeting the needs of local people. This includes children and young people.

Separately, as a result of our joint campaigning with the Children and Young People's Health Policy Influencing Group (HPIG), ministers placed another legal duty on ICBs to set out the steps they will take to address the needs of children and young people under the age of 25 in their forward plans.

We have analysed freedom of information request returns from NHS clinical commissioning groups in England (CCGs) and mapping information from the children's palliative care networks. This has helped us to understand more about when and where quality standards in children's palliative care are being met around the clock – and how services are planned, funded and delivered. We plan to publish this and campaign for better access to 24/7 children's palliative care in 2022/23.

We also helped the government and NHS to fund lifeline children's palliative care services more fairly and sustainably. During Children's Hospice Week (June 21-27), we published our Pushed to The Limits report. This described the impact of the pandemic on children's hospice funding across the UK. Among our findings, we identified that local authority funding for children's hospices in England is not enough to make sure all seriously ill children and their families can access the short breaks they desperately need. MPs showed their support for Children's Hospice Week, wrote to ministers and tabled written parliamentary questions to press the government for sustainable short breaks funding. As a result of this and our campaigning with the Disabled Children's Partnership, the government decided to allocate £30 million for additional short breaks.

We mapped children's hospice organisations to their local NHS integrated care systems (ICS) to help NHS England (NHSE) prepare to distribute the Children's Hospice Grant on a population basis in 2022/23. We then invited children's hospices to negotiate equitable ways of splitting the grant in shared ICS areas, guiding and supporting them in conducting the negotiations. When these were complete,

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

we shared the outcomes with NHSE and pressed officials to implement a smooth transition from the previous distribution model to the new one.

In Wales, we took part in online meetings with new members of the Senedd following the elections in May 2021. We joined Tŷ Hafan and Tŷ Gobaith in welcoming the Welsh Government's proposed £888,000 per year increase in funding for Wales' children's hospices. This is the first time additional statutory funding has been made available to both organisations since 2007. The children's hospices will receive around 21% of their care costs.

NHSE has finalised its children's palliative care service specification. The process to write the specification began in 2018 and it is designed to support ICSs in commissioning children's palliative care services. We have been part of working groups set up by officials and have been able to involve our members in shaping and influencing it. We have also successfully bid for an NHSE tender to develop a new resource for ICSs to further guide them in commissioning children's palliative care.

Following the government's original decision to mandate COVID-19 vaccinations for health and care professionals, we called on the government to act to make sure children's palliative care services, including children's hospices, were sustainably staffed in hospitals, children's hospices and in the community. The government later decided not to implement the mandate and has asked parliament to revoke the regulations.

Supported and empowered children, young people and families

We have continued to grow our Family Support core offer to reach more families living with a seriously ill child, investing in our helpline and resources for families. We responded to 601 queries from families and those supporting them via our helpline and information service (286), our Livechat facility (169) and email (146). This year we have seen a small increase in the number of families requiring more enhanced support as a result of the initial call. These callers have received follow up support to access appropriate services in their locality, funding and have been referred onto our legal advice and support.

This year we invested into the Helpline Partnership accreditation process and were delighted to be awarded The Helplines Standard - a nationally recognised quality standard which defines and accredits best practice in helpline work.

At the start of the year we had 52 families being supported through our 'Voices for Families' legal advice and support service and 58 new cases were opened throughout the year. With 42 cases closed in this period, at year end 67 were being actively supported. This service, delivered in partnership with LawWorks, provides a volunteer legal professional to support families to advocate for their needs when they are faced with difficult issues such as inadequate care packages or inappropriate housing. In the latter quarter of the year we have also piloted a monthly online legal clinic with 6 new cases picked up via this route. Families attending clinic often had questions relating to Powers of Attorney and Guardianship. We have worked with the Office of the Public Guardian to respond to some of most frequently asked questions to compile information that will be disseminated early this year.

We rolled out our Butterfly Fund nationally to all our member organisations so that they could make referrals on behalf of families. We also launched a webpage through which other professionals and families themselves could submit enquiries. This Fund provides a £300 grant to families whose child has died. This year we have provided 282 grants to families – a 63% increase on the previous year.

We continue to provide financial support through our existing informal and formal partnerships which include Turn2us (16 applications), Rosie's Rainbow Pantry (16 deliveries), Family Fund and a small handful of member services for whom we are able to make family referrals to e.g. Reubens Retreat.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

We also saw a growth in membership of our private Together for Short Lives Family Facebook group, which now has 411 members. We also host a Facebook group for bereaved parents, "Still Their Parent" which has 40 members. We support parents to moderate these groups themselves and welcomed one new parent moderator this year.

We know that timely, accurate information in a variety of formats is highly valued by families, and we continue to review and update our family information offer to families both online and in print. In addition to the new information to support families make informed decisions on applying for Power of Attorney, we have worked with a small group of parents to review the format and language used on the family pages of our website. This year we received Patient Information Forum (PIF) TICK – the UK-wide Quality Mark for Health Information. Through this process we can assure families that information we produce has been professional and robustly reviewed and developed.

Throughout the year 75 individual family members joined one of 10 online workshops on a variety of themes. From supporting siblings, transition to adult services to accessing grants and legal support, these workshops received positive feedback and will continue this year.

Alongside the Family Hub we support family members who volunteer their time to influence campaigns and inform research into children's palliative care. Our group of Family Experts grew from 31 to 70 members through the year and are given monthly opportunities to engage with the sector, sharing their own lived experience of children's palliative care.

Joined up policy, services, care and support for children and families

We hold a variety of meetings and forums for professionals, including those working in practice education roles (97 members), Family Support roles (52 members) and one for Leaders of Care within children's hospices (58 members). We also have a Research Group of 52 academics that we host jointly with Association for Paediatric Palliative Medicine. In addition to these member Forums, we also hold meetings for the Chairs of regional children's palliative care networks to ensure that they are up to date with relevant policy and practice issues that might affect services in their region.

Having moved many of these forums to virtual platforms during Covid, we have been able to extend their reach to more of the professionals that work in children's palliative care, including those working in NHS settings. We held five topic-focussed webinars last year, focussing on the safe use of medicines, reaching families from ethnic minority backgrounds, transition to adult services and two research-focussed sessions. In total these webinars were attended by 368 delegates.

We launched a new online discussion forum for professionals, which has grown steadily over the year and now has 275 members. There have been discussions on a range of topics, for example, the use of controlled drugs, referral/eligibility criteria for children's hospices and sharing role descriptions for new posts.

During 2021-22 we produced an important resource for professionals on the Safe use of Medicines, aiming to support staff, particularly those in children's hospices and community palliative care teams to follow best practice in the administration, storage and disposal of medications. This is particularly important for senior nurses who are increasingly moving into roles where they prescribe medicines for children.

This year also saw the completion of our Improving Transition for Young People programme, which funded ten projects to pilot new approaches to supporting young adults into adult services. We produced an evaluation report from this Programme which captured the learning and also

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

commissioned an economic evaluation to demonstrate the potential benefits of adopting these approaches in terms of potential cost savings and outcomes for young adults and their families.

We have continued to influence the government's reform of the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) system. We have asked Children's Minister Will Quince and Care Minister Gillian Keegan to work together to set out a vision for joined up plans, assessments and services for disabled children in England across education, health and social care. This was during an online meeting co-ordinated by the Council for Disabled Children. We have also reacted to the Department for Education's green paper for consultation on the SEND system in England. We welcomed ministers' ambition for a more clear, consistent and better quality SEND system. However, we shared the concerns of our Disabled Children's Partnership colleagues that that parents only being able to choose a school from a list of appropriate placements could potentially restrict their choice. We asked for assurances that the proposal for compulsory mediation where parents and local authorities disagree does not restrict access to the SEND tribunal and make it harder for parents to get the support they need.

We have continued to collaborate closely with a range of organisations to improve the co-ordination of support for children and young people with life-limiting illness. In addition to being steering group members of the Disabled Children's Partnership, we have continued to be active members of:

- the Ambitions Partnership for Palliative and End of Life Care
- the Children and Young People's Cancer Coalition
- the NHSE/I Children and Young People Stakeholder Council
- the National Children's Bureau and Council for Disabled Children Health Policy Influencing Group.

Changing hearts and minds: Greater understanding and support for children's palliative care

During the year we raised awareness of the needs of children and families and the services they rely on, sharing stories on our website and through proactive media and social media campaigns. Although lockdown was beginning to ease, many families caring for vulnerable children continued to shield, so we found creative ways through our social media approach, to reach out to families encouraging them to call our helpline, access legal support and join our online support webinars. More recently our awareness raising and campaigning has focused on the cost-of-living crisis and its impact on the families we are here for, including working with the Daily Express on a campaign to end the disability bills crisis.

We have campaigned to ensure families can access to the right services, where and when they need them and invested in marketing and awareness campaigns to reach the growing numbers of children with life-limiting conditions and their families. We have stepped up our story telling, using powerful video content to connect with families. In April last year, we launched a powerful new film, funded on a pro bono basis by Faltrego films, telling one family's experience of hearing their child's prognosis and how they felt lost and alone until they got in touch with Together for Short Lives.

We have engaged with high profile media stories about children with life-limiting conditions, like Ayazlia Cain, daughter to footballer Ashley Cain, who sadly died last year. We reached out to Ayzalia's family on social media, and journalists covering the story, offering support to the family and

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

others like them. As a result, we had over 90 pieces of national coverage that included our comment and helpline contact number. Our media reach has been the highest ever this year, with 1400 items of coverage and a reach of 9 billion. The high numbers reflect some high-profile events and campaigns, including our fundraising Ball in partnership with M&S Food and launching a three-year partnership with Morrisons.

Our Patrons' Programme has delivered some engaging and high-profile coverage, supporting our awareness-raising and fundraising. On Christmas Eve, our Patron Mason Mount, in partnership with Combat Gaming, gave four special families some memories to last a lifetime, when he challenged some children to join him for a livestream online gaming experience. Our Patrons and celebrity friends have supported many awareness and fundraising campaigns including our Ball, and Holly Willoughby, Mason Mount and Alesha Dixon represented our charity at the BGC Charity Day in September. In September Mason Mount created more precious memories when we took him to visit Shooting Star children's hospice. We also worked with Laurence Llewelyn-Bowen for the first time, who made two engaging films for our charity in support of our partnership with Morrisons.

Alongside our own awareness campaigning we have engaged with sector wide campaigns to increase our reach to families including through, Baby Loss Awareness Week, Dying Matters Week, Child Cancer Awareness Month, the Disabled Children's Partnership and many awareness days for specific conditions like Batten, Trisomy and Rett Disease.

We delivered Children's Hospice Week our annual awareness and fundraising campaign, bringing together the 54 children's hospices across the UK, with the theme of Pushed to the Limits, in June 2021. Children's Hospice Week was supported by Her Royal Highness, The Duchess of Cambridge, who is Patron for East Anglia's Children's Hospices. The Duchess' support generated a circulation of 198,143,947 across media.

We also released important new data demonstrating that children's hospices face an uncertain funding future, with over three quarters (77 per cent) of children's hospices expecting their income to fall this year. Our radio campaign during the week including 16 interviews, played across 26 different radio stations, with an impressive audience of 3.65M. In total we delivered 352 pieces of press coverage, reaching an audience of 49 million during the week. On Twitter the Children Hospice Week hashtag was used in 3,637 tweets, by 2,009 contributors. These tweets were delivered to timelines on 21,478,284 occasions, reaching a total of 11,918,522 users. On Instagram our Patron Holly Willoughby's video post alone received almost 750,000 views. We had almost 120,000 impressions on our Facebook posts. We also shared Children's Hospice Week content on TikTok for the first time, with a video made by Mason Mount being viewed 168,000 times, with 37,000 likes during the week.

Our online support hub for families and professionals has grown this year. During the year website visits were around 143,000, with 57,000 visits to our Family Support Hub, nearly 17,000 visits to our online services directory and over 25,000 downloads of our resources and publications. We have grown supporter awareness and engagement online, with online donations rising from £23K last year to over £30K this year.

We have invested in improving family user journeys via the website and making our online information more accessible and moving away from traditional PDF documents to accessible online content. We have improved our health information for families and professional and successfully achieved the Pif Tick standard, the UK's only quality mark for online and printed health information. This means that families and professionals working in children's palliative care can be assured that what they are reading, watching or listening to is evidence-based, understandable, jargon-free, up-to-date and produced to the best possible standard.

Financial review

Overall Financial Performance

The Statement of Financial Activities shows Designated Funds, Unrestricted Funds, Restricted Funds (excluding the National Fundraising Scheme (NFS)) and NFS. The Designated Fund is shown separately from the Unrestricted Fund as it is ring fenced for specific activities (see below). The National Fundraising Scheme is shown as a separate restricted fund as its activities are concerned with raising funds for distribution to children's hospice services, as detailed in note 16.

The net deficit for all funds for the year was £213k (2021: net deficit of £27k). As we reported last year, income was lower than normal due to Covid and the associated restrictions on fundraising.

Funds for our core work

Funds relating to our core work, as opposed to the NFS, are shown in the 2 columns in the Statement of Financial Activities labelled "Unrestricted Funds" and "Restricted Funds (excluding NFS)".

Income

We achieved gross income of £1,881k (2021: £1,452k).

Designated Fund

The money from the large legacy received in 2019 and 2020 has been ringfenced by the trustees in a Designated Fund. The specific activities on which this fund can be spent must be approved by the trustees and if an ongoing activity, must be self-sustaining within 2 years.

Phase one of our planned spend was focussed on building capacity. While we have spent money on ongoing direct services, there has been a focus on building a sustainable base from which to support children and their families and professionals in the sector in the long term. This includes implementing our five year fundraising strategy as well developing digital tools to extend our reach.

Activities this year have included investment in:

- Direct support to families via the Family hub
- Brand definition and development
- Major Giving development
- Data systems and digital development

Expenditure

Expenditure on our core work for the year was £2,227 (2021: £1,669k), considerably higher than the prior year. Of this, £1,392k was spent on our charitable activities (2021: £1,309k) with the remaining £835k (2020: £361k) spent on raising funds.

National Fundraising Scheme (NFS)

This scheme raises income and awareness through national corporate partnerships, and the net income raised is shared with local children's hospice services across the UK who would not otherwise be able to access national partnerships.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The scheme raised £1,272k (2021 £1,757k) during the year from its various fundraising campaigns. After a deduction for direct costs, and a contribution to our core costs, £707k (2020: £1,151k) was distributed across 39 children's hospices.

Grant Making Policy

Having launched a pilot programme in 2019, the '*Butterfly Fund*' has been rolled out nationally this year. The fund provides a £300 grant to families whose child has died. Funding is provided by a number of trusts and foundations, individuals and companies.

We anticipate growing our grant making in 2022-23, with the development of a new projects to reach more children and families with integrated care and support.

Fundraising Strategy

This was year two of our five-year fundraising strategy – a sustainable growth plan that looks to deliver increased income to enable us to fund our projects and services in line with the growing prevalence and unmet need.

At the heart of our strategy is the ambition to become a great fundraising organisation – a whole organisation approach to raising transformational amounts of income for our mission.

We developed a new fundraising ambition and an emotional and uncompromising proposition; an answer to the "Why?" that now runs through the heart of everything we do. We have begun to apply this to our everyday work and seen the success in how it has inspired our team, donors, and prospects; and led to some notable wins.

We have made common sense decisions to invest in personal development and new talent, as well as building an ambitious plan for philanthropy including a giving circle, and a development board, and set aside funds to deal with our digital deficit.

Fundraising performance

We continued to feel the impact of COVID on our income in the early part of the year and reforecast accordingly, however by the second half of the year things began to improve and we saw an uplift in our core income, resulting in a slightly higher than forecast close of £1,388k vs £1,367k.

The underlying performance of our core fundraising channels remains strong, and we have a professional and committed team. We have invested in training and development this year and brought in new faces, increasing the diversity, experience, and fresh thinking.

2021-22 was something of a period of re-setting for our Trust and Foundations team with slightly lower income than the previous year, where we benefited from funders looking to support our COVID-19 response. We have a new Head of Trusts in role who has established a robust strategy and prospect pipeline and our income looks very strong for 2022-23.

In philanthropy we had a strong year thanks to the generosity of our donors and patrons and the agility of the team, managing to deliver our Gala Ball in a COVID safe environment and raise more funds and

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

coverage than ever before.

Corporate partnerships continued to be influenced heavily by the impact of COVID-19 on the retail sector, and our performance was down on the previous year; although this was planned as the previous year had been buoyed by a one-off gift from M&S. Our long-term partners continued to deliver significant amounts of income across this period, and we are very grateful for their generosity. We finished the year with the fantastic news that we had been successful in becoming the Morrisons' charity of the year for the next three years – a partnership worth over £10m.

The charity undertakes fundraising activity with its supporters through corporate partnerships, challenge events, a gala ball, payroll giving, and other activities in line with the Fundraising Code of Practice set by Fundraising Regulator. Our privacy policy, (which is available on our website), states that:

"If you support us, for example by signing up to an event, donating or signing up to a campaign, we will usually collect your name, contact details, and whether you would like to be contacted, and how we would do so.

We use this information to thank you for supporting us and to provide you with further communications about our activities according to your preferences and interests. We also use it to fulfil our legal responsibilities for financial and Gift Aid reporting.

We will keep your data only for as long as necessary."

We work with partner organisations so that supporters can take part in professionally organised challenge events and we have clear agreements with those companies who will not use participants' personal details for any other reason.

The charity is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and adheres to the standards of the Fundraising Code of Practice. No complaints about our fundraising activity were received in the year.

Reserves policy

The trustees of the charity review the reserves policy each year. The policy states that the charity will hold Unrestricted Funds, excluding Designated Funds and those which are tied up in functional fixed assets, sufficient to cover:

- A potential shortfall in income by the amounts that have been identified as 'at risk'.
- Additional costs, if specifically identified risks on the risk register with a high cost attached to them, do occur.
- A reduction in value of 20% of the charity's investment fund.

The policy states that the target reserves should be within 15% of the amount calculated through this method. This would enable the charity to continue its activities during a period of reduced income due to changes in fundraising success or other factors. It should also ensure that the reserves, as calculated above, are sufficient to cover the expected liabilities if the charity were to be wound up. Following this calculation for 2021-22, the policy states that the target reserves for the charity should be between £933k and £1,262k (2021: £975k-£1,319k). At 31st March 2022 general reserves (unrestricted reserves excluding designated reserves) totaled £1,520k (2021: £1,536k), which is

above the target range.

Although the level of reserves is higher than the stated policy, the trustees consider the balance on the unrestricted reserves to be prudent during economically volatile times especially since the charity's core cost base as the organization has matured. With a predicted and potentially protracted recession due in the latter part of 2022, there is a high probability that fundraising income will drop. It is also likely that many vulnerable families which the charity supports will require additional support over the next two years. During this forthcoming period of financial turbulence and recurring costs increasing outside the control of the organization, the Trustees consider it sensible to hold a slightly higher level of reserves. They will maintain a sharp focus on the reserves however, and should it become prudent to draw down the amount held, will do so.

COVID-19 and Going Concern

The financial effect of COVID-19 has been mitigated as far as possible by emergency funding and prudent financial management, so that the net effect on the results of the charity are not significant in the years to come. The trustees are confident that the charity continues to be a going concern, particularly with the additional income secured under both the Morrisons and Kentown partnerships.

There were no significant events in year that had a financial impact on the charity.

Investment Policy and Performance

The organisation's investment policy was last reviewed in October 2020 and is as follows:

- For working capital, in order to ensure adequate cash flow, the equivalent of at least three months' expenditure should be held in instantly accessible cash deposits.
- Any additional funds held on a temporary basis, such as money raised for members through the National Fundraising Scheme, will be invested in cash deposits over an appropriate period so as to maximise return while ensuring the money is available when needed.
- Funds held in excess of the above will be invested over the longer term with the overall aim to achieve long term capital growth. The aim is to ensure that the reserves maintain their real capital value in the long term and should at least exceed inflation (as measured by RPI).
- The investment policy also includes an ethical policy, which states that the trustees choose to invest only in funds that have ethical investment principles and policies, and that are managed by asset managers who have published a "statement of commitment" to the Financial Reporting Council's current UK Stewardship Code. Trustees review the suitability of the investments within the portfolio at least annually.
- The funds (including Designated Funds) available for long term investment are placed with Sarasin & Partners, in their Endowments Fund for Charities. The fund is measured against a bespoke benchmark and performance against this benchmark is monitored by the Finance & Governance Committee twice per year. The trustees consider the fund's performance over the last year to have been acceptable.

Charity's measure of performance

The charity measures its performance by monitoring various key performance indicators (KPIs) which are reported to the board and sub-committees on a quarterly basis. These reports are also reviewed by cross-departmental groups that focus on each of the four strategic aims. Numerical targets are used where appropriate and performance monitored against these.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

During the year we have begun work to review our core Purpose and Theory of Change, working with the external agency Trust Impact. This work is crucial to our plans to better evidence and measure the difference we make and improve how we prioritise our work.

Risk management

The risk register is reviewed at every Executive Team meeting, Finance, Governance and Fundraising Committee meeting and Board of Trustees' meeting. The register identifies the major risks to which the charity is exposed together with the actions and systems in place to mitigate or reduce the exposure to those risks.

The principal risks and uncertainties at the time of writing, and plans and strategies for managing them are:

- **Reputational risk from adverse publicity:** Risk assessments are in place for all our key programmes and events which may have reputational impact. We have a robust and regularly reviewed Crisis Management policy and plan in place. We keep our Patrons and Ambassadors Strategy under regular review.
- **Loss of key staff;** Together for Short Lives strives to be a flexible and responsive employer, and recent staff survey bears this out. There has been a renewed focus in training and development in the last year, and we endeavour to provide development opportunities in house. As a relatively small organisation this is not always possible, and we celebrate the career progression of leavers while ensuring that we have sufficient succession planning in place.
- **Failure to deliver sufficient core income:** We have a robust five-year fundraising strategy in place with net income models and a test and learn approach before rollout. Progress is reviewed quarterly at Finance, Fundraising and Governance Committee (FF&G) and the Executive Team.

Plans for the future

The forthcoming year promises to be an exciting one for Together for Short Lives as we deliver significant impactful programmes and develop a new strategy to improve access to quality palliative care for all children and families who need it.

Supporting families

- We will continue to develop and extend our **Family Hub Support Core Offer** to include extension of our Helpline hours and increased legal support. We will aim to reach more families, particularly those from marginalised groups where there is higher prevalence of children and young people with life-limiting conditions. We will develop new resources and information for parents and develop further peer support opportunities. As we look ahead to inflation potentially reaching 11% and the ongoing cost of living crisis, we will continue to advocate for families of seriously ill children to get specific support with energy bills.
- We will continue work to improve reach and support for **families from marginalised communities**. We will build on what we have learned from our review this year to identify ways to break down barriers to access. We will also develop community outreach projects in partnership with Morrisons to ensure more children and families get the support they need.

Supporting professionals and services

- We will hold a **two day conference** – ‘Unlocking Potential – the key to quality children’s palliative care’ in September. This leading event in children’s palliative care will bring together professionals and services from across the sector to explore how we can meet the challenge of growing demand with high quality care for all who need it.
- We will extend our programme of **professional engagement** and build awareness of children’s palliative care, reaching wide variety of professionals. We will continue to share good practice and find new ways to reach non-specialist professionals.
- We will publish the evaluation of our **Improving Transitions for Young People** programme. We will cascade learning and support the rollout of successful innovations through a programme of education, consultancy and lobbying, both at a local and national level.
- We will **update key professional resources**, including our Perinatal Pathway and our guide to transition: ‘Stepping Up’, which will incorporate the latest data on the prevalence of young people with life-limiting conditions.

Supporting the development of children’s palliative care

- We will continue explore how we can increase investment in **new models of integrated care and support**. We will collaborate with key national and local partners to pilot an integrated model, bringing together clinical, social care and co-ordination support.
- We will continue to support work to **improve understanding of children’s palliative care**, investing in our public communications and collaborating with partners to improve how children’s palliative care is positioned in the media.

Campaigning for change

- We will launch our report into the availability of **24/7 care and support** at the end of life, following our work to map the extent to which local areas are meeting the NICE guidelines. The data will form the basis of an ongoing campaign to improve access to children’s palliative care, secure sufficient funding and develop a workforce to deliver care.
- We will work with the **All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for Children Who Need Palliative Care** at Westminster to ensure parliamentarians are aware of the barriers that prevent seriously ill children and their families from accessing palliative care. With the APPG, we plan to highlight the gaps in 24/7 children’s palliative care and continue our campaign for sustainable funding for short breaks.
- We will advocate for continued **fair funding and improved sustainability** of children’s palliative care, in all four nations including meeting the £300 million fund gap and securing commitments to maintain the Children’s Hospice Grant in England beyond 2004.

Future vision and strategy

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

With our current strategy ending in 2023, we will spend the coming year defining a new strategy. This will include setting a longer term vision and what change we want to see over the next decade, along with a rolling 2-3 operational plan which can adapt and change depending on the external environment. This will focus on how we can improve access to children's palliative care, as well as the quality and sustainability of support. We will engage with families and those with lived experience and professionals and services in children's palliative care to shape these priorities.

To ensure we maximise our impact, we will also review our Theory of Change to better define the difference we are trying to make and how we create change. Finally, to support the delivery of the strategy we will review our organisational values.

Acknowledgements

Delivering through partnership

We place great value on a collaborative approach, particularly with partners representing palliative and end of life care and disabled children. These include Hospice UK, the Council for Disabled Children, the Association of Paediatric Palliative Medicine, the European Association for Palliative Care, and the International Children's Palliative Care Network. We also seek to work collaboratively with UK and country governments and departments to ensure that the voice of children, young people and their families is heard and the view of our members better represented.

Role of Volunteers

Together for Short Lives benefits from the time and commitment given by volunteers who have helped with administrative duties for the charity on a regular basis, as well as helping on an ad hoc basis. The charity is very grateful to all our volunteers for their time, support and flexibility. and hopes to create further opportunities for volunteer involvement in the future.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also directors of Together for Short Lives for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP.
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

Provision of information to auditors

Each of the persons who are trustees at the time when this Trustees' Report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware, and
- that the trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a trustee in order to be aware of any information needed by the charitable company's auditors in connection with preparing their report and to establish that the charitable company's auditors are aware of that information.

Small Company Provisions

The directors have prepared this report in accordance with the special provisions of Statutory Instrument 2008/409 under the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

This report was approved by the trustees on and signed on their behalf by:



Dr Hilary Cass OBE. Chair

Date: 15 September 2022

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Together for Short Lives for the year ended 31 March 2022 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activity, the Consolidated and Charity Balance Sheets, the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and of the parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2022 and of the group's and parent charitable company's net movement in funds, including the income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' Report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the Trustees' Report (which incorporates the strategic report and the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees' Report (which incorporates the strategic report and the directors' report) has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and the parent charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report (which incorporates the strategic report and the directors' report).

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 and the Charity Accounts (Scotland) Regulations (as amended) require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent charitable company; or
- the parent charitable company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit

Responsibilities of trustees for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 22, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

Based on our understanding of the group and the environment in which it operates, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to charity and company law applicable in England, Wales and Scotland, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES

regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005.

We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls) and determined that the principal risks were related to revenue recognition, and management override of controls. Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

- Inspecting correspondence with regulators and tax authorities;
- Discussions with management including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulation and fraud;
- Reviewing the controls and procedures of the charity relevant to the preparation of the financial statements to ensure these were in place throughout the year, including during the Covid-19 remote working period;
- Evaluating management's controls designed to prevent and detect irregularities;
- Identifying and testing journals, in particular journal entries posted with unusual account combinations, postings by unusual users or with unusual descriptions; and
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in their critical accounting estimates.

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

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006, section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 10 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Jane Askew (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of
Haysmacintyre LLP
Statutory Auditors

10 Queen Street Place
London
EC4R 1AG

Date: 27.09.2022

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (incorporating an income and expenditure account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Note	Designated funds - legacy 2022 £	Other unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds excluding NFS 2022 £	Restricted Funds NFS 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
INCOME FROM:							
Donations and legacies	2	-	558,158	382,805	845,773	1,786,736	2,764,006
Other trading activities	2	-	577,745	264,034	426,280	1,268,059	333,841
Investments	2	-	55,759	-	-	55,759	51,269
Charitable activities	2	-	34,066	-	-	34,066	34,802
Other income	2	-	8,530	-	-	8,530	24,204
TOTAL INCOME	2	-	1,234,258	646,839	1,272,054	3,153,150	3,208,122
EXPENDITURE ON:							
Raising funds		236,024	598,702	-	73,356	908,082	423,032
Charitable activities		118,818	699,722	573,272	1,066,418	2,458,230	2,812,240
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	4	354,842	1,298,424	573,272	1,139,774	3,366,311	3,235,272
Net income/(expenditure) before revaluation		(354,842)	(64,166)	73,567	132,279	(213,162)	(27,150)
Gains on revaluations of investment assets		-	42,851	-	-	42,851	274,227
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(354,842)	(21,315)	73,567	132,279	(170,311)	247,077
Transfers between Funds	16	43,554	38,725	50,000	(132,279)	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS FOR THE YEAR		(311,288)	17,410	123,567	-	(170,311)	247,077
Total funds at start of year		2,615,636	1,520,483	177,546	-	4,313,665	4,066,588
TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR		2,304,348	1,537,893	301,113	-	4,143,354	4,313,665

All activities relate to continuing operations.

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Full comparatives for the year to 31 March 2021 are shown in notes 2 and 4.

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

REGISTERED NUMBER: 07783702

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

	Note	2022	2021
		£	£
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	11	42,648	15,081
Investments	12	3,645,743	3,602,892
		<u>3,688,391</u>	<u>3,617,973</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	13	1,113,458	1,223,488
Cash at bank		454,308	871,405
		<u>1,567,766</u>	<u>2,094,893</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	14	(1,112,803)	(1,399,201)
		<u>454,963</u>	<u>695,692</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>454,963</u>	<u>695,692</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>4,143,354</u>	<u>4,313,665</u>
CHARITY FUNDS			
Restricted funds NFS	16	-	-
Restricted funds excluding NFS	16	301,113	177,546
Designated fund - legacy		2,304,348	2,600,555
Other unrestricted funds	16	1,520,483	1,535,564
		<u>4,143,354</u>	<u>4,313,665</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>4,143,354</u>	<u>4,313,665</u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 15 September 2022 and signed on their behalf, by:

Bernie Watson



B Watson, Treasurer

Dr H Cass OBE, Chair

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

REGISTERED NUMBER: 07783702

CHARITY BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

	Note	£	2022	£	£	2021	£
FIXED ASSETS							
Tangible assets	11		42,648			15,081	
Investments	12		3,650,743			3,607,892	
			<u>3,693,391</u>			<u>3,622,973</u>	
CURRENT ASSETS							
Debtors	13	1,089,677			1,284,579		
Cash at bank		<u>396,573</u>			<u>796,167</u>		
			1,486,250		2,080,746		
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(1,036,287)</u>			<u>(1,390,054)</u>		
NET CURRENT ASSETS			449,963			690,692	
NET ASSETS			<u>4,143,354</u>			<u>4,313,665</u>	
CHARITY FUNDS							
Restricted funds NFS	16		-			-	
Restricted funds excluding NFS	16		301,113			177,546	
Designated fund - legacy			2,304,348			2,600,555	
Other unrestricted funds	16		<u>1,520,483</u>			<u>1,535,564</u>	
TOTAL FUNDS			<u>4,143,354</u>			<u>4,313,665</u>	

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 15 September 2022 and signed on their behalf, by:

Bernie Watson

B Watson, Treasurer



Dr H Cass OBE, Chair

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

The surplus of the parent charity was £170,310 (2021: deficit of £246,902).

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

GROUP STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Cash inflow from operating activities	a	<u>(429,302)</u>	<u>(295,121)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest income		52	322
Investment income		55,707	50,947
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(43,554)	(6,141)
Purchase of investments		-	(1,000,000)
Sale of investments		-	1,500,000
Cash used in investing activities		<u>12,205</u>	<u>545,128</u>
Increase in cash and cash equivalents in the year		<u>(417,097)</u>	<u>250,007</u>
Cash and short term investments at the beginning of the year		871,405	621,398
TOTAL CASH AND SHORT TERM INVESTMENTS AT THE END OF THE YEAR		<u><u>454,308</u></u>	<u><u>871,405</u></u>

a. RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2022 £	2021 £
Net income/(expenditure)	(170,311)	247,077
Depreciation charge	15,987	27,064
Interest income	(52)	(322)
Investment income	(55,707)	(50,947)
Gain on investments	(42,851)	(274,227)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	110,030	(915,660)
Increase in creditors	(286,398)	671,894
Net cash inflow from operating activities	<u><u>(429,302)</u></u>	<u><u>(295,121)</u></u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

1.1. Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2016) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Together for Short Lives meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

1.2. Preparation of accounts on a going concern basis

The review of our financial position since the introduction of the COVID-19 control measures has included forecasting income, expenditure and cashflow, access to available unrestricted funds and detailed planning for potential future events. The trustees consider there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period in excess of 12 months from the approval date of these accounts.

1.3. Company Status

Together for Short Lives is a company limited by guarantee, registered as a company in England and Wales (company number 7783702). The members of the company are the trustees named on page 1. In the event of the Together for Short Lives being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of Together for Short Lives.

1.4. Income

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to income, it is probable that income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Donations and gifts are included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when there is entitlement, probability of receipt and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Gifts in kind

Gifts in kind represent assets donated for distribution or use by the charity. Assets given for distribution are recognised as income only when distributed. Assets given for use by the charity are recognised when receivable. Gifts in kind are valued at the amount actually realised from the disposal of the assets or at the price the charity would otherwise have paid for the assets.

Grants

Grants are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which the charity has entitlement to the income, the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably and there is probability of receipt.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Income from charitable activities

Income from charitable activities is recognised as earned as the related services are provided. Income from other trading activities is recognised as earned as the related goods are provided.

Investment income

Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis once the amounts can be measured reliably.

1.5. Expenditure

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

- Costs of raising funds
- Expenditure on charitable activities

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

Expenditure is allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned based on staff time attributable to each activity.

Expenditure on raising funds for children's hospice services through the National Fundraising Scheme (NFS) is included under "Expenditure on charitable activities", as these are costs that we incur in supporting the children's palliative care sector and so are part of delivering our charitable purpose.

1.6. Allocation of costs

Staff costs are allocated between direct charitable expenditure and support costs based on the time spent on these activities. Other costs are allocated directly to the relevant heading.

1.7. Operating leases

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

1.8. Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

1.6. Employee benefits

Short term benefits

Short term benefits including holiday pay are recognised as an expense in the period in which the service is received.

Employee termination benefits

Termination benefits are accounted for on an accruals basis and in line with FRS 102.

Pension scheme

Together for Short Lives operates a defined contribution pension scheme for the benefit of its employees. The assets of the scheme are held independently from those of the Charity in an independently administered fund. The pensions costs charged in the financial statements represent the contributions payable during the year.

1.7. Basis of consolidation

The financial statements consolidate the accounts of Together for Short Lives and its subsidiary undertaking Together for Short Lives (Trading) Ltd. The company has taken advantage of the exemption contained within 408 of the Companies Act 2006 not to present its own Income and Expenditure Account.

1.8. Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date. The Statement of Financial Activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals throughout the year.

Investments in subsidiaries are valued at cost less provision for impairment.

Monies held in deposit accounts are classified as investments within current assets.

1.9. Tangible fixed Assets and depreciation

Fixed assets are initially recorded at cost. Expenditure on fixed assets costing £1,000 or less is written off as incurred.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Leasehold improvements	-	Straight line over the period of the lease
Fixtures and fittings	-	25% straight line
Office equipment	-	33.3% straight line

1.10. Debtors

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

1.11. Creditors and provisions

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

1.12. Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Critical judgements – legacy income recognition

During the year, the charity received notification of a residual legacy. The administration of the estate remains ongoing. In the Trustees judgement there is insufficient information available to measure the legacy due to the charity and therefore only the interim distribution received after the year end has been recognised in these accounts.

The trustees do not consider there are any other critical judgements or sources of estimation uncertainty requiring disclosure beyond the accounting policies listed above.

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

2. ANALYSIS OF INCOME

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Designated Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds excluding NFS 2022 £	Restricted Funds NFS 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Donations and legacies						
Donations	306,246	-	319,968	840,773	1,466,987	2,047,152
Legacies	24,718	-	-	-	24,718	29,163
Grants	227,195	-	62,837	5,000	295,032	687,691
	<u>558,159</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>382,805</u>	<u>845,773</u>	<u>1,786,736</u>	<u>2,764,006</u>
Other trading activities						
Licensing	70,028	-	264,034	291,541	625,603	48,608
Fundraising events	507,717	-	-	134,739	642,456	285,233
	<u>577,745</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>264,034</u>	<u>426,280</u>	<u>1,268,059</u>	<u>333,841</u>
Investments						
Bank interest	52	-	-	-	52	322
Investment income	55,707	-	-	-	55,707	50,947
	<u>55,759</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>55,759</u>	<u>51,269</u>
Charitable activities						
Membership fees	34,066	-	-	-	34,066	34,802
Conferences	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>34,066</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>34,066</u>	<u>34,802</u>
Other income	8,530	-	-	-	8,530	24,204
Total income	<u>1,234,258</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>646,839</u>	<u>1,272,053</u>	<u>3,153,150</u>	<u>3,208,122</u>

Comparative analysis for 2021

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

3. NET INCOME FROM TRADING ACTIVITIES OF SUBSIDIARY

Together for Short Lives owns 100% of the called up share capital of Together for Short Lives (Trading) Limited, a trading company registered in England and Wales, company number 06434214. A summary of the trading results of Together for Short Lives (Trading) Limited for the year ended 31 March 2022 is shown below. All taxable profits have been transferred to the Charity.

	2022	2021
	£	£
Turnover	624,222	47,124
Administrative expenses	(17,077)	(9,188)
Profit after tax	607,145	37,936
Payment under gift aid	(607,145)	(37,936)
Retained profit carried forward	-	-

At 31 March 2022 the total of share capital and reserves for the company was £5,000 (2021: £5,000). Net assets were £710,369 (2021: £75,236) and net liabilities were £705,369 (2020: £70,236).

4. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE

	Direct costs		Support		
	Grants	Other costs	costs	Total	Total
	2022	2022	2022	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Raising funds					
Raising funds for our core work	-	650,287	184,438	834,725	360,695
Raising funds for NFS income	-	54,922	18,434	73,356	62,337
	-	705,209	202,872	908,081	423,032
Charitable Activities					
National Charitable Activities	94,450	716,301	202,871	1,013,622	963,418
Cost of generating income for children's hospice (NFS)		260,577	98,566	359,143	353,244
Cost of generating income for children's hospice (Morrisons)		248,585		248,585	
Grants – National Fundraising Scheme (NFS)	707,276	-	-	707,276	1,150,478
Grants – Improving Transition for Young People Awards	-	-	-	-	160,500
Grants – Butterfly Fund	129,604	-	-	129,604	84,600
Grants – Relief Fund	-	-	-	-	100,000
Charitable activities	931,330	1,225,464	301,437	2,458,230	2,812,240
	931,330	1,930,672	504,309	3,366,311	3,235,272

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

4. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE (Continued)

	Direct costs		Support costs	Total
	Grants	Other costs	costs	2021
	2021	2021	2021	2021
	£	£	£	£
Comparative analysis for 2021				
Raising funds				
Raising funds for our core work	-	247,297	113,398	360,695
Raising funds for NFS income	-	44,787	17,550	62,337
	-	292,084	130,948	423,032
Charitable Activities				
National Charitable Activities	-	660,530	302,888	963,418
Cost of generating income for children's hospice (NFS)	-	253,794	99,450	353,244
Grants – National Fundraising Scheme (NFS)	1,150,478	-	-	1,150,478
Grants – Improving Transition for Young People Awards	327,123	-	-	160,500
Butterfly Fund Grants	84,600	-	-	84,600
Grants – Relief Fund	100,000	-	-	100,000
Charitable activities	1,495,578	914,325	402,337	2,812,240
	1,495,578	1,206,409	533,285	3,235,272

In 2021, £62,337 of expenditure on raising funds was restricted to NFS, and £360,695 was unrestricted.

£1,495,578 of expenditure on charitable activities was restricted, £353,244 was restricted to NFS and £963,418 was unrestricted.

5. ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT COSTS

	Total	Total
	2022	2021
	£	£
Staff costs	301,898	281,999
Depreciation	15,987	27,065
Governance costs	48,292	42,560
Other administrative costs	138,132	181,661
	504,309	533,285

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

6. GRANTS TO INSTITUTIONS

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds excluding NFS 2022 £	Restricted Funds NFS 2022 £	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
National Fundraising Scheme (NFS)	-	-	707,276	707,276	1,150,478
Improving Transitions for Young People Fund	-	32,068	-	32,068	160,500
Butterfly Fund Grants	-	129,604	-	129,604	84,600
Relief Fund Grants	-	-	-	-	100,000
	<u>-</u>	<u>161,672</u>	<u>707,276</u>	<u>868,948</u>	<u>1,495,578</u>

Grants payable under the National Fundraising Scheme are made to member charities providing children's palliative care services across the UK in line with donor wishes.

7. GOVERNANCE COSTS

	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Auditors' remuneration	14,260	14,360
Meeting costs	942	-
Trustees travel reimbursed	2,901	-
Wages and salaries	25,095	23,441
Employers NI	3,463	3,235
Pension costs	1,631	1,524
	<u>48,292</u>	<u>42,560</u>

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

	2022 £	2021 £
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets:	15,987	27,064
Auditors' remuneration	14,460	14,360
Operating lease payments	4,621	31,371
	<u></u>	<u></u>

During the year, no trustees received any remuneration (2021 – no trustees).

During the year, no trustees received any benefits in kind (2021 – no trustees).

During the year, 9 trustees received reimbursement of expenses amounting to £2,901 for travel, accommodation and subsistence (2021: 0 trustees).

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

9. AUDITORS' REMUNERATION	2022 £	2021 £
Fees payable to the charity's auditor for the audit of the charity's annual accounts	9,550	8,925
Fees payable to the charity's auditor in respect of:		
Together for Short Lives (Trading) Ltd	2,500	2,335
Non audit services	2,210	2,100
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

10. STAFF COSTS	2022 £	2021 £
Staff costs were as follows:		
Wages and salaries	1,141,731	1,046,612
Social security costs	125,156	101,655
Other pension costs	73,380	64,450
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	<u>1,340,267</u>	<u>1,212,717</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

No.	No.
<u>27</u>	<u>25</u>

The number of higher paid employees was:

In the band £60,001 - £70,000	3	3
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	3	2
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	-	-
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	1	1
	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>

Key management remuneration

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the Group were £521,391 (2021: £389,932).

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Group and Charity	Leasehold property improvements £	Fixtures and fittings £	Office equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 April 2021	85,059	18,512	95,210	198,781
Additions	30,494	-	13,060	43,554
	<u>115,553</u>	<u>18,512</u>	<u>108,270</u>	<u>242,335</u>
At 31 March 2022				
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2021	85,059	18,512	80,129	183,700
Charge for the year	4,524	-	11,463	15,987
	<u>89,583</u>	<u>18,512</u>	<u>91,592</u>	<u>199,687</u>
At 31 March 2022				
Net book value				
At 31 March 2022	25,970	-	16,678	42,648
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,081</u>	<u>15,081</u>
At 31 March 2021				

12. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Money Market Fund 2022 £	Listed securities 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Group				
Market value				
At 1 April	1,608,302	1,994,590	3,602,892	3,828,665
Additions	-	-	-	1,000,000
Disposals	-	-	-	(1,500,000)
Revaluations	-	42,851	42,851	274,227
	<u>1,608,302</u>	<u>2,037,441</u>	<u>3,645,743</u>	<u>3,602,892</u>
At 31 March				
Group investments at market value comprise:			2022 £	2021 £
Money Market Fund			2,037,441	1,994,590
Listed investments			1,608,302	1,608,302

All the fixed asset investments are held in the UK

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

12. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS (continued)

	Money Market Fund 2022 £	Listed securities 2022 £	Investments in subsidiary 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Charity				
Market value				
At 1 April	1,608,302	1,994,590	5,000	3,607,892
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	42,851	-	42,851
At 31 March	<u>1,608,302</u>	<u>2,037,441</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>3,650,743</u>

All the fixed asset investments are held in the UK.

Comparative analysis for 2021

	Money Market Fund 2021 £	Listed securities 2021 £	Investments in subsidiary 2021 £	Total 2021 £
Charity				
Market value				
At 1 April	721,118	3,107,547	5,000	3,833,665
Additions	1,000,000	-	-	1,000,000
Disposals	-	(1,500,000)	-	(1,500,000)
Revaluations	273,472	755	-	274,227
At 31 March	<u>1,994,590</u>	<u>1,608,302</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>3,607,892</u>

All the fixed asset investments are held in the UK.

13. DEBTORS

	Group		Charity	
	2022 £	2021 £	2022 £	2021 £
Trade debtors	396,610	19,350	8,010	19,350
Amounts owed by group undertakings	-	-	628,853	61,091
Other debtors	1,432	12,912	1,432	12,912
Prepayments and accrued income	715,416	1,191,226	451,382	1,191,226
	<u>1,113,458</u>	<u>1,223,488</u>	<u>1,089,677</u>	<u>1,284,579</u>

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

14. CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	Group		Charity	
	2022 £	2021 £	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors	66,758	54,168	66,758	54,168
Other taxation and social security	36,467	36,244	36,467	30,553
Other creditors	152,341	23,695	81,010	23,695
Accruals and deferred income	857,237	1,285,094	852,052	1,281,638
	<u>1,112,803</u>	<u>1,399,201</u>	<u>1,036,287</u>	<u>1,390,054</u>
15. ANALYSIS OF DEFERRED INCOME	Group		Charity	
	2022 £	2021 £	2022 £	2021 £
Deferred income at 1 April	1,519	68,153	1,519	68,153
Released to income in the year	(1,519)	(68,153)	(1,519)	(68,153)
Deferred in the year	4,740	1,519	4,740	1,519
	<u>4,740</u>	<u>1,519</u>	<u>4,740</u>	<u>1,519</u>
Deferred income at 31 March	<u>4,740</u>	<u>1,519</u>	<u>4,740</u>	<u>1,519</u>

Deferred income in 2022 relates to conference income, ball income and income from the Association for Paediatric Palliative Medicine (APPM).

Deferred income in 2021 related to income from the Association for Paediatric Palliative Medicine (APPM).

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

16. STATEMENT OF FUNDS

	Brought Forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/(out) £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Carried Forward £
Designated funds						
Designated fund - Legacy	2,600,555	-	(338,855)	-	-	2,261,700
Fixed asset fund	15,081	-	(15,987)	43,554	-	42,648
General funds	1,520,483	1,234,258	(1,298,424)	38,725	42,851	1,537,894
General Funds						
Total Unrestricted funds	4,136,119	1,234,258	(1,653,266)	82,279	42,851	3,842,241

Purpose of designated funds

The Fixed Asset fund

This fund relates to fixed assets and therefore is not available to cover the ongoing costs of the Charity, the balance is equal to the net book value in the accounts of fixed assets held by the charity.

Legacy fund

The trustees have designated this legacy to be invested in key strategic areas for children's palliative care – see Trustees' Annual Report.

	Brought Forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/(out) £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Carried Forward £
Restricted funds: National Fundraising Scheme						
Restricted NFS	-	1,272,054	(1,139,775)	(132,279)	-	-
Other restricted funds						
Butterfly Fund	13,283	30,370	(150,290)	-	-	(106,637)
Transition Grants	132,272	-	(59,385)	-	-	72,887
Family information & support	(1,900)	-	(13,880)	-	-	(15,780)
National Lottery	93	-	(914)	-	-	(821)
Disney	-	100,000	(4,319)	50,000	-	145,681
Morrison's (Hospices)	-	191,847	(248,585)	-	-	(56,738)
Morrison's (Project)	-	264,034	(33,866)	-	-	230,168
Other restricted funds	33,798	60,587	(62,032)	-	-	32,353
	177,546	646,839	(573,271)	50,000	-	301,113

16. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (CONTINUED)

Purpose of Restricted funds

Restricted NFS

The National Fundraising Scheme (NFS) is concerned with raising funds for distribution to children's hospice services. Further details on the income and costs of the scheme can be found in notes 2, 4 and 6.

Butterfly fund

This Fund provides grants of £300 to bereaved families, and the intention is that it is fully funded by a number of supporters. The current deficit balance represents the gap between fundraising receipts and the 63% increase in grant distribution this year. The trustees will keep the fund under close scrutiny, whilst maintaining the objective of reaching every bereaved family.

Transition Grants

This is our funding programme which seeks to address the significant difference in care experienced by young adults in their transition from children's to adult services.

Family Information and Support

We also received generous support for our Family Information and Support work this year from a number of funders supporting our helpline, advocacy service and information and resources that we provide for families. The deficit at the end of the year will be covered by income received in 2021-22.

Relief fund

The Relief fund was established in May 2020 in response to COVID-19 to provide 500 grants of £200 to families in need. The funding was provided by a number of trusts and foundations, individuals and companies and all the funds were distributed within 3 months.

National Lottery

This grant has enabled us to support families during COVID-19 by increasing capacity and access to the helpline (including LiveChat), expanding peer support and online communities, providing up to date information on COVID-19 and connecting and supporting the palliative care services that the families use.

Other restricted funds

Other restricted funds are immaterial amounts granted for restricted purposes; these include grants awarded by NHS England, the Scottish Government and Hospice UK.

Fund Transfers

The transfers from the general fund to the Fixed Asset Designated fund, was required to maintain the balance in the Fixed Asset Fund equal to the net book value of fixed assets in the balance sheet.

The transfer from the National Fundraising Scheme (NFS) Fund to the General Fund represents the share of NFS net income that will go towards the core work of the charity. The proportion of NFS income that is used for our core work varies among the different corporate partners, but is usually 15% of the total net income raised.

The transfer to the Disney Fund from the General Fund represents a balance carried forward at the end of the 2021 financial year which should have been disclosed as a restricted fund. As the amount is not material for the purpose of preparing these accounts it has been corrected within the current financial year. The funds have been applied in accordance with the wishes of the donor.

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

16. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (CONTINUED)

Comparative analysis for 2021

	Brought Forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/(out) £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Carried Forward £
Designated funds						
Designated fund - Legacy	2,672,000	-	(71,445)	-	-	2,600,555
Fixed asset fund	36,004	-	(27,065)	6,142	-	15,081
General funds						
General Funds	1,218,477	936,727	(1,065,694)	156,746	274,227	1,520,483
Total Unrestricted funds	<u>3,926,481</u>	<u>936,727</u>	<u>(1,164,204)</u>	<u>162,888</u>	<u>274,227</u>	<u>4,136,119</u>
	Brought Forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/(out) £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Carried Forward £
Restricted funds: National Fundraising Scheme						
Restricted NFS	<u>(40,548)</u>	<u>1,757,504</u>	<u>(1,566,059)</u>	<u>(150,897)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Other restricted funds						
Butterfly Fund	56,948	31,992	(103,046)	27,389	-	13,283
Transition Grants	98,307	243,787	(223,711)	13,889	-	132,272
Family information & support	25,400	-	-	(27,300)	-	(1,900)
Relief Fund	-	100,000	(100,000)	-	-	-
National Lottery	-	46,799	(32,580)	(14,126)	-	93
Other restricted funds	-	91,313	(45,672)	(11,843)	-	33,798
	<u>180,655</u>	<u>513,891</u>	<u>(505,009)</u>	<u>(11,991)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>177,546</u>

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

17. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds excluding NFS 2022 £	Restricted Funds NFS 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	42,648	-	-	42,648
Fixed asset investments	3,645,743	-	-	3,645,743
Current assets	1,233,570	301,113	-	1,534,883
Creditors due within one year	(1,079,720)	-	-	(1,079,720)
	<u>3,842,241</u>	<u>301,113</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,143,354</u>

Comparative analysis for 2021:

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds excluding NFS 2021 £	Restricted Funds NFS 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	15,081	-	-	15,081
Fixed asset investments	3,602,892	-	-	3,602,892
Current assets	1,917,347	177,546	-	2,094,893
Creditors due within one year	(1,399,201)	-	-	(1,399,201)
	<u>4,136,119</u>	<u>177,546</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,313,665</u>

18. PENSION COMMITMENTS

Employer's pension contributions paid in the year ended 31 March 2022 were £73,380 (2021: £60,450). Amounts shown in other creditors at the balance sheet date in respect of pension contributions outstanding were £12,686 (2021: £10,793).

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

19. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

At 31 March 2022 the group had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	Land and buildings		Equipment	
	2022	2021	2022	2021
Group and charity	£	£	£	£
Within 1 year	21,364	-	530	1,060
Between 2 and 5 years	69,433	-	-	530
	<u>90,797</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>530</u>	<u>1,590</u>

At 31 March 2022 the group was entitled to receive the following income under non-cancellable operating leases:

	2022	2021
Group and Charity	£	£
Within 1 year	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

20. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Several trustees of Together for Short Lives are also either trustees or employees of member charities. Some of these charity members benefit from grants under the National Fundraising Scheme (NFS), but the trustees do not benefit personally. Trustees set the rules of the scheme which determine how the money raised is shared among members, but they are not involved in specific decisions about how NFS money is distributed.

During the year the charity charged its trading subsidiary, Together for Short Lives Trading Limited, £10,779 (2021: £4,897) for management and licensing costs.

£nil donations relating to a charity auction were received from trustees in the year (2021: £50 donations were received from trustees in the year).

Accounts

Together for Short Lives

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 March 2021

Registered company number: 7783702

Registered charity numbers:

1144022 (England & Wales)

SC044139 (Scotland)

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES

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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE COMPANY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

Trustees

Dr Hilary Cass OBE, Chair (re-appointed 30 July 2020 for two year term – see page 5)
Sarah Talbot-Williams, Vice Chair
Bernie Watson, Treasurer
Arlene Honeyman (re-appointed 10 November 2020)
Paul Obey (re-appointed 10 November 2020)
Sue Hogg
Tracy Tait
Toby Porter
Jo Laddie
Adam Smith
Stephanie Nimmo
Alaana Linney (resigned 15 May 2021)

Company registered number

7783702

Charity registered numbers

1144022 (England & Wales)
SCO44139 (Scotland)

Registered office

Second Floor, New Bond House, Bond Street, Bristol, BS2 9AG

Chief executive officer

Andy Fletcher

Executive team

Andy Fletcher
Nick Carroll
Lizzie Chambers
Myra Johnson
Mala Langdon
Dr Helena Dunbar (from 1 March 2021)

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE COMPANY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

Independent auditor

Haysmacintyre LLP, 10 Queen Street Place, London, EC4R 1AG

Bankers

NatWest Plc, 32 Corn Street, Bristol, BS99 7UG
CCLA, Senator House, 85 Queen Victoria Street, London, EC4V 4ET

Investment managers

Sarasin & Partners LLP, Juxon House, 100 St Paul's Churchyard, London, EC4M 8BU

Solicitors

Veale Wasbrough Vizards, Narrow Quay House, Narrow Quay, Bristol BS1 4Q

Chair and Chief Executive's introduction

Welcome to Together for Short Lives' Annual Report and Accounts for 2020-21. We are here for the 99,000 children and young people living in the UK with life-limiting conditions and their families. We know they face many challenges – many require 24/7 care, much of it provided by families at home which can leave them feeling exhausted, isolated and alone. This loneliness has only been intensified by the pandemic, with many families shielding at home, anxious about the impact of COVID-19 on the wellbeing of their child and family. We believe no family should struggle through their child's short life alone, but instead be able to treasure every moment they have together.

This has been, without doubt, the most extraordinary and challenging year for everyone involved with Together for Short Lives – our committed team, the brilliant professionals and services delivering children's palliative care locally and the children and families we are here for.

But while it has been tumultuous for us all, we are very proud of what we have achieved this year. We have supported more families through our family hub, developing new ways to engage and support them during the pandemic. This included pivoting to a COVID-19 response service, developing online peer to peer opportunities for families to talk to one another and a hardship fund to support families in financial need.

We have supported professionals and services to weather the storm, successfully advocating for sustainability funding, providing information and advice and opportunities to share and spread new and innovative ways of delivering care during this extraordinary period. All this against the backdrop of uncertainty for all charities as restrictions impacted on our ability to fundraise.

It has been a year where the size and the scale of the challenge that we face, has been laid bare by new evidence. In April, we saw the publication of data on the prevalence of children and young people with life-limiting and life-threatening illness from the Martin House Research Centre at the University of York. It showed that the number of such children and young people in England had trebled in the last 20 years and is set to continue to grow by up to a further 70% over the next decade. We know that this trend is the same across the UK, with around 99,000 children living with these conditions.

We also know that many families are living increasingly challenging and complex lives, with a high proportion living in areas of social and economic disadvantage and many feeling isolated and lonely. We also have new evidence this year about the impact on parental physical and mental health, with mothers of children with life-limiting illness being 50% more likely to die prematurely.

This is absolutely not acceptable, nor is it unavoidable. We can do something about this if we choose to prioritise it with:

- 24/7 acute and community healthcare in hospital, children's hospices and at home;
- Thoughtfully planned and funded social care; and
- Respite breaks and psycho-social support.

This focus on securing round the clock support for these children and families will drive our work over the coming year – whether in campaigning for sustainable levels of funding, supporting professionals to increase their knowledge and skills, sharing good practice and reaching more families with information and advice.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

We have been indebted to our amazing supporters, staff and volunteers who have enabled us to deliver so much this year. As a consequence of their generous support and our prudent management of costs, we will end the year in a good financial position and ready to step up to the challenge of growing need and demand.

We know there is much to do, and it will not be easy. We have not yet seen the long-term psychological impact of the pandemic on children and families or on professionals working in the NHS and voluntary sector. And the future of fundraising is also uncertain as we emerge from a year of restrictions. While there will be challenges ahead, we are confident we can meet them, working closely with our partners to improve our impact. We will not rest until children, young people and families get consistent and sustainable support, wherever they live and for as long as they need it.

Dr Hilary Cass OBE
Chair of Trustees

Andy Fletcher
Chief Executive

Trustees' Annual Report

The trustees (who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act) present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of Together for Short Lives (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The trustees confirm that the Annual Report and Financial Statements of the charity comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charity's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (second addition - effective 1 January 2019)".

Structure, Governance and Management

Objectives of the charity

The objectives of the charity are promoting for the public benefit the support of children and young people with life-limiting conditions such that:

- children and young people and their families have as fulfilling lives as possible; and
- children and young people receive the best care at the end of life.

Constitution

Together for Short Lives is a registered charity and was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee on 4th October 2011. The constitution of the charity is set out in the Memorandum and Articles of Association. Trustees are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act.

The charity has one wholly owned subsidiary charity: Together for Short Lives (Trading) Ltd (Company number 06434214), a company which is registered in England and Wales and is used for fundraising activities.

Board of Trustees

The charity is governed by its Board of Trustees, which is detailed on page 1. All trustees give of their time freely and no trustee remuneration was paid in the year. Details of trustee expenses and related party transactions are disclosed in note 8 and note 20 to the accounts.

Trustees may hold office for three years. At the end of their first term, they can be re-elected for one further three-year term. Any Trustee who has served two terms of office is not eligible for re-appointment as a Trustee unless there are exceptional reasons. In July 2020, because of the stability required in the pandemic, the trustees voted to waive the two-term restriction to re-elect Hilary Cass for a shorter third term of two years. The third term will end on 31 March 2023.

The charity aims to appoint trustees to the board across a wide range of backgrounds, skills, and regions.

Induction and training of trustees

On appointment, new trustees receive an induction pack containing key information about the charity and its governance structure. To support their induction, new trustees are matched with an existing trustee in a "buddy scheme". In addition, new trustees are encouraged to meet with other existing trustees and are invited to visit the charity's offices to meet with the Executive Team and other staff.

Ongoing training for trustees is given as required; in general, all trustees are encouraged to maintain or enhance their knowledge, especially in areas in which they are not expert. There is a trustee development session at each full Board meeting exploring issues such as current trends in fundraising and children's palliative care policy and practice.

Sub Committees of the Board

The trustees perform their governance role via the full Board which meets at least four times a year. During the year there have been three committees which are formally constituted as committees of the Board of Trustees and the Board approves the Terms of Reference.

- Finance, Governance and Fundraising Committee
- Appointments Committee

The recorded actions and minutes of committee meetings are submitted to the Board of Trustees at its next meeting. There is a written scheme of delegation that sets out which decisions are made by the Board, committees, or staff and this is reviewed regularly. The committees therefore have certain delegated authority within their areas of responsibility, and these are subsequently reported to the Board for information. However, in other areas, they are only able to make recommendations to the Board.

Committees are able to co-opt to their membership other individuals who may bring particular expertise to that committee.

Advisory Council

Following a Governance structural review, in autumn 2019, the Advisory Council was established to be more representative of the membership. Representatives from across the children's palliative care sector contribute their expertise and communicate their views on issues affecting children's palliative care to inform and advise the work of Together for Short Lives. It is an integral part of the strategic planning for the charity.

Remuneration for key management staff

The charity aims to ensure that appropriate remuneration packages are set to attract, retain and motivate an appropriate calibre of employees. The Pay and Reward policy is currently under review for fairness, transparency and equity.

Salary benchmarking is undertaken to compare roles with similar positions within the charity and not for profit sector.

Decisions on setting pay levels are made as follows:

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

- For staff apart from Senior Managers and the Chief Executive, by Senior Managers in conjunction with the Director of Finance & Resources
- For Senior Managers other than Chief Executive, by the Chief Executive
- For the Chief Executive, by the Board of Trustees.

The Board has final approval of all pay rises across the organisation.

The numbers of higher paid employees are:

In the band £60,001 - £70,000	3	3
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	1	-
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	1	1
	5	4

Safeguarding

Together for Short Lives is committed to protecting children and vulnerable adults from harm, promoting their health and welfare and minimizing the adverse consequences of neglect or abuse.

We have a safeguarding policy and a whistle blowing procedure, so anyone can raise any concerns they have confidentially. These policies are reviewed annually. We have a designated safeguarding lead within the staff team. Safeguarding is a standing agenda item at every Executive Team meeting. We carry out DBS record checks for all new staff and volunteers and an enhanced check for those working on our helpline service with families.

We believe that safeguarding is everybody's business, and we provide safeguarding training as part of the induction process, which provides information on the process for raising concerns and escalating any issues. This year, staff who work directly on the helpline have attended additional training on safeguarding relating to helplines and the designated safeguarding lead attended an NSPCC training course.

As our service is remote rather than face to face, we have specific procedures that relate to a helpline service. During the year we installed a new Case Manager system for our helpline, which means that any safeguarding concerns can be logged securely on the system. Our new call handling system means that the telephone number of service users could be traced by the police if there are serious concerns. We had 8 safeguarding concerns raised over the year, mainly due to concerns over parental mental health. In all cases procedures were followed, support offered, and concerns were escalated to the relevant safeguarding partnership organisation as appropriate. We use the ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training) as a process if a caller states that they feel suicidal.

Diversity and Inclusion

In common with many others in the sector, we have a good deal of work to do before we are a fully inclusive organisation where everybody can be themselves and feel that they belong.

We have started our journey by:

- Joining the Employers' Network for Equality and Inclusion (ENEI)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

- Better understanding the diversity of our existing workforce
- Benchmarking ourselves using their tool to understand where we have progress to make
- Identifying actions - for example, for recruitment removing the requirement for a degree unless necessary and eliminating full names, school and colleges or universities from applications.
- Establishing a staff EDI group – this group is designed to take forward the actions identified and also acts as a forum for individuals to come together, to share ideas, raise awareness of challenges and provide support to each other.
- Giving all staff basic diversity training
- We are a Disability Confident employer

Equality, Diversity and inclusion will continue to be a priority in our work in two key areas:

- Attracting and appointing more diverse candidates to improve the diversity of our workforce
- Reaching more families from Pakistani and South Asian communities, where we know the prevalence of children with life-limiting conditions is higher.

Membership

The charity operates a membership scheme for organisations and professionals working in the children's palliative care sector. We work with 62 organisations that are involved in caring for and supporting children and young people across the UK, including all 38 organisations which run children's hospice services. We also work with over 100 professionals, including doctors, nurses, play and social care professionals, therapists, teachers, carers and students. There is a membership fee structure for most of our organisational and professional members.

Public benefit

The trustees have taken account of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and are satisfied that the activities undertaken in the year are in line with this guidance, as evidenced in the Activities, Achievements and Performance section below.

Our Strategy

Our vision

For children and young people with life-limiting conditions to have as fulfilling lives as possible, and the best care at the end of life.

Underpinning this vision is a commitment to the rights of all children and young people to a fulfilling life, regardless of their health, ethnicity, social or economic circumstances.

Our mission

Our mission is to secure the best quality of life and best end of life care for children who will have short lives.

Our values

Our values enable us to deliver our strategy:

We listen to families and our work is shaped by what they tell us

Families are at the heart of everything we do. We listen to children, young people and families and our work is shaped by their experiences and needs.

We are compassionate and responsive

We are compassionate and caring about everything we do. We are open, honest and responsive to the needs of children, young people and families, and everyone we work with.

We will collaborate and bring people together

We will bring the children's palliative care sector together so that we can achieve more for children, young people and families. We will work in partnership, collaborate, share expertise and bring a unifying spirit to children's palliative care.

We are innovative, creative and will act as a catalyst for change

We are innovative, creative and unafraid to challenge the status quo. We will always go the extra mile and explore new ways of working to deliver the very best for children, young people and families.

We are passionate and determined

We are passionate, determined, and ambitious about helping children, young people and families to live as full lives as possible. We will not stop until every family gets the care, support and services that they need.

Our strategic priorities

There are 99,000+ children and young people are living in the UK with health conditions that are life-limiting or life-threatening and the number is rising.

These children and their families rely on a network of many excellent and invaluable services which make up children's palliative care which is available across the UK: hospitals, children's hospices, community children's nurses, social care providers, educators, wish-makers, therapists, psychologists, sibling workers, bereavement counsellors and many, many more. Our five-year strategy aims to provide a voice for these children and their families and to enable much needed support to the sector.

A strong and sustainable children's palliative care sector for the 99,000+

There are serious risks to the long-term sustainability of the children's palliative care sector. The number of babies, children and young people with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions is growing, and they are living longer with complex conditions. Policy and funding are not keeping pace with their needs, and many individuals and vital charities struggle to develop new and sustainable fundraising income. As a result, services are overstretched, and family support is inadequate.

Supported and empowered children, young people and families

The support children and families receive is patchy and variable. Choice remains a laudable public policy aim but is severely limited by the availability of funded services. Families face a postcode lottery of support, and many of them struggle to get access to the services and support they need. This can leave families feeling frustrated, isolated and alone while facing the challenge of providing 24/7 care for their child.

Joined up policy, services, care and support for children and families

Services are not adequately or consistently joined up around the family and their needs. Policy-makers, funders and commissioners too often operate independently leading to inefficient or ineffective funding arrangements. Families and professionals continue to be frustrated by the lack of co-ordination across health and wider care services, which significantly increases the burden on those seeking care and those providing care.

Changing hearts and minds: Greater understanding and support for children's palliative care

There is a low-level understanding of children's palliative care in both public and wider professional arenas. Too often knowledge of hospice and palliative care is focused on end of life, as opposed to also achieving a quality of life. This creates barriers to good policy making, efficient and effective care and support. There is a cultural and societal fear of death and discomfort with talking about it, especially in relation to children. This compounds families' sense of isolation and loneliness.

Activities, Achievements and Performance

We have detailed below under each of our strategic headings our activities and achievements for the year.

A strong and sustainable children's palliative care sector for the 99,000+

The pandemic had an unprecedented impact on the way in which children's palliative care providers were funded during 2020-21.

Recognising the potential impact of funding reductions for children's hospices and other voluntary providers of children's palliative care, we worked in partnership with Hospice UK, Marie Curie and Sue Ryder Care to emphasise the important role hospices could play in supporting the NHS during the first wave of the pandemic. We very much welcomed the UK Government's subsequent decision to allocate up to £200 million for children's and adult hospices from April until July 2020 – and a subsequent £125 million package between December and March 2021. Consequential funding for hospices was agreed by the Northern Ireland Executive and the Scottish and Welsh Governments. We helped some other, non-hospice voluntary sector children's palliative care providers to gain access to this vital funding and worked with national infrastructure organisations to press for wider funding for vital charities.

We have been active members of the NHSE/I Children and Young People's (CYP) Palliative and End of Life Care (PEoLC) Governance Group. Through this, we have helped officials to develop a proposal for a capitated approach to allocating the Children's Hospice Grant, informed by existing data on the number of cases of life-limiting and life-threatening conditions in CYP in local areas across England. We have encouraged our VCS and statutory sector members to work together to

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

apply for NHSE/I children's palliative care match funding. This has led to some vital services receiving new NHS funding from their local CCGs.

Ahead of the 2021 Senedd elections, we joined Tŷ Hafan and Tŷ Gobaith in calling for a new sustainable 'Lifeline Fund' for children's hospices in Wales and for funding parity with the rest of the UK. We also highlighted the dearth of community children's nurses (CCNs) in Wales with the skills and experience needed to provide palliative care to children and young people. We calculated that the current shortfall in CCNs stands at 240.

We supported Children's Hospices Across Scotland's call for a fresh, sustainable funding settlement from the Scottish Government ahead of the Scottish Parliamentary elections in May 2021.

In October, we launched our #GiveMeABreak campaign following the publication of our new report with Julia's House Children's Hospice. This included new research by Pro Bono Economics, in association with volunteers from Compass Lexecon, which set out the positive impact that short breaks have. The research has estimated that 11% of parents of children who need respite delivered by children's palliative care providers would experience significantly less stress as a result of receiving breaks – improving their physical and mental health, reducing number of GP visits, reducing demand for mental health services and reducing in the number of days taken off work by around 2-3 days per year. Working with the MPs and peers through the relaunched All-Party Parliamentary Group for Children Who Need Palliative Care, we campaigned for the government to create an annual ringfenced £434 million grant for local councils to fill the funding gap in social care services for disabled children.

Supported and empowered children, young people and families

COVID-19 has had a big impact on the ways that we have supported families this year. Many families lost earnings and had increased costs due to the pandemic and in response to this we secured funding to provide a £200 Relief Grant to 500 families. We also worked with a corporate partner to provide food parcels to families at the beginning of the pandemic

We secured funding to enable us to develop new ways of connecting families and we piloted a range of virtual platforms to enable peer support, with a 'Virtual Cuppa' group for mums and a Brew's Brothers' group for dads. The outbreak of COVID-19 meant that many families caring for seriously ill children were more isolated than ever and these groups provided a valuable regular meeting for them to talk to other parents. Alongside peer support groups, we trialled holding a informational webinar, hosted by two parents with doctors providing information about the impact of COVID-19 for families caring for a life limited child.

We also saw a growth in membership of our "Families Together" private Facebook group, which now has 293 members. We also host a Facebook group for bereaved parents, "Still Their Parent" and a small group for male carers "Brews Brothers". We support parents to moderate these groups themselves.

We have continued to grow our Family Support Hub to reach more families living with a seriously ill child, investing in our helpline and resources for families. We responded to 881 queries from families and young people via our helpline and information service and introduced new systems enable Livechat and for the helpline to be delivered from home.

At the year-end we had 57 families that we were continuing to support through our 'Voices for Families' legal advice and support service and 43 cases that were completed during the year. This

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service, delivered in partnership with LawWorks, provides a volunteer legal professional to support families to advocate for their needs when they are faced with difficult issues such as inadequate care packages or inappropriate housing. Due to COVID-19, we saw the take up of this service dip as families were shielding and taking on extra caring burdens, but there has been a sudden spike in referrals from March.

We extended the Butterfly Fund that we had piloted the previous year and rolled this out nationally to all our member organisations so that they could make referrals on behalf of families. This Fund provides a £300 grant to families whose child has died. This year we have provided 282 grants to families.

We have continued to push for policy change to improve the lives of families. With our fellow steering group members of the Disabled Children's Partnership (DCP), we have called on the UK Government to develop a COVID-19 recovery fund. This sought to re-establish the lifeline therapies that disabled children, including those who need palliative care, were unable to access during the pandemic.

We have also continued to take part in discussions with the Department of Work and Pensions about the future of the disability living allowance (DLA) benefit. This examined the process of claiming DLA; how the government currently defines terminal illness for the purpose of fast tracking benefit claims; and the legal barrier that children under the age of three who rely on bulky medical equipment face in accessing the DLA mobility component.

Joined up policy, services, care and support for children and families

We have continued to respond to the needs of professionals during COVID-19 and throughout the year we hosted meetings to bring together various professional forums such as Leaders of Care, Practice Education Leads and Family Support Leads, which were an invaluable platform for sharing new practice and ways of safely managing services during COVID-19.

We were forced to cancel our national face-to-face conference which was due to take place at the end of March 2020, but packaged up some of the key content and delivered a series of six webinars for professionals. The webinars covered topics such as dealing with changing demographics, challenging cases, ethics and defining what we mean by children's palliative care given the changing demographics. These were very well attended – with 965 delegates joining the sessions.

Throughout the year we hosted meetings to bring together various professional forums such as Leaders of Care, Practice Education Leads and Family Support Leads, which were an invaluable platform for sharing new practice and ways of safely managing services during COVID-19.

We were commissioned by Hospice UK to deliver a series of virtual workshops to help children's hospices manage the impact of the pandemic. These workshops covered a range of topics including how to:

- staff services safely
- comply with the Care Quality Commission's (CQC) regulatory regime
- effectively plan a workforce
- complete the new NHS Capacity Tracker.

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Children's hospices were grateful for the opportunities to hear from officials and from their peers to understand best practice and discuss how to implement it within their own organisations.

In the early part of the pandemic, we worked closely with NHSE/I to press for children's hospices to receive regular weekly supplies of personal protective equipment (PPE). We helped NHSE/I to convene an expert group to advise officials in writing a standard operating procedure (SOP) for children's palliative care in the community and in children's hospices during the pandemic. This was significantly delayed, but following our work to engage MPs, peers and senior officials, we were successful in our campaign to get the SOP published for our sector to use in June.

We have continued to work with the innovation projects funded through our *'Improving Transitions for Young People Fund'*. All but two of the projects have completed by the end of this year and had extensions to their projects due to the impact of COVID-19. These projects will finish in the summer, and we will be carrying out an evaluation to capture and share learning that we hope will:

- stimulate new services for young people transferring from children's services to adult services,
- maximise the chances of these new services being sustainable and
- mobilise learning so that it can be adopted more widely.

As well as direct support to the projects, we have continued to facilitate sharing and learning events to spread emerging knowledge of what works.

We have also actively engaged in the new NHSE/I PEOLC programme, which aims to make access to care more sustainable and equitable. We have linked the existing children's palliative care networks with seven new regional PEOLC strategic clinical networks (SCNs). These new bodies could play a crucial role in bringing new NHS integrated care systems (ICSs) together to jointly plan and fund children's palliative care across hospital, community and children's hospice settings. We have helped to shape the criteria by which NHSE/I will hold SCNs to account, which include appointing a funded children's palliative care lead in each SCN region.

We have continued to collaborate closely with a range of organisations to improve the co-ordination of support for children and young people with life-limiting illness. In addition to being steering group members of the Disabled Children's Partnership, we have continued to be active members of:

- the Ambitions Partnership for Palliative and End of Life Care
- the Children and Young People's Cancer Coalition
- the NHSE/I Children and Young People Stakeholder Council
- the National Children's Bureau and Council for Disabled Children Health Policy Influencing Group.

Changing hearts and minds: Greater understanding and support for children's palliative care

During the year we raised awareness of the needs of children and families and the services they need, sharing stories on our website and through proactive media and social media campaigns. We have focused on sharing powerful stories that showed the impact of the pandemic on vulnerable

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
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families caring for a seriously ill child, exacerbating feelings of isolation and loneliness. We have reached out to these families through PR and social media channels, to help them feel less alone, providing the latest guidance on COVID-19, and helping them get the right support. Over the year we have promoted new ways of supporting families including our new online chat service and Butterfly Fund for grieving families.

We delivered key awareness campaign moments, including promoting new research showing that the number of seriously ill children has doubled over the last 20 years, and our Forgotten Families study that revealed 93% of families caring for seriously ill children and families felt isolated alone in lockdown. Whilst gaining media traction has been challenging this year, we secured 1,440 items of positive coverage, with a reach of around 365 million people, far exceeding last year's reach.

We continue to support families and the sector via our social channels and website. Website unique visits have grown by about 11% this year to around 157,000 visits. There were around 69,000 visits to our family support pages and over 50,000 family resources viewed and 27,000 publications downloads. We have invested in improving family user journeys via the website and making our online information more accessible. We have grown supporter awareness and engagement online with a 200% increase in donation transactions, raising about £23,000.

We delivered Children's Hospice Week in June 2020, our annual awareness and fundraising campaign, bringing together the 54 children's hospices across the UK. Although delivering the campaign at the height of the pandemic was challenging, the reach, engagement and impact was far greater. In terms of media reach, we delivered 857 items of PR coverage for Children's Hospice Week reaching an audience of 227 million, compared to 739 clips and a reach of 88 million in 2019. The campaign theme focused on the impact of the pandemic on seriously ill children and families and the extraordinary way hospices have gone the extra mile to support vulnerable families while taking the pressure off the NHS. Children's Hospice Week attracted some very high-profile support celebrity and Royal support, with HRH Duchess of Cambridge, HRH Duchess of Cornwall and HRH Countess of Wessex adding their voice and support to the campaign. Plus our patrons Holly Willoughby and Mason Mount delivered personal video messages of support, increasing our reach and engagement.

Together for Short Lives has grown its Patrons Programme, launching Chelsea and England football player Mason Mount's patronage in January 2021. Mason has already had a big impact on our work with children and families, both through his own fundraising and awareness and helping Together for Short Lives reach new audiences, which should enhance our ability to raise funds and awareness.

We have re-launched the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for Children Who Need Palliative Care at Westminster. Co-chaired by Conservative MP Dr Caroline Johnson and Labour MP Siobhain McDonagh, the APPG will work with us to make sure parliamentarians are aware of the barriers that prevent seriously ill children and their families from accessing palliative care. With the APPG, we plan to highlight the gaps in 24/7 children's palliative care and continue our campaign for sustainable funding for short breaks.

Despite the restrictions on holding face to face meetings, we have exceeded our annual target for conversations with politicians and officials, which have all been held virtually. We had 270 two-way interactions in 2020-21, including 187 with government and NHS officials, two with Care Minister Helen Whately and 71 with other MPs.

Financial review

Overall Financial Performance

The Statement of Financial Activities shows Designated Funds, Unrestricted Funds, Restricted Funds (excluding the National Fundraising Scheme (NFS)) and NFS. The Designated Fund is shown separately from the Unrestricted Fund as it is ring fenced for specific activities (see below). The National Fundraising Scheme is shown as a separate restricted fund as its activities are concerned with raising funds for distribution to children's hospice services, as detailed in note 16.

The net deficit for all funds for the year before investment revaluations was £27k (2020: net income of £1,292k). The fall from last year is mostly due to £1,272k (the final tranche of the exceptional designated legacy income) being received in 2020. Excluding this legacy income, the net income for 2020 was £20k. As we had budgeted a large deficit, we are delighted to be reporting a much smaller one; this is due to better than expected levels of income (especially emergency COVID-19 funding) and depressed or delayed spending. Our Unrestricted Funds (excluding Designated Funds) remain above the target range at year-end.

The unrealised gain on investments has resulted in total funds carried forward increasing to £4,314k (2020: £4,067k). This was allocated amongst the various funds as follows:

- Designated Funds from legacy £2,601k
- Other Unrestricted Funds £1,536k
- Restricted funds (excluding NFS) £178k
- National Fundraising Scheme - Nil

Funds for our core work

Funds relating to our core work, as opposed to the National Fundraising Scheme, are shown in the 2 columns in the Statement of Financial Activities labelled "Unrestricted Funds" and "Restricted Funds (excluding NFS)".

Income

We achieved gross income of £1,452k (2020: £2,156k excluding the large legacy income of £1,272k), which is £704k lower than the prior year. In 2020, approximately c£250k of Gift in Kind income was recognised; as this amount recognised a large volume of one off gifts, the amount has fallen this year to £12k. To ensure we remain sustainable, we continue to grow our core income streams, especially that of philanthropy, in the coming year. The trading subsidiary made a profit of £38k (2020: £57k) which was donated to the charity under covenant.

Designated Fund

The money from the large legacy received in 2019 and 2020 has been ringfenced by the trustees in a Designated Fund. The specific activities on which this fund can be spent must be approved by the trustees and if an ongoing activity, must be self-sustaining within 2 years.

Phase one of our planned spend was focussed on building capacity. While we have spent money on ongoing direct services, there has been a focus on building a sustainable base from which to support children and their families and professionals in the sector in the long term. This includes

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implementing our five year fundraising strategy as well developing digital tools to extend our reach.

Activities this year have included investment in

- Direct support to families via the Family hub
- Brand definition and development
- Major Giving development

COVID-19 meant that we achieved less than we had planned in 20-21 so many of the activities have been rolled over into 21-22. Additionally, we gained third party support for much of the IT work that we were able to do.

Expenditure

Expenditure on our core work for the year was £1,669k (2020: £2,221k), considerably lower than the prior year. Of this, £1,309k was spent on our charitable activities (2020: £1,517k) with the remaining £361k (2020: £704k) spent on raising funds.

Details of our achievements during the year can be seen in the section of this report headed 'Activities, Achievements and Performance'.

National Fundraising Scheme (NFS)

This scheme raises income and awareness through national corporate partnerships, and the net income raised is shared with local children's hospice services across the UK who would not otherwise be able to access national partnerships.

The scheme raised £1,758k (2020 £963k) during the year from its various fundraising campaigns, including £1m from M&S Food. After a deduction for direct costs, and a contribution to our core costs, £1,151k (2020: £466k) was distributed across 39 children's hospices.

Following a strategic review of the scheme in December 2019, the member driven Strategic Advisory Group has been established, and there has been investment in brand development culminating in the "Pushed to the Limits" campaign.

Grant Making Policy

Our major grant making programme, '*Improving Transitions for Young People Fund*', came to an end in 2021. Further details of this grant scheme can be found under Activities, Achievements and Performance. Funding for this scheme was given by three trusts.

Having launched a pilot programme in 2019, the '*Butterfly Fund*' has been rolled out nationally this year. The fund provides a £300 grant to families whose child has died. Funding is provided by a number of trusts and foundations, individuals and companies.

As an urgent response to COVID-19, in May 2020 we launched a "*Relief Fund*" providing 500 grants of £200 to families in need. Again, funding was provided by a number of trusts and foundations, individuals and companies.

Fundraising Strategy

This was the first year of our new five-year fundraising strategy which focuses on driving more sustainable growth. We revisited our plans during the year to ensure that we were able to react appropriately to the impact of COVID-19. The objectives of the strategy remain sound, and we have made good progress particularly with developing a clearer fundraising brand for our core work to

attract new support, which was rolled out successfully at Christmas.

Our focus continues to be on the development of scalable, long-term programmes for funding and investing in the development of certain areas, including growing our philanthropy programme, and improving our online fundraising and individual giving.

We have invested in these areas to ensure we can secure sustainable income in future years and believe that they remain the right areas of focus to mitigate any impact from COVID-19 or any subsequent recession.

Fundraising approach and performance

Thanks to our generous supporters, and our ability to react quickly we were able to lessen the impact of COVID-19 on our fundraised income. We had expected to be about 30% worse off than budget but have managed to bring reduce this to around 20%. However, we believe the year ahead will be challenging due to increased competition for funds and less emergency funding available.

The underlying performance of our core fundraising channels remains strong, and we have a professional and passionate team. A key focus continues to be ensuring the long-term stability of our income and diversifying our income streams. This year we had notable success in fundraising for our bereavement fund, and our emergency relief fund for families. We saw strong support come from the trust and foundation sector, a range of support for our first Christmas appeal in several years, including gifts from our corporate supporters, online and patrons and philanthropists.

Despite 2020-21 being a tough business for many of our corporates, with them having to close their businesses to the public, we had a remarkable year of fundraising for the National Fundraising Scheme, with nearly £1.8 million raised. This is in part due to the generosity of the customers and supporters at the amazing businesses that partner with us, plus the significant support we had from our two newest partners: M&S Food and Premier Foods.

The charity undertakes fundraising activity with its supporters through corporate partnerships, challenge events, a gala ball, payroll giving, and other activities in line with the Fundraising Code of Practice set by Fundraising Regulator. Our privacy policy, (which is available on our website), states that:

"If you support us, for example by signing up to an event, donating or signing up to a campaign, we will usually collect your name, contact details, and whether you would like to be contacted, and how we would do so.

We use this information to thank you for supporting us and to provide you with further communications about our activities according to your preferences and interests. We also use it to fulfil our legal responsibilities for financial and Gift Aid reporting.

We will keep your data only for as long as necessary."

We work with partner organisations so that supporters can take part in professionally organised challenge events and we have clear agreements with those companies who will not use participants' personal details for any other reason.

The charity is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and adheres to the standards of the Fundraising Code of Practice. No complaints about our fundraising activity were received in the year.

Reserves policy

The trustees of the charity review the reserves policy each year. The policy states that the charity will hold Unrestricted Funds, excluding Designated Funds and those which are tied up in functional fixed assets, sufficient to cover:

- A potential shortfall in income by the amounts that have been identified as 'at risk'.
- Additional costs, if specifically identified risks on the risk register with a high cost attached to them, do occur.
- A reduction in value of 20% of the charity's investment fund.

The policy states that the target reserves should be within 15% of the amount calculated through this method. This would enable the charity to continue its activities during a period of reduced income due to changes in fundraising success or other factors. It should also ensure that the reserves, as calculated above, are sufficient to cover the expected liabilities if the charity were to be wound up.

Following this calculation for 2020-21, the policy states that the target reserves for the charity should be between £975k and £1,319k (2020: £868k-£1,175k). At 31st March 2021 general reserves (unrestricted reserves excluding designated reserves) totalled £1,520k (2020: £1,218k), which is above the target range. The trustees have considered this and agreed to some funding in 21-22 from the Designated Fund. They consider the balance on the unrestricted reserves to be prudent during economically volatile times.

As at 31st March 2021, the charity has restricted reserves of £178k. These reserves are all committed to be spent in the next financial year. In addition to the general reserves discussed above, there is a designated fund equivalent to the value of our fixed assets of £15k.

COVID-19 and Going Concern

The financial effect of COVID-19 has been mitigated as far as possible by emergency funding and prudent financial management, so that the net effect on the results of the charity are not significant in the years to come. The trustees are confident that the charity continues to be a going concern.

There were no significant events in year that had a financial impact on the charity.

Investment Policy and Performance

The organisation's investment policy was last reviewed in October 2020 and is as follows:

- For working capital, in order to ensure adequate cash flow, the equivalent of at least three months' expenditure should be held in instantly accessible cash deposits.
- Any additional funds held on a temporary basis, such as money raised for members through the National Fundraising Scheme, will be invested in cash deposits over an appropriate period so as to maximise return while ensuring the money is available when needed.
- Funds held in excess of the above will be invested over the longer term with the overall aim to achieve long term capital growth. The aim is to ensure that the reserves maintain their real capital value in the long term and should at least exceed inflation (as measured by RPI).

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- The investment policy also includes an ethical policy, which states that the trustees choose to invest only in funds that have ethical investment principles and policies, and that are managed by asset managers who have published a “statement of commitment” to the Financial Reporting Council’s current UK Stewardship Code. Trustees review the suitability of the investments within the portfolio at least annually.
- The funds (including Designated Funds) available for long term investment are placed with Sarasin & Partners, in their Endowments Fund for Charities. The fund is measured against a bespoke benchmark and performance against this benchmark is monitored by the Finance & Governance Committee twice per year. The trustees consider the fund’s performance over the last year to have been acceptable.

Charity’s measure of performance

The charity measures its performance by monitoring various key performance indicators (KPIs) which are reported to the board and sub-committees on a quarterly basis. These reports are also reviewed by cross-departmental groups that focus on each of the four strategic aims. Numerical targets are used where appropriate and performance monitored against these.

Risk management

The risk register is reviewed at every Executive Team meeting, Finance, Governance and Fundraising Committee meeting and Board of Trustees’ meeting. The register identifies the major risks to which the charity is exposed together with the actions and systems in place to mitigate or reduce the exposure to those risks.

The principal risks and uncertainties at the time of writing, and plans and strategies for managing them are:

- Reputational risk from adverse publicity: Risk assessments are in place, the Patrons and Ambassadors Strategy has been reviewed and a new process for researching Patron fit with charity is being put in place.
- Fundraising income threats as a result of COVID-19: The plans for income generation are set out above; the five year fundraising plan is under regular review to ensure we effectively target our resources
- Loss of key staff; TfSL strives to be a flexible and responsive employer, and recent staff survey bears this out. There has been a renewed focus in training and development in the last year, and we endeavour to provide development opportunities in house. As a relatively small organisation this is not always possible, and we celebrate the career progression of leavers while ensuring that we have sufficient succession planning in place.

Plans for the future

Over the coming year we will continue to support families and the professionals and services that care for them in a number of ways

Supporting families

- We will continue to **grow our Family Support Hub** to respond to the ever-growing needs of families caring for a seriously ill child. This includes expanding our **digital reach and services for families**, developing a more responsive and accessible digital hub that provides

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tailored information and support to families, wherever they are in their child's palliative care journey.

- We will explore ways of **improving co-ordination** for families, to help them better navigate the system. We are exploring this model on a partnership basis with national and local children's palliative care charities, with a shared vision to bring services together and develop joined up care and support that meets the holistic needs of children and their families.
- To accompany our Perinatal Pathway for care professionals, we plan to produce a **perinatal resource for parents** to help them understand what to expect and what support is available to them, before and after their baby is born. This follows the 'Make Every Child Count' report which highlighted that prevalence of life-limiting conditions is by far greatest in children under the age of 1, as is the number of deaths.
- Following a successful pilot, we will roll out our **Butterfly Fund** across the UK to help relieve some of the financial burden families face when coping with the death of a child. We have identified referral agents in 20 regional sites, across hospice, hospital, and community settings, and plan to create a self-referral element on our website to make it as easy as possible for families to access grants.

Supporting professionals and services

- We plan to scope and develop a **core education programme, aimed primarily at non children's palliative care specialists** to support professionals to understand children's palliative care and how to introduce it when having difficult conversations with families about their child's prognosis.
- We plan to scope the feasibility of a **Quality Improvement programme for children's palliative care services**, offering bespoke support to help organisations or network areas to improve the quality and availability of their services. We plan to use the standards from Together for Short Lives' care pathways, as well as the NICE guidelines in England, to identify areas for improvement and will explore accreditation when services meet the required standards.
- We will continue work to improve reach and support for **families from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic backgrounds**. We will publish a review of literature on barriers to access and identify ways services are successful in meeting the needs of different communities and embed identified good practice across the sector and also to improve the reach of our family support.
- We will publish the evaluation of our **Improving Transitions for Young People** programme. We will cascade learning and support the rollout of successful innovations through a programme of education, consultancy and lobbying, both at a local and national level.
- We are launch our new digital **professional shared learning forum**. where care professionals can connect with peers globally and join specific groups to discuss different specialisms and projects.

- We will **update key professional resources**, including our Extubation Care Pathway and our guide to transition: 'Stepping Up', which will incorporate the latest data on the prevalence of young people with life-limiting conditions.

Campaigning for change

- Families face a postcode lottery of support when it comes to accessing out of hours care. We are undertaking a **service-mapping** exercise with our members and children's palliative care networks to establish the extent to which different elements of children's palliative care are available to families and to identify where the gaps are. We will use this map to influence those who plan, fund, and provide children's palliative care and will launch a national campaign in 2021 to raise awareness of the need for **24/7 children's palliative care**, calling for investment to help fill the gaps.
- We will work with the **All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for Children Who Need Palliative Care** at Westminster to ensure parliamentarians are aware of the barriers that prevent seriously ill children and their families from accessing palliative care. With the APPG, we plan to highlight the gaps in 24/7 children's palliative care and continue our campaign for sustainable funding for short breaks.
- We will support the sector to **build back from the COVID-19**, including working closely to ensure that the new NHS England End of Life Care programme reflects the needs of children and young people as well as adults.

Future vision and strategy

We are approaching the end of our strategy which has itself been significantly impacted by the pandemic.

Over the coming year we will review our vision, purpose and values to ensure we are fit for purpose to support as many families, services and professionals as possible. This first phase will be about getting the central building blocks in place, setting a long term ambition and purpose which focuses our work and energizes our team. It will involve participation and input from all the team, our partners in the sector and crucially those with lived experience of children's palliative care. In this first phase we will review and define our vision and purpose and develop a rolling 2-3 year plan to deliver it.

Acknowledgements

Delivering through partnership

We place great value on a collaborative approach, particularly with partners representing palliative and end of life care and disabled children. These include Hospice UK, the Council for Disabled Children, the Association of Paediatric Palliative Medicine, the European Association for Palliative Care, and the International Children's Palliative Care Network. We also seek to work collaboratively with UK and country governments and departments to ensure that the voice of children, young people and their families is heard and the view of our members better represented.

Role of Volunteers

Together for Short Lives benefits from the time and commitment given by volunteers who have

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helped with administrative duties for the charity on a regular basis, as well as helping on an ad hoc basis. The charity is very grateful to all our volunteers for their time, support and flexibility. and hopes to create further opportunities for volunteer involvement in the future.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also directors of Together for Short Lives for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP.
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

Provision of information to auditors

Each of the persons who are trustees at the time when this Trustees' Report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware, and
- that the trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a trustee in order to be aware of any information needed by the charitable company's auditors in connection with preparing their report and to establish that the charitable company's auditors are aware of that information.

Small Company Provisions

The directors have prepared this report in accordance with the special provisions of Statutory Instrument 2008/409 under the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

This report was approved by the trustees on and signed on their behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hilary Cass', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dr Hilary Cass OBE. Chair

Date: 28 July 2021

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Together for Short Lives for the year ended 31 March 2021 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activity, the Consolidated and Charity Balance Sheets, the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and of the parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and of the group's and parent charitable company's net movement in funds, including the income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' Report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the Trustees' Report (which incorporates the strategic report and the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees' Report (which incorporates the strategic report and the directors' report) has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and the parent charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report (which incorporates the strategic report and the directors' report).

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 and the Charity Accounts (Scotland) Regulations (as amended) require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent charitable company; or
- the parent charitable company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit

Responsibilities of trustees for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 22, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

Based on our understanding of the group and the environment in which it operates, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to charity and company law applicable in England, Wales and Scotland, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES

might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005.

We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls) and determined that the principal risks were related to revenue recognition, and management override of controls. Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

- Inspecting correspondence with regulators and tax authorities;
- Discussions with management including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulation and fraud;
- Reviewing the controls and procedures of the charity relevant to the preparation of the financial statements to ensure these were in place throughout the year, including during the Covid-19 remote working period;
- Evaluating management's controls designed to prevent and detect irregularities;
- Identifying and testing journals, in particular journal entries posted with unusual account combinations, postings by unusual users or with unusual descriptions; and
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in their critical accounting estimates.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006, section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 10 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Jane Askew (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of
Haysmacintyre LLP
Statutory Auditors

10 Queen Street Place
London
EC4R 1AG

Date: 23 September 2021

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (incorporating an income and expenditure account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Note	Designated funds - legacy 2021 £	Other unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds excluding NFS 2021 £	Restricted Funds NFS 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
INCOME FROM:							
Donations and legacies	2	-	500,775	513,891	1,749,340	2,764,006	3,553,012
Other trading activities	2	-	325,677	-	8,164	333,841	723,340
Investments	2	-	51,269	-	-	51,269	29,252
Charitable activities	2	-	34,802	-	-	34,802	34,944
Other income	2	-	24,204	-	-	24,204	50,515
TOTAL INCOME	2	-	936,727	513,891	1,757,504	3,208,122	4,391,063
EXPENDITURE ON:							
Raising funds		41,395	319,300	-	62,337	423,032	777,998
Charitable activities		30,050	773,459	505,009	1,503,722	2,812,240	2,321,290
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	4	71,445	1,092,759	505,009	1,566,059	3,235,272	3,099,288
Net income/(expenditure) before revaluation		(71,445)	(156,032)	8,882	191,445	(27,150)	1,291,775
Gains on revaluations of investment assets		-	274,227	-	-	274,227	(29,751)
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(71,445)	118,195	8,882	191,445	247,077	1,262,024
Transfers between Funds	16	-	162,888	(11,991)	(150,897)	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS FOR THE YEAR		(71,445)	281,083	(3,109)	40,548	247,077	1,262,024
Total funds at start of year		2,672,000	1,254,481	180,655	(40,548)	4,066,588	2,804,564
TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR		2,600,555	1,535,564	177,546	-	4,313,665	4,066,588

All activities relate to continuing operations.

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Full comparatives for the year to 31 March 2020 are shown in notes 2 and 4.

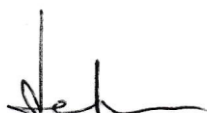
TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

REGISTERED NUMBER: 07783702

**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2021**

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	11	15,081	36,004
Investments	12	3,602,892	3,828,665
		<u>3,617,973</u>	<u>3,864,669</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	13	1,223,488	307,828
Cash at bank		871,405	621,398
		<u>2,094,893</u>	<u>929,226</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	14	(1,399,201)	(727,307)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>695,692</u>	<u>201,919</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>4,313,665</u>	<u>4,066,588</u>
CHARITY FUNDS			
Restricted funds NFS	16	-	(40,548)
Restricted funds excluding NFS	16	177,546	180,655
Designated fund - legacy		2,600,555	2,672,000
Other unrestricted funds	16	1,535,564	1,254,481
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>4,313,665</u>	<u>4,066,588</u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 28 July 2021 and signed on their behalf, by:


B Watson, Treasurer


Dr H Cass OBE, Chair

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

REGISTERED NUMBER: 07783702

CHARITY BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2021

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	11	15,081	36,004
Investments	12	3,607,892	3,833,665
		<u>3,622,973</u>	<u>3,869,669</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	13	1,284,579	383,456
Cash at bank		<u>796,167</u>	<u>537,244</u>
		2,080,746	920,700
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(1,390,054)</u>	<u>(723,781)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		690,692	196,919
NET ASSETS		<u>4,313,665</u>	<u>4,066,588</u>
CHARITY FUNDS			
Restricted funds NFS	16	-	(40,548)
Restricted funds excluding NFS	16	177,546	180,655
Designated fund - legacy		2,600,555	2,672,000
Other unrestricted funds	16	<u>1,535,564</u>	<u>1,254,481</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>4,313,665</u>	<u>4,066,588</u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 28 July 2021 and signed on their behalf, by:



B Watson, Treasurer



Dr H Cass OBE, Chair

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

The surplus of the parent charity was £246,902 (2020: deficit of £41,669).

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

GROUP STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Cash inflow from operating activities	a	<u>(295,121)</u>	<u>3,120,953</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest income		322	3,161
Investment income		50,947	26,091
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(6,141)	(8,561)
Purchase of investments		(1,000,000)	(3,100,000)
Sale of investments		1,500,000	-
Cash used in investing activities		<u>545,128</u>	<u>(3,079,309)</u>
Increase in cash and cash equivalents in the year		250,007	41,644
Cash and short term investments at the beginning of the year		621,398	579,754
TOTAL CASH AND SHORT TERM INVESTMENTS AT THE END OF THE YEAR		<u>871,405</u>	<u>621,398</u>

a. RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2021 £	2020 £
Net income	247,077	1,262,024
Depreciation charge	27,064	37,836
Interest income	(322)	(3,161)
Investment income	(50,947)	(26,091)
Gain on investments	(274,227)	29,751
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(915,660)	1,379,472
Increase in creditors	671,894	441,122
Net cash inflow from operating activities	<u>(295,121)</u>	<u>3,120,953</u>

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

1.1. Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2016) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Together for Short Lives meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

1.2. Preparation of accounts on a going concern basis

The review of our financial position since the introduction of the COVID-19 control measures has included forecasting income, expenditure and cashflow, access to available unrestricted funds and detailed planning for potential future events. The trustees consider there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period in excess of 12 months from the approval date of these accounts.

1.3. Company Status

Together for Short Lives is a company limited by guarantee, registered as a company in England and Wales (company number 7783702). The members of the company are the trustees named on page 1. In the event of the Together for Short Lives being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of Together for Short Lives.

1.4. Income

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to income, it is probable that income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Donations and gifts are included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when there is entitlement, probability of receipt and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Gifts in kind

Gifts in kind represent assets donated for distribution or use by the charity. Assets given for distribution are recognised as income only when distributed. Assets given for use by the charity are recognised when receivable. Gifts in kind are valued at the amount actually realised from the disposal of the assets or at the price the charity would otherwise have paid for the assets.

Grants

Grants are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which the charity has entitlement to the income, the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably and there is probability of receipt.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Income from charitable activities

Income from charitable activities is recognised as earned as the related services are provided. Income from other trading activities is recognised as earned as the related goods are provided.

Investment income

Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis once the amounts can be measured reliably.

1.5. Expenditure

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

- Costs of raising funds
- Expenditure on charitable activities

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

Expenditure is allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned based on staff time attributable to each activity.

Expenditure on raising funds for children's hospice services through the National Fundraising Scheme (NFS) is included under "Expenditure on charitable activities", as these are costs that we incur in supporting the children's palliative care sector and so are part of delivering our charitable purpose.

1.6. Allocation of costs

Staff costs are allocated between direct charitable expenditure and support costs based on the time spent on these activities. Other costs are allocated directly to the relevant heading.

1.7. Operating leases

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

1.8. Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

1.6. Employee benefits

Short term benefits

Short term benefits including holiday pay are recognised as an expense in the period in which the service is received.

Employee termination benefits

Termination benefits are accounted for on an accruals basis and in line with FRS 102.

Pension scheme

Together for Short Lives operates a defined contribution pension scheme for the benefit of its employees. The assets of the scheme are held independently from those of the Charity in an independently administered fund. The pensions costs charged in the financial statements represent the contributions payable during the year.

1.7. Basis of consolidation

The financial statements consolidate the accounts of Together for Short Lives and its subsidiary undertaking Together for Short Lives (Trading) Ltd. The company has taken advantage of the exemption contained within 408 of the Companies Act 2006 not to present its own Income and Expenditure Account.

1.8. Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date. The Statement of Financial Activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals throughout the year.

Investments in subsidiaries are valued at cost less provision for impairment.

Monies held in deposit accounts are classified as investments within current assets.

1.9. Tangible fixed Assets and depreciation

Fixed assets are initially recorded at cost. Expenditure on fixed assets costing £1,000 or less is written off as incurred.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Leasehold improvements	-	Straight line over the period of the lease
Fixtures and fittings	-	25% straight line
Office equipment	-	33.3% straight line

1.10. Debtors

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

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

1.11. Creditors and provisions

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

1.12. Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Critical judgements – legacy income recognition

During the year, the charity received notification of a residual legacy. The administration of the estate remains ongoing. In the Trustees judgement there is insufficient information available to measure the legacy due to the charity and therefore only the interim distribution received after the year end has been recognised in these accounts.

The trustees do not consider there are any other critical judgements or sources of estimation uncertainty requiring disclosure beyond the accounting policies listed above.

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

2. ANALYSIS OF INCOME

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Designated Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds excluding NFS 2021 £	Restricted Funds NFS 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Donations and legacies						
Donations	133,844	-	163,968	1,749,340	2,047,152	1,409,680
Legacies	29,163	-	-	-	29,163	1,379,578
Grants	337,768	-	349,923	-	687,691	763,753
	<u>500,775</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>513,891</u>	<u>1,749,340</u>	<u>2,764,006</u>	<u>3,553,011</u>
Other trading activities						
Licensing	40,444	-	-	8,164	48,608	141,947
Fundraising events	285,233	-	-	-	285,233	581,393
	<u>325,677</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,164</u>	<u>333,841</u>	<u>723,340</u>
Investments						
Bank interest	322	-	-	-	322	3,161
Investment income	50,947	-	-	-	50,947	26,091
	<u>51,269</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>51,269</u>	<u>29,252</u>
Charitable activities						
Membership fees	34,802	-	-	-	34,802	34,944
Conferences	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>34,802</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>34,802</u>	<u>34,944</u>
Other income	24,204	-	-	-	24,204	50,515
Total income	<u>936,727</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>513,891</u>	<u>1,757,504</u>	<u>3,208,122</u>	<u>4,391,063</u>

Comparative analysis for 2020

In 2020, no donations income in 2020 was restricted (excluding NFS), £869,041 was restricted to NFS and £540,639 was unrestricted with £nil recognised in designated funds.
£93,790 of fundraising events income was restricted to NFS.
£349,923 of Grants income was restricted (excluding NFS). All other income in 2020 was unrestricted.

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

3. NET INCOME FROM TRADING ACTIVITIES OF SUBSIDIARY

Together for Short Lives owns 100% of the called up share capital of Together for Short Lives (Trading) Limited, a trading company registered in England and Wales, company number 06434214. A summary of the trading results of Together for Short Lives (Trading) Limited for the year ended 31 March 2021 is shown below. All taxable profits have been transferred to the Charity.

	2021	2020
	£	£
Turnover	47,124	66,620
Administrative expenses	(9,188)	(9,250)
Profit after tax	37,936	57,370
Payment under gift aid	(37,936)	(57,370)
Retained profit carried forward	-	-

At 31 March 2021 the total of share capital and reserves for the company was £5,000 (2020: £5,000). Net assets were £75,236 (2020: £84,154) and net liabilities were £70,236 (2020: £79,154).

4. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE

	Direct costs	Support		
	Grants	Other costs	costs	
	2021	2021	2021	
	£	£	£	
Raising funds				
Raising funds for our core work	-	247,297	113,398	360,695
Raising funds for NFS income	-	44,787	17,550	62,337
	-	292,084	130,948	423,032
Charitable Activities				
National Charitable Activities	-	660,530	302,888	963,418
Cost of generating income for children's hospice (NFS)	-	253,794	99,450	353,244
Grants – National Fundraising Scheme (NFS)	1,150,478	-	-	1,150,478
Grants – Improving Transition for Young People Awards	160,500	-	-	160,500
Grants – Butterfly Fund	84,600	-	-	84,600
Grants – Relief Fund	100,000	-	-	100,000
Charitable activities	1,495,578	914,325	402,337	2,812,240
	1,495,578	1,206,409	533,285	3,235,272

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

4. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE (Continued)

	Grants 2020 £	Direct costs Other costs 2020 £	Support costs 2020 £	Total 2020 £
<i>Comparative analysis for 2020</i>				
Raising funds				
Raising funds for our core work	-	423,011	280,548	703,559
Raising funds for NFS income	-	56,852	17,587	74,439
	-	479,863	298,135	777,998
Charitable Activities				
National Charitable Activities	-	926,743	245,596	1,172,339
Cost of generating income for children's hospice (NFS)	-	238,981	99,413	338,394
Grants – National Fundraising Scheme (NFS)	465,734	-	-	465,734
Grants – Improving Transition for Young People Awards	327,123	-	-	327,123
Butterfly Fund Grants	17,700	-	-	17,700
Charitable activities	810,557	1,165,724	345,009	2,321,290
	810,557	1,645,587	643,144	3,099,288

In 2020, £74,439 of expenditure on raising funds was restricted to NFS, and £703,559 was unrestricted.

£810,557 of expenditure on charitable activities was restricted, £338,394 was restricted to NFS and £1,172,339 was unrestricted.

5. ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT COSTS

	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Staff costs	281,999	269,350
Depreciation	27,065	37,836
Governance costs	42,560	51,763
Other administrative costs	181,661	284,195
	533,285	643,144

TOGETHER FOR SHORT LIVES
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

6. GRANTS TO INSTITUTIONS

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds excluding NFS 2021 £	Restricted Funds NFS 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
National Fundraising Scheme (NFS)	-	-	1,150,478	1,150,478	465,734
Improving Transitions for Young People Fund	-	160,500	-	160,500	327,173
Butterfly Fund Grants	-	84,600	-	84,600	17,700
Relief Fund Grants	-	100,000	-	100,000	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>345,100</u>	<u>1,150,478</u>	<u>1,495,578</u>	<u>810,557</u>

Grants payable under the National Fundraising Scheme are made to member charities providing children's palliative care services across the UK in line with donor wishes.

We continued to award grants from our Improving Transitions for Young People Fund. We have secured a total of £1m for this fund that will be distributed over the next year.

7. GOVERNANCE COSTS

	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Auditors' remuneration	14,360	15,109
Meeting costs	-	3,304
Trustees travel reimbursed	-	6,415
Wages and salaries	23,441	22,390
Employers NI	3,235	3,090
Pension costs	1,524	1,455
	<u>42,560</u>	<u>51,763</u>

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

	2021 £	2020 £
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets:	27,064	37,836
Auditors' remuneration	14,360	13,495
Operating lease payments	31,371	50,517
	<u></u>	<u></u>

During the year, no trustees received any remuneration (2020 - no trustees).

During the year, no trustees received any benefits in kind (2020 – no trustees).

During the year, no trustees received any reimbursement of expenses for travel, accommodation and subsistence (2020: 15 trustees - £6,416).

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9. AUDITORS' REMUNERATION

	2021	2020
	£	£
Fees payable to the charity's auditor for the audit of the charity's annual accounts	8,925	8,450
Fees payable to the charity's auditor in respect of:		
Together for Short Lives (Trading) Ltd	3,335	2,225
Non audit services	2,100	2,820
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

10. STAFF COSTS

	2021	2020
	£	£
Staff costs were as follows:		
Wages and salaries	1,046,612	1,053,005
Social security costs	101,655	102,917
Other pension costs	64,450	70,483
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	<u>1,212,717</u>	<u>1,226,405</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

No.	No.
25	30
<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The number of higher paid employees was:

In the band £60,001 - £70,000	3	2
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	2	-
In the band £80,001 - £90,000		1
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	1	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>

Key management remuneration

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the Group were £389,932 (2020: £343,728).

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11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Group and Charity	Leasehold property improvements £	Fixtures and fittings £	Office equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 April 2020	85,059	18,512	89,069	192,640
Additions	-	-	6,141	6,141
	<u>85,059</u>	<u>18,512</u>	<u>95,210</u>	<u>198,781</u>
At 31 March 2021	85,059	18,512	95,210	198,781
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2020	74,095	18,512	64,029	156,636
Charge for the year	10,964	-	16,100	27,064
	<u>85,059</u>	<u>18,512</u>	<u>80,129</u>	<u>183,700</u>
At 31 March 2021	85,059	18,512	80,129	183,700
Net book value				
At 31 March 2021	-	-	15,081	15,081
	<u>10,964</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25,040</u>	<u>36,004</u>
At 31 March 2020	10,964	-	25,040	36,004

12. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

Group	Money Market Fund 2021 £	Listed securities 2021 £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Market value				
At 1 April	721,118	3,107,547	3,828,665	758,416
Additions	1,000,000	-	1,000,000	3,100,000
Disposals	-	(1,500,000)	(1,500,000)	-
Revaluations	273,472	755	274,227	(29,751)
	<u>1,994,590</u>	<u>1,608,302</u>	<u>3,602,892</u>	<u>3,828,665</u>
At 31 March	1,994,590	1,608,302	3,602,892	3,828,665
Group investments at market value comprise:			2021 £	2020 £
Money Market Fund			1,994,590	3,107,547
Listed investments			1,608,302	721,118

All the fixed asset investments are held in the UK

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12. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS (continued)

	Money Market Fund 2021 £	Listed securities 2021 £	Investments in subsidiary 2021 £	Total 2021 £
Charity				
Market value				
At 1 April	721,118	3,107,547	5,000	3,833,665
Additions	1,000,000	-	-	1,000,000
Disposals	-	(1,500,000)	-	(1,500,000)
Revaluations	273,472	755	-	274,227
At 31 March	<u>1,994,590</u>	<u>1,608,302</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>3,607,892</u>

All the fixed asset investments are held in the UK.

Comparative analysis for 2020

	Money Market Fund 2020 £	Listed securities 2020 £	Investments in subsidiary 2020 £	Total 2020 £
Charity				
Market value				
At 1 April	-	758,416	5000	763416
Additions	3,100,000	-	-	3,100,000
Revaluations	7,547	(37,298)	-	(29,751)
At 31 March	<u>3,107,547</u>	<u>721,118</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>3,833,665</u>

All the fixed asset investments are held in the UK.

13. DEBTORS

	Group		Charity	
	2021 £	2020 £	2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors	19,350	13,764	19,350	13,764
Amounts owed by group undertakings	-	-	61,091	75,629
Other debtors	12,912	9,784	12,912	9,783
Prepayments and accrued income	1,191,226	284,280	1,191,226	284,280
	<u>1,223,488</u>	<u>307,828</u>	<u>1,284,579</u>	<u>383,456</u>

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14. CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	Group		Charity	
	2021 £	2020 £	2021 £	2020 £
Trade creditors	54,168	37,158	54,168	37,158
Other taxation and social security	36,244	34,301	30,553	34,301
Other creditors	23,695	21,073	23,695	21,073
Accruals and deferred income	1,285,094	634,775	1,281,638	631,249
	<u>1,399,201</u>	<u>727,307</u>	<u>1,390,054</u>	<u>723,781</u>
15. ANALYSIS OF DEFERRED INCOME	Group		Charity	
	2021 £	2020 £	2021 £	2020 £
Deferred income at 1 April	68,153	110,729	68,153	110,729
Released to income in the year	(68,153)	(110,729)	(68,153)	(110,729)
Deferred in the year	<u>1,519</u>	<u>68,153</u>	<u>1,519</u>	<u>68,153</u>
Deferred income at 31 March	<u>1,519</u>	<u>68,153</u>	<u>1,519</u>	<u>68,153</u>

Deferred income in 2021 relates to income from the Association for Paediatric Palliative Medicine (APPM).
Deferred income in 2020 related to grants received in advance and conference income.

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16. STATEMENT OF FUNDS

	Brought Forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/(out) £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Carried Forward £
Designated funds						
Designated fund - Legacy	2,672,000	-	(71,445)	-	-	2,600,555
Fixed asset fund	36,004	-	(27,065)	6,142	-	15,081
General funds						
General Funds	1,218,477	936,727	(1,065,694)	156,746	274,227	1,520,483
Total Unrestricted funds	3,926,481	936,727	(1,164,204)	162,888	274,227	4,136,119

Purpose of designated funds

The Fixed Asset fund

This fund relates to fixed assets and therefore is not available to cover the ongoing costs of the Charity, the balance is equal to the net book value in the accounts of fixed assets held by the charity.

Legacy fund

During the year the charity received the second and final payment of £1,272k of the large legacy notified in 2020. The trustees have designated this legacy to be invested in key strategic areas for children's palliative care – see Trustees' Annual Report.

	Brought Forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/(out) £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Carried Forward £
Restricted funds: National Fundraising Scheme						
Restricted NFS	(40,548)	1,757,504	(1,566,059)	(150,897)	-	-
Other restricted funds						
Butterfly Fund	56,948	31,992	(103,046)	27,389	-	13,283
Transition Grants	98,307	243,787	(223,711)	13,889	-	132,272
Family information & support	25,400	-	-	(27,300)	-	(1,900)
Relief Fund	-	100,000	(100,000)	-	-	-
National Lottery	-	46,799	(32,580)	(14,126)	-	93
Other restricted funds	-	91,313	(45,672)	(11,843)	-	33,798
	180,655	513,891	(505,009)	(11,991)	-	177,546

16. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (CONTINUED)

Purpose of Restricted funds

Restricted NFS

The National Fundraising Scheme (NFS) is concerned with raising funds for distribution to children's hospice services. Further details on the income and costs of the scheme can be found in notes 2, 4 and 6.

Butterfly fund

This Fund provides grants of £300 to bereaved families, and is fully funded by a number of supporters.

Transition Grants

This is our funding programme which seeks to address the significant difference in care experienced by young adults in their transition from children's to adult services.

Family Information and Support

We also received generous support for our Family Information and Support work this year from a number of funders supporting our helpline, advocacy service and information and resources that we provide for families. The deficit at the end of the year will be covered by income received in 2021-22.

Relief fund

The Relief fund was established in May 2020 in response to COVID-19 to provide 500 grants of £200 to families in need. The funding was provided by a number of trusts and foundations, individuals and companies and all the funds were distributed within 3 months.

National Lottery

This grant has enabled us to support families during COVID-19 by increasing capacity and access to the helpline (including LiveChat), expanding peer support and online communities, providing up to date information on COVID-19 and connecting and supporting the palliative care services that the families use.

Other restricted funds

Other restricted funds are immaterial amounts granted for restricted purposes; these include grants awarded by NHS England, the Scottish Government and Hospice UK.

Fund Transfers

The transfers from the general fund to the Fixed Asset Designated fund, was required to maintain the balance in the Fixed Asset Fund equal to the net book value of fixed assets in the balance sheet.

The transfer from the National Fundraising Scheme (NFS) Fund to the General Fund represents the share of NFS net income that will go towards the core work of the charity. The proportion of NFS income that is used for our core work varies among the different corporate partners, but is usually 15% of the total net income raised.

The transfer into the Butterfly fund from the general fund represents running costs of the fund. Both the Family and Information and Support and Voices for Families funds were included in the Transitions fund balance in 2019-20. These have been separated out in 20-21.

Funds representing the marketing and materials and support costs for the National Lottery Fund have been transferred from that fund into the general fund.

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16. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (CONTINUED)

Comparative analysis for 2020

	Brought Forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/(out) £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Carried Forward £
Designated funds						
Fixed asset fund	65,280	-	(37,836)	8,561	-	36,004
Designated fund - Legacy	1,400,000	1,272,000	-	-	-	2,672,000
General funds						
General Funds	1,331,711	1,736,275	(1,811,148)	73,830	(29,751)	1,300,918
Total Unrestricted funds	2,796,991	3,008,275	(1,848,984)	82,391	(29,751)	4,008,922
Restricted funds: National Fundraising Scheme						
Restricted NFS	(42,421)	962,831	(960,958)	(82,391)	-	(122,939)
Other restricted funds						
Transition Grants	52,294	400,000	(353,987)	-	-	98,307
Butterfly Fund	-	74,648	(17,750)	-	-	56,898
Family information & support	(2,300)	27,700	-	-	-	25,400
	49,994	502,348	(371,737)	-	-	180,605

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17. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds excluding NFS 2021 £	Restricted Funds NFS 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	15,081	-	-	15,081
Fixed asset investments	3,602,892	-	-	3,602,892
Current assets	1,917,347	177,546	-	2,094,893
Creditors due within one year	(1,399,201)	-	-	(1,399,201)
	<u>4,136,119</u>	<u>177,546</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,313,665</u>

Comparative analysis for 2020:

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted Funds excluding NFS 2020 £	Restricted Funds NFS 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Tangible fixed assets	36,004	-	-	36,004
Fixed asset investments	3,828,665	-	-	3,828,665
Current assets	789,119	180,555	(40,548)	929,226
Creditors due within one year	(727,307)	-	-	(727,307)
	<u>3,926,481</u>	<u>180,555</u>	<u>(40,548)</u>	<u>4,066,588</u>

18. PENSION COMMITMENTS

Employer's pension contributions paid in the year ended 31 March 2021 were £60,450 (2020: £70,483). Amounts shown in other creditors at the balance sheet date in respect of pension contributions outstanding were £10,793 (2020: £9,095).

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19. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

At 31 March 2021 the group had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	Land and buildings		Equipment	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
Group and charity	£	£	£	£
Within 1 year	-	30,311	1,060	1,060
Between 2 and 5 years	-	-	530	1,590
	<u>-</u>	<u>30,311</u>	<u>1,590</u>	<u>2,650</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>30,311</u>	<u>1,590</u>	<u>2,650</u>

At 31 March 2021 the group was entitled to receive the following income under non-cancellable operating leases:

	2021	2020
Group and Charity	£	£
Within 1 year	-	11,513
	<u>-</u>	<u>11,513</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>11,513</u>

20. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Several trustees of Together for Short Lives are also either trustees or employees of member charities. Some of these charity members benefit from grants under the National Fundraising Scheme (NFS), but the trustees do not benefit personally. Trustees set the rules of the scheme which determine how the money raised is shared among members, but they are not involved in specific decisions about how NFS money is distributed.

During the year the charity charged its trading subsidiary, Together for Short Lives Trading Limited, £4,897 (2020: £4,707) for management and licensing costs.

£50 donations relating to a charity auction were received from trustees in the year (2020: £1,500 donations were received from trustees in the year).