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Registered Charity in England and Wales (1150035)

Annual Report

April 6 2022-April 5 2023

Overview of the year

This year was an even more productive year.

During the first half of the year Helen (part time coordinator) and Steve (DLA Specialist) continued helping our usual client base,(parents with children with special needs/ disabilities), via the telephone , face to face office sessions and where necessary in client's homes.

In August, we were offered another chance to run a telephone advice line by the Local Authority. The offer was again a short term advice line project covering all benefits, from September 22 to the end of March 23. This time the advice line was to cover 4 days a week. The offer again came quite close to the required start date however, this time we managed to recruit two law graduates and to get them fully trained and in post by the start of the advice line in September 2022. Our part time IT assistant Rob Lane provided valuable support setting up equipment for the new staff, as well continuing to monitor our IT/telephony/electronic infrastructure, to ensure that data is held securely and all our systems continue function effectively.

The Local Authority also offered a project for us to run some benefit awareness sessions amongst the local advice agencies and community groups. We struggled to find some one with sufficient benefit and training experience (and time !) to deliver these sessions. In the end our chair of Trustees took on the role and delivered the agreed 10 advice and training sessions over the period of the project.

The advice project overall was very successful, possibly because we had raised our profile in the previous pilot and partly because the benefit awareness sessions also signposted a lot of people to the advice line.

The advice line ran 4 times a week and received an increasing number of enquiries per a session. Sadly, it once again ended in March, but it gained us sufficient funding to enable us to run for the remainder of the year carrying out our usual advice work.

It also gave our two law graduates valuable experience which they will take forward into their future careers.

On top of the general advice given in each telephone session, we took on 45 long term files during the 7 month project, where we provided and continue to provide advice and support with ongoing claims, reviews and appeals.

Assisting clients with DLA and PIP claims is a long term commitment. Claims take several months to be decided and reviews and appeals can take over a year to be decided. We recently conducted a review of all the cases and outcomes for the past 2 years to give a longer view of our effectiveness. Overall in the last 2 years between (01/07/2021 - 30/06/2023), 99 new DLA cases were opened. These cases helped carers of children with psychological, behavioural, neuro-developmental and physical conditions.

Of the 99 cases:

51% of the cases have already been successful and Disability Living Allowance (DLA) has been awarded to carers. The value of these DLA awards amounts to £881,834.

26% of the cases are awaiting decisions and DLA is likely to be awarded in due course. The value of these awards is likely to amount to a further £400,000.

Total financial DLA gains for carers, across the 2 year project is therefore likely to amount to between £1.2 million and £1.3 million, once all the DLA claims and appeals made have been decided.

More than 75% of all claims and appeals we have assisted with in the last two years are likely to be successful.

Where a DLA claim has been awarded, it is generally for a fixed period and the values of the DLA awards already allowed (as detailed above) currently exceed £881,000. As stated, this figure does not include claims and appeals which are yet to be considered and so this figure is likely to increase beyond £1.2 million, once the outstanding claims and appeals have been determined.

When DLA is awarded there are additional benefits for carers, as follows:

1. Carers on Tax Credits (TC) or Universal Credit (UC) can claim additional disabled child allowances in their TC or UC awards, once a DLA award is in place.

2. If middle rate or high rate care component of DLA is awarded, carers can claim an additional stand alone benefit namely Carers Allowance and additional carers elements in their UC awards.

3. Being accepted as a carer by the Department of Work & Pensions (DWP) also removes job-seeking requirements and reduces the risk of sanctions upon carers.

4. Where the high rate mobility component of DLA is carers can claim a reduction in road tax via a vehicle tax exemption, blue disabled parking badges and / or benefit from the Motability vehicle scheme, which provides a vehicle to a family for transport.

Overall we feel that our work in the past two years, has brought enormous benefits to the families of children with disabilities/ and special needs.

Feedback from carers has included the following comments :

"We have received a decision from the DLA regarding S. and he has been awarded the higher rate for two years.....Thank you for your help with the claim, it is massively appreciated and will make a massive difference to S's quality of life for the next two years"

"Just want to say a massive thank you for all your help, support and valued advice. It has been very much appreciated".

Finances

We were very grateful to receive a second grant from the Waterloo foundation and a lottery grant.

The Local Authority advice pilot also brought in the bulk of our income plus we had some individual payments for representation with adult appeals.

At the end of year 22/23 we had £ 47089.50 in the bank which is very welcome as it allows us to continue our work despite the very alarming rise in our utility bills.

A copy of the draft accounts is attached.

Conclusion

Overall we have had another successful year having helped even more people and made more useful links with other organisations, which has brought us more clients.

We are not anticipating obtaining any large scale funding from the Local Authority again, as following the last two pilots, they have now set up their own advice line. We hope however, to continue to attract sufficient funding to enable us to continue doing our "usual" work of

assisting the families of children with special needs/disabilities to successfully claim DLA. We see time after time how vital our work is to the people we help. DLA is not a fortune, but is sufficient to effectively change the life chances of children who need extra care and therapy and to alleviate the financial pressures on their families to give them the space to care.



Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

6/4/2022

To

5/4/2023

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	280	-	-	280	10,000
		-	-	-	
Lottery Grant	9,550			9,550	
Grant -Waterloo	5,000	-	-	5,000	5,000
Receipts - advice & Rep	88,995			88,995	14,872
		-	-	-	
Moondance grant	#	-	-	-	13,018
		-	-	-	
		-	-	-	
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	103,825	-	-	103,825	42,890
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	103,825	-	-	103,825	42,890
A3 Payments					
Rent	5,500	-	-	5,500	6,490
Wages & pension	36,930	-	-	36,930	26,398
Tax & NI Contributions	6,312	-	-	6,312	5,989
External fees	2,550	-	-	2,550	3,800
Utilities gas /Electric /water	3,210	-	-	3,210	2,433
Petty cash/consumerables	451	-	-	451	472
Telephone/intenet	1,337	-	-	1,337	1,434
Insurance	1,103	-	-	1,103	992
training	198			198	
Library/subscriptions /books	728	-	-	728	1,006
Sub total	58,320	-	-	58,320	49,014
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	58,320	-	-	58,320	49,014
Net of receipts/(payments)	45,506	-	-	45,506	- 6,124
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	1,584	-	-	1,584	-
Cash funds this year end	47,090	-	-	47,090	- 6,124

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
B1 Cash funds				
	Bank Balance at Year End	47,090	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	47,090	-	-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

OK

OK

OK

Unrestricted funds
to nearest £

Restricted funds
to nearest £

Endowment funds
to nearest £

Details

B2 Other monetary assets

	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

Details

Fund to which asset belongs

Cost (optional)

Current value (optional)

B3 Investment assets

		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

Details

Fund to which asset belongs

Cost (optional)

Current value (optional)

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

Details

Fund to which liability relates

Amount due (optional)

When due (optional)

B5 Liabilities

		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature

Print Name

Date of approval

	Lisa Reese	
	<i>L. Reese</i>	02/11/2023



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Kin Cymru

**On accounts for the year
ended**

05/04/2023

**Charity no
(if any)**

1150035

Set out on pages

1-5

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **05 / 04 / 2023**.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Date:

31/10/23

Name:

Jessica Rose

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

ICAEW

Address:

1 Woodside Close, Bishopston, Swansea, SA3 3DF

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

Detailed Independent Examination Report
Kin Cymru
06/04/22 to 05/04/23

Kin Cymru is a small charity with 3 trustees. The charitable aims and objectives are the relief of poverty and education.

Requirement for Independent Examination

Kin Cymru is required to have an independent examination as the revenue has exceeded £25,000.

The total revenue is £103,825 and therefore is in no danger of exceeding the limit of £250,000 to require a full audit.

The charity prepares accounts on the receipts and payments basis and is in no danger of exceeding the limit of £250,000 to require accruals accounts.

Conflict of Interest

The examiner is eligible to carry out the examination with 11 years accounts experience and a qualified member of the ICAEW.

The examiner is completely independent from the charity and is not providing any other services to the charity.

The examiner has followed the recommended checklist for examiners as provided by the charity commission.

The Independent Examination

Detailed working papers are available for review with back up documentation.

Kin Cymru is a small charity with 3 trustees. The charitable aims and objectives are the relief of poverty and education.

Receipts

The income of the charity exceeded £25,000 in the period to 6th April 2023 which requires an independent examination. The accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments format.

The Receipts of £103,825 consist of donations and receipts from various providers. These donations have been agreed to supporting documentation which can be found in the working papers and have been agreed to the bank statements.

A review of the bank statements has identified there are no other means of income and all is recorded.

No financial risk of the receipts being misstated has been identified.

Payments

Payments of £58,320 have been made during the year in comparison to £49,014 in the prior year.

The additional spends mostly came from wages with an increase of £10,000 and an increase in Utilities of £800. Kin Cymru recruited two law graduates to support the telephone advice line this year.

There were no other large movements in expenditure for the year.

A selection of payments on the bank statement have been selected and agreed to supporting invoices to confirm that the purchases are wholly for the purpose of the charity, the values are correct and payment made to the correct company.

The Receipts and Payments accounts have been produced directly from the bank statements. The spreadsheet used to create the accounts has been cross referenced to the bank statements and agreed to the final accounts.

No financial risk from the payments has been identified.

Cash Funds

The Cash Funds on the accounts agree to the bank statement at the year end.

The "Cash funds this year end" plus the opening balance of £1,584 total the bank statement balance of £47,090 which has been agreed to the actual bank statement.

Assets & Liabilities

The trustees have confirmed there are no assets or liabilities to report.

No assets have been identified as purchased throughout the year.

The financial activity throughout the year does not suggest that there should be any assets or liabilities.

Charity Accounts Records

The Trustees calculate the receipts and payments using Excel spreadsheets created from an export of the bank statements.

This spreadsheet has been checked for accuracy and agreed to the bank statements and back to the final accounts. On first review there were missing items of expenditure which were adjusted swiftly by the trustees.

Final Conclusion

The charity keeps up to date records and accurately records all transactions. The use of excel is reasonable for the current number of transactions. Should the charity grow significantly in size it is recommended a financial software to be used for accuracy and ease of recording transactions and keeping a digital audit trail of documentation.

The accounts are approved by the independent examiner and there has been no financial risk identified.