

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

England & Wales · Charity number 1150405

Details

Other names Home for Good, Safe Families

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [08134971](#)

Registered 2013-01-09

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 4 Diamond Court
Kingston Park
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE3 2EN

Phone 0333 414 1488

Email info@safefamilies.uk

Website www.safefamilies.uk

Activities

Objects: THE CHARITY'S OBJECTS ('OBJECTS') ARE SPECIFICALLY RESTRICTED TO THE FOLLOWING (1) THE PROVISION OF RELIEF AND RESPITE TO FAMILIES IN CRISES ARISING FROM POVERTY CONFLICT, HARDSHIP, HOMELESSNESS, ILL HEALTH OR ADDICTIONS, (2) THE RELIEF OF THE NEEDS OF OVERWHELMED AND RESOURCE LIMITED PARENTS AND THEIR CHILDREN THROUGH THE PROVISION OF SAFE, TEMPORARY FAMILY STAYS FOR THEIR CHILDREN, AND (3) THE PROTECTION OF THE PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH OF CHILDREN. NOTHING IN THE ARTICLES SHALL AUTHORISE AN APPLICATION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE CHARITY FOR PURPOSES WHICH ARE NOT CHARITABLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 7 OF THE CHARITIES AND TRUSTEE INVESTMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 2005.

Activities: The objectives are 1) provision of relief to families in crisis from poverty, conflict, hardship, homelessness, ill health or addiction 2) relief of needs of overwhelmed and resource limited parents and their children through the provision of safe, temporary family stays for their children and 3) protection of the physical and mental health of the children. Support provided through volunteers.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Accommodation/housing
- **Who:** Children/young People, Other Defined Groups

Geography

- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£7,155,493	£6,058,515	£1,954,183	192
2024-03-31	£4,849,781	£4,979,784	£840,113	164
2023-03-31	£4,781,950	£4,848,930	£934,309	164
2022-03-31	£4,157,283	£4,117,066	£1,009,630	140
2021-03-31	£4,296,501	£3,596,502	£967,521	116

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Andrew Wallace		2023-02-20
Dr Jenny Burns		2025-11-27
Eleanor Purkis		2025-11-27
Ian Poree		2023-05-16
Jeremy James Cooper		2024-09-01
Julian Eve		2022-03-21
Patrick Sharman		2022-03-21
Rachel Mary Westcott		2024-09-01
Rev Luke Nathan Bacon		2024-09-01
STEPHEN GALE WILLIAMS		2020-01-16
Sarah Powley		2025-11-27

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

England & Wales - Charity number 1150405

Accounts

Charity registration number 1150405 & SCO48207 (England and Wales)

Company registration number 08134971

**SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees

J D Eve
P M Sharman
A P Wallace
I D Poree
S G Williams
R M Westcott (Appointed 1 September 2024)
J J Cooper (Appointed 1 September 2024)
L N Bacon (Appointed 1 September 2024)

Key Management Personnel

K Osborn, Co-Chief Executive Officer
T Bright, Co-Chief Executive Officer
H Crandley
M Buchanan
C Allcock
S Main
M Jones
C Bell
R Cooke
S Wade (appointed 20 October 2025)

Charity number 1150405 & SCO48207

Company number 08134971

Registered office 4 Diamond Court
Kingston Park
Newcastle upon Tyne
Tyne & Wear
NE3 2EN

Auditor Azets Audit Services
Bulman House
Regent Centre
Gosforth
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE3 3LS

Bankers Barclays Bank plc
49-51 Northumberland Street
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 7AF

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

CONTENTS

	Page
Chairman's statement and Chief Executive Report	1 - 4
Trustees' report	5 - 13
Statement of Trustees' responsibilities	14
Independent auditor's report	15 - 17
Statement of financial activities	18 - 19
Statement of financial position	20
Statement of cash flows	21
Notes to the financial statements	22 - 39

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

This is the first Annual Report of the merged organisation currently known as Safe Families and Home for Good.

The formal merger of these two organisations took place on the 1st of September 2024 and it is my thanks to Kat Osborn and Tarn Bright; the two Chief Executives of both organisations (now Co-CEOs) of the merged organisation, who have led the workforce from Home for Good and Safe Families into new teams and new structures.

The skills and strengths across the whole workforce have been well considered and maximised through this reconfiguration. The majority have embraced the merger and new staffing additions to the organisation make a current workforce of 207 people.

Alongside the employees of this organisation stand our incredible volunteers, foster carers, adopters and supported lodging hosts; those who donate to the work of the organisation and those who are dedicated to prayer support for the work that is delivered.

Our Purpose

The merged organisation continues to support children and families by providing stable homes, safe environments, and trusted care with a bold vision to see children and families thrive. The following two statements make clear the ambition of the work

- **Every child needs a stable place to call home, an environment that feels safe and nurturing, and someone they can trust who will offer unconditional care and support**
- **Every family needs people around who care and can support them, so that when challenges happen, they don't have to face them alone**

Following a period of internal consultation led by the Co-CEOs in the latter part of 2024 into 2025 the organisation's vision, mission and values were signed off by the Board of Trustees and formally launched within the organisation at the staff conference in June 2025.

Ten Year Growth Strategy

The organisation has set out a ten-year strategic business model and growth strategy accompanied by a fundraising framework to support this ambition. This plan has the support of the trustees and offers a detailed framework of expansion and delivery using the very best of the organisation's knowledge, skills and experience.

Organisational Influence

2024/25 has seen Safe Families and Home for Good grow in national influence. The advocacy work of the organisation has been recognised by central government and opportunity has been given to influence national policy makers and politicians through developing relationships, formal liaison and formal briefings.

Organisational Culture

The culture of the merged organisation is strong. Each of the ten members of the Senior Leadership Team must be thanked for their commitment to leading well, valuing team and individuals and supporting people to value the privilege of working for this organisation.

The staff survey undertaken in June 2025 reports and describes an organisation that is well managed and high functioning. There is always more to do but I and my trustee colleagues sit in assurance that people across Home for Good and Safe families are being well led.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The Board of Trustees

The Co-CEOs, Kat Osborn and Tarn Bright have the full backing of the Board of Trustees. The joint role is working well with recent 360 feedback undertaken in July 2025 indicating confidence in the skills and abilities they offer to the organisation identifying strong leadership, strong general governance and strong financial governance leadership.

The Board of Trustees consists of eight people, and I want to thank all seven of my trustee colleagues for their support to the organisation; noting with gratitude Rachel Westcott's willingness to act as Vice Chair for the board.

As growth and a broadening reach of the organisation is established we are looking to develop a larger representative board; representative of the communities we serve, representative of the four nations across the United Kingdom, representative of lived experience of fostering, adoption and those who value and know the value of kinship, family and community support.

Safeguarding Governance

Safeguarding is taken seriously by the organisation and a thorough safeguarding audit was undertaken in the autumn 2024 with the learning and recommendations now fully implemented. The following important statement is lifted from the report:

There was a clear sense that staff in particular feel safe and supported in their work and that where concerns do arise, they feel able to deal with these and know where to go to get support. This is an excellent foundation on which to build, develop and sustain good practice in the future.

My specific thanks to Claudia Bell, Director of Safeguarding and Practice Development who leads the governance of the safeguarding agenda and reported assurance to the Board, supported by our trustees, Steve Williams (our longest serving Trustee) and Ian Poree.

Financial Governance

The past year has seen the Charity maintain and increase its revenues at £7.155m, which is a combination of Local Authority & other contract referral income and the generosity of regular and one-off donations from individuals and Churches, Corporate and Community giving and Grants from Trusts and Foundations.

The Finance Committee, under the leadership of Trustees Patrick Sharman and Andrew Wallace and Ian Maith (Head of Finance) closely monitor and review the Reserves Policy, Pension Policy, Insurance Cover and operational expenses against budget.

Summary

For this newly merged, organisation the success, growth and wellbeing of the workforce is an indicator of the vision being fulfilled with the Christian faith core to the organisation's mission.

Signed by:


00B4C0AF8F4A40E...

Julian Eve
Chair of the Board of Trustees
Safe Families / Home for Good

16 December 2025

Dated.....

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT

Safe Families for Children (Safe Families) and Home for Good merged in September 2024. As a merged charity our vision and values are:

Vision

Together we hope for a society where no family feels alone and every child has a home where they can flourish. And we believe the Church is central to this vision.

Mission

- Empowering and supporting parents, carers and hosts as we build positive connections and relationships so that children and families can flourish.
- Inspiring and equipping churches as they create communities of care, hospitality, and belonging.
- Influencing systemic change for children and families, which amplifies their voices, offers hope and promotes a loving and just society.

Values?

Our deep-rooted Christian faith is the foundation of our values, so we act with Hope, Courage, Integrity, Compassion and Togetherness.

Hope - *We believe that change is always possible.* We sit with one another in the messiness of life, holding firmly to an attitude of hopefulness.

Courage - *We champion justice and advocate for change.* We step into challenging spaces, have difficult conversations, and remain steadfast in uncertainty.

Integrity - *We do what we say we will.* We build authentic, transparent, and enduring relationships.

Compassion - *We love the one in front of us with generosity, dignity and grace.* We seek to ensure everyone is seen, heard and valued.

Togetherness - *We intentionally choose to work alongside others.* We seek to partner, collaborate, and empower.

You see in both our vision and values a commitment to the theme of "togetherness". The merger was born out of a belief that we are better together; that we can achieve more for children and families, that we can better elevate their voice and that we can serve the church more effectively as a merged organisation. But this theme also reflects the fact that the realisation of this vision is rooted in the love, tenacity and commitment of incredible carers, parents, hosts and volunteers and the role of the UK church, its 1,000 of micro communities of hospitality, care and belonging, rising up to change the way children and families are cared for in our nation.

We are hugely grateful for the interest and support of Sir Tim and Lady Susie Sainsbury of the Jerusalem Trust, Sir Brian and Lady Elizabeth Souter of the Souter Charitable Trust, the Macdonald Family of the Cardrona Trust, the staff and trustees of The Benefact Trust, St James Place, The Big Give and the Childhood Trust, The Segelman Trust, the team at Stewardship, The Garfield Weston Foundation, The Martin James Foundation, The Ardbarron Trust, The Hollyhock Charitable Trust and the KPMG Foundation.

We remain deeply thankful for the generous support of individual donors, regular donors, churches and businesses who are working with us to help create a society where no-one feels alone and everyone has a home where they can flourish.

On behalf of our trustees, staff and all those we serve, thank you. We could not do this without you.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT (CONTINUED) ***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025***

Although the board of trustees are ultimately responsible for the charity, they delegate the day to day running of the charity to Tarn and myself as Co-Chief Executives and our Senior Leadership Team (SLT). As we look forward, I want to finish with expressing my heartfelt thanks for everyone who is and has been a part of this journey – whether as a volunteer, whether you give financially, whether you pray, staff and trustees.

We all are playing our part in doing the little things that change someone else's story. Enabling families to stay together safe, happy, and connected and working to ensure that no one feels alone.

Kat Osborn, Chief Executive

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements of Safe Families for Children (working name Safe Families and Home for Good) for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' Report and a Directors' Report under Company Law. The trustees confirm that the annual report and financial statements of the charitable company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), 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 2019).

Since the charitable company qualifies as small under section 382 of the Companies Act 2006, the Strategic Report required of medium and large companies under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 has been omitted.

Objectives and activities

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

Empowering and supporting parents, carers and hosts as together we build positive connections and relationships so that children and families can flourish.

Inspiring and equipping churches as they create communities of care, hospitality, and belonging.

Influencing systemic change for children and families, which amplifies their voices, offers hope and promotes a loving and just society.

POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the trustees have given due consideration to the general guidance published by the charity commission relating to public benefit.

EQUITY AND DIVERSITY POLICY

Safe Families and Home for Good recognises that our Equality and Diversity Policy is an integral part of our approach to seeing children and families flourish. This policy underpins all Safe Families and Home for Good's activity.

Safe Families and Home for Good is a Christian charity. Safe Families and Home for Good's policies and protocols are also clear that our activities are offered to all.

The motivation of all those working and volunteering within Safe Families and Home for Good is to make a tangible difference to children and families across the nation, irrespective of whether the family or child supported or the prospective carer with whom we journey identifies with the Christian faith, another faith, or no faith. Safe Families and Home for Good is not a vehicle to support proselytisation.

Families and children will be supported regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation.

Safe Families and Home for Good is committed to promoting fairness, equality, and diversity in all its activities. This includes the recruitment, training and development of a diverse group of volunteers able to support a diverse range of families in crisis.

This policy is based on the key principles of equity, equality, inclusion, engagement, and partnership. This policy considers and is compliant with the Equality Act 2010. It covers discrimination based on age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation as set out in the Equality Act (2010).

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Safe Families and Home for Good welcomes the opportunity to work with people from all kinds of social, educational, economic and cultural backgrounds. We will never knowingly discriminate against any person on the grounds of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.

Safe Families and Home for Good's values when considering Diversity and Inclusion are defined below:

Safe Families and Home for Good is committed to creating belonging; (by which we mean the feeling of being seen, heard, and understood) for all recognising that we are all created equal.

- We are aware that there are many factors in the UK that result in inequality and that as a result that opportunity, belonging, and justice is not equally available to all. Our learning, listening and action is rooted in a desire to redress this balance.

- Prejudice seeks to "fix and normalise 'difference' and create boundaries between groups" (Avtar Brah 1992: 143). At Safe Families and Home for Good we desire to create connection and relationship through which boundaries are broken down.

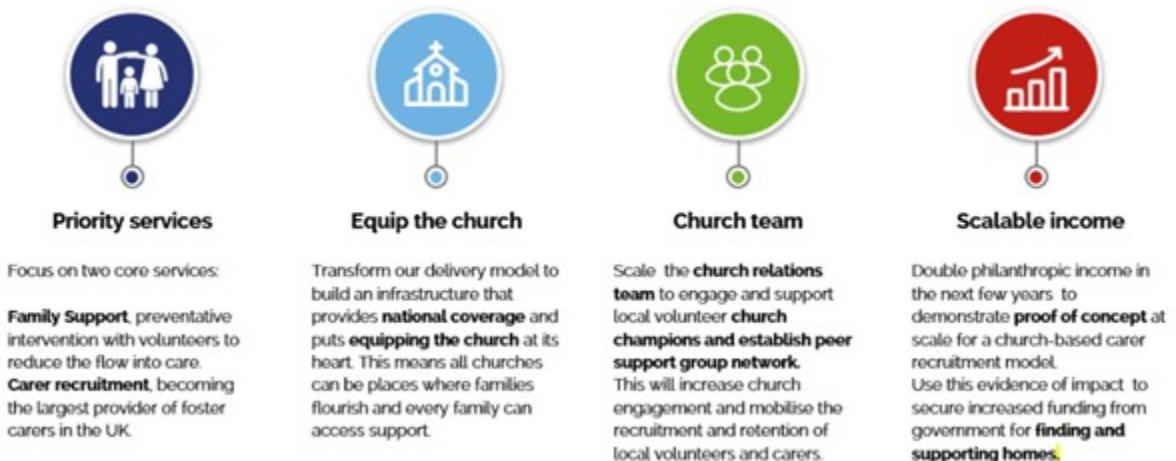
- We want people to look at Safe Families and Home for Good and see the diversity of our global community and an image of our unity as humankind.

- We seek to ensure in all our practices we contribute to the undoing of society's systemic prejudices.

Safe Families and Home for Good has an anti-Racism working group made up of staff members. This group has been proactive in developing an action plan for our journey as an organisation to be anti-racist. The plan focuses on 3 key areas: (1) staff recruitment and building a more diverse workplace (2) staff learning and education & (3) understanding our data (families supported and volunteers recruited).

STRATEGIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES

Our 10-year plan for the merged organisation identifies the below 4 strategic priority areas:



MAIN ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN TO FURTHER THE CHARITY'S PURPOSE FOR PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the Charity should undertake and all the charity's activities in the year have been in line with the objects and are undertaken to further the charity's charitable purposes for the public benefit.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

ACTIVITIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES

Our 3 year plan focuses on the following mission objectives:

- Empowering & supporting parents, carers and hosts as together we build positive connections and relationships so that children and families can flourish.
- Inspiring and equipping churches as they create communities of care, hospitality, and belonging
- Influencing systemic change for children and families, which amplifies their voices, offers hope and promotes a loving and just society.

Within each mission area we have identified (a) regional numeric objectives and (b) key projects that will enable us to deliver on the mission.

Achievements and performance KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

The table below shows the key metrics that we have achieved year on year.

This report is the first time of showing these as the metrics of the combined organisation showing both supported families and volunteering as well as enquiries and referrals into the fostering, adoption, and supported lodgings.

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Local authorities	30	34	39	46	51	65	56
Accredited volunteers	4,161	4,539	4,897	5,126	5,408	5,397	5,295
Families supported (cumulative)	3,256	4,212	5,618	7,018	8,466	9,779	10,858
Families supported (in year)	1,001	991	1,483	1,508	1,562	1,448	1,289
Children benefitted (cumulative)	7,829	9,965	12,151	16,349	19,644	22,646	25,100
Children benefitted (in year)	2,365	2,362	3,231	3,458	3,536	3,291	2,900
Number of bed nights (cumulative)	5,612	7,231	7,973	9,264	9,747	10,301	10,446
Churches and community groups	848	953	1,099	1,209	1,322	1,391	1,453
Enquiries received for FASL	912	1,200	2,125	1,086	820	1,184	722
Referrals made for FASL	199	235	527	462	275	261	165
Peer Support Groups running							56

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

THE IMPACT OF OUR WORK

Since 2013 Safe Families has supported isolated and overwhelmed families in the UK, reducing the flow of children into care. 93% of families supported articulate a sense of improved or maintained well-being & confidence and 90% of families supported articulate a sense of improved or maintained social networks (Nb. This is in a context of being referred at a point of need / crisis and therefore simple maintaining is seen as a positive).

We have trained over 7,500 volunteers who have in turn enabled 25,000+ children to benefit. We have enabled 9 out of 10 families to either stabilise or de-escalate in level of need within children's services. We have proven a reduction in the flow of children into care in areas we work of between 9 - 16%. An impact report* in 2022 showed £47.8m in savings to the public purse over 5 years from the 1,383 families supported by Safe Families in the prior year.

* (<https://safefamilies.uk/sonnet-how-safe-families-approach-changes-lives/>)

Since 2013, Home for Good has been finding homes for children who need one. We work with government to influence policy and remove barriers and systemic issues for children. Through churches, community events and festivals we reach over 85,000 people per year, inspiring them to consider becoming a carer for a child in need.

We have demonstrated a 17% conversion rate from enquiry to approved carer (vs. a national average of 3%). We have set up and supported over 100 in-person peer support groups and online support communities.

FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES / INCOME GENERATION

Safe Families and Home for Good undertakes all fundraising activities in line with industry best practice, legal guidelines and in line with our values. We aim to be open with the public about our processes and to explain (where appropriate) if asked for more information. We aim to be honest, acting with integrity, about the cause we are fundraising for or the way a donation will be used. We aim to demonstrate respect whenever we have contact, digital or physical, with any member of the public.

The charity continues to implement its fundraising strategy which seeks to diversify our income base. During the financial year the charity was funded through a blend of its contract work with Local Authorities, external charitable grants, and fundraised income. We had a successful year in terms of income from grants with just over £828k being received from this income stream. Alongside this we also made progress in developing all our fundraised income streams, including corporate donations, one-off and monthly individual giving, and community fundraising. Across these streams we achieved a 133.2% increase in income in 24/25 compared to the previous year. The increase is mostly due to merger and the combined fundraised income across the two organisations.

Financial review

The Charity made a surplus in the year of £1,114,070. Total income achieved was £7,155,493 (2024: £4,849,781), with expenditure of £6,058,515 (2024: £4,979,784) and unrealised gains on investments of £17,092 (2024: £35,807). Income comes mainly from a blend of local authority income for supporting children and families; £3,812,641 (2024: £3,470,939); plus donation income from grant-making charities and foundations, churches, and individuals of £3,248,159 (2024: £1,313,595). Included in donation income this year there is a one-off donation of £1,485,939 relating to the funds transferred into the charity from the merger of Home For Good.

Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charitable company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis and the principal uncertainties for the charitable company are set out in the Accounting Policies.

The charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern is governed by its ability to control its principal risks and uncertainties which are set out in the section "Principal Risks and Uncertainties" below.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

RESERVES POLICY

The trustees have considered the Reserves Policy that is appropriate to the charity, given the plans for future activities, and understand the importance of a policy that enables it to meet its developing commitments and obligations. The Reserves Policy takes a risk-informed approach to holding reserves to demonstrate appropriate financial management, stewardship, and sustainability. In doing so, the Charity has considered working capital, financial risk management, and future development. Using this rationale, the total free reserves are set at a range of £915k to £1,020k.

The total funds held by the Charity on 31 March 2025 were £1,954,183 (2024: £840,113). Of these funds, £27,742 were held in restricted funds (2024: £11,162). The Charity also designated funds for the process of merger with Home for Good as well as other identified activities that are forecast to require additional funds. The amount of these designated funds totals £828,785 (2024: £55,487). The increase in these funds is as a result of the designation for future operational deficits expected in 25/26. Additionally, the Charity has investments in two investment funds. The valuation of these two funds is £446,458 (2024: £429,366) leaving £651,198 (2024: £344,098) of free reserves at the year end. The target reserves required to comply with the charitable company's reserves policy are between £915k and £1,020k. The total of free reserves and the funds held in investments that are liquid and can be accessed at short notice is £1,097,656 (2024: £773,464) and the trustees are comfortable that this falls in-line with the company's reserves policy.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

Risk management

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charitable company is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the charitable company and are satisfied those systems and procedures are in place to mitigate our exposure to the major risks.

Through the internal reporting and careful strategies, these risks are managed.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The risks of the Charity are managed by the Senior Leadership Team and reviewed by the Trustee Board through the appropriate subgroup.

The principal risks to the charity come in two forms; financial and safeguarding, the former due to the uncertainty that occurs with most funding derived from external sources. There is a risk that current funding agreements cease and are not renewed in the long term. The charity manages these risks by working closely with its partners to ensure all parties are content with current arrangements and practices.

The principal risk is identified as being the financing of the growth of the charity. The work of the charity is reported in the Chairman's and Chief Executive's report elsewhere in these financial statements. The growth in activity now as a newly merged organisation is rooted in a clear focus on how we work with others, both the Church and the government, to see a society where no family feels alone and every child has a home where they can belong. All of our activity has this goal absolutely central. We have worked this year on an ambitious 10 year business model and growth plan to inspire, equip, and resource the UK church to:

- a) Be largest provider of carers in the UK and to be the place that ensures those carers are the most supported and resilient of any carer.
- b) Be the place families of all types find support, hope and belonging.

This will require significant additional philanthropic income. However, it also provides us with financial modelling that we can flex depending upon the levels of funding achieved.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

As with many charities, there is an in-built uncertainty about financial provision and the raising of finance is a part of its day-to-day work. The growth of activity has been financed by an increase in income from Local Authority contracts, and the generous support of an increasing number of donors. Our fundraising strategy continues on the premise of being less reliant on fixed term transformational grants and moving towards regular giving that traditionally is in place for a longer period. Their merger of the 2 charities enables this further with regular giving increasing from £273k in 23-24 to £443k in 24-25. We expect this to continue in 25-26 and beyond.

We have a robust process in place to monitor our financial position and a finance committee oversees our fiduciary responsibilities to ensure that we have sufficient reserves to operate should there be change in income.

Our business continuity planning is strong and is regularly reviewed.

The second principal risk to the charity is safeguarding. Safe Families and Home for Good has a clear, comprehensive safeguarding framework in place in which policy, procedure and guidance are all in line with legislation and the Local Safeguarding Children Boards procedures, all of which are designed to ensure that children and young people using the service are appropriately safeguarded. All staff and volunteers are fully aware of their duty of care to children and young people and vulnerable adults and that safeguarding them is of paramount importance.

We have comprehensive policies and procedures that govern activity and behaviour of all staff and volunteers. All activity is governed by our Quality Standards Framework which provides step by step guidance for the delivery of family support and work with volunteers. The framework sets out best practice that underpins the Safe Families and Home for Good approach in seeking to improve outcomes for children and families and ensure they are being kept safe within the system. The agreed quality standards enable regular audit of practice and case management ensuring consistency of approach and compliance with policies and procedures.

Plans for future periods

As we look forward, we consider our focus under 3 mission areas. Below we articulate our statements of intent over the next 3 years in each mission area:

Empowering & supporting parents, carers and hosts as together we build positive connections and relationships so that children and families can flourish.

6,000 families (parents, carers, hosts, children and young people) with stronger connections and relationships that enable them to flourish.

550 new carers who (post placement) have supportive communities around them.

Greater access to trauma informed understanding for parents, carers, hosts and volunteers.

Inspiring and equipping churches as they create communities of care, hospitality, and belonging.

Over 1,000 churches across the UK actively journeying with us and playing their part in fulfilling our vision.

450 trained and activated Church Champions inspiring churches and individuals to play their parts.

1,400 households inspired to explore fostering, supported lodgings or adoption.

1,200 volunteers inspired to support children and families.

Increased diversity within the range of churches that we engage.

Influencing systemic change for children and families, which amplifies their voices, offers hope and promotes a loving and just society.

Systems in place to hear the voices of those our work supports, turned into an annual systemic challenges report which amplifies those voices.

Volunteers and Churches trained, with access to a resource hub, to engage in systemic change.

1,500 advocacy partners ready to mobilise in advocacy campaigns.

At least 1 campaign active in each UK nation.

40 deep relationships with MP/Peers/Ambassadors which support our vision.

Safe Families and Home for Good seen as thought leaders in the sector.

Underpinning all of our activity is also a deep commitment to culture. We have articulated clear values for the merged organisation and have then also defined the actions and behaviours that we want our culture to be known for.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Structure, governance and management

CONSTITUTION

The charitable company is constituted under a Memorandum of Association dated 9 July 2012 and is a registered charity, number 1150405.

The principal objects of the charitable company are:

- The provision of relief and respite to families in crisis arising from poverty, conflict, hardship, homelessness, ill health, or addictions.
- Befriending and emotional support to children, parents and carers who are isolated, overwhelmed and not coping.
- The provision of practical help to resource stretched parents and carers.

GOVERNANCE

The Board of Trustees continue to work on the Charity's governance model. At the point of merger the Home for Good trustees joined the Safe Families and Home for Good board. For a period of 10 months we operated with co-chairs, with Simon Blake (historic Home for Good chair) and Keith Danby (historic Safe Families chair) bringing co-leadership to the role. We would like to thank Simon and Keith for their leadership during this period. In March 2025 Julian Eve was elected into the role of Chair and Simon and Keith retired from the trustee board. We have just entered a period of trustee recruitment. Our aim is to increase both the breadth of expertise and the diversity across key protected characteristics of our board.

There are currently three working subgroups; Safeguarding and Quality Assurance; Finance; People and Performance; that meet quarterly as a minimum, and report back into quarterly Trustee Board meetings. Each subgroup has a chair and includes at least 2 members of the trustee board alongside the Chief Executive and member of the Senior Leadership Team. Each group has its own terms of reference which determines frequency of meetings, the purpose of the committee, and method of reporting back to the main board.

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

C B K Danby	(Resigned 18 June 2025)
J D Eve	
P M Sharman	
A P Wallace	
I D Poree	
S G Williams	
R M Westcott	(Appointed 1 September 2024)
S J Blake	(Appointed 1 September 2024 and resigned 18 June 2025)
J J Cooper	(Appointed 1 September 2024)
L N Bacon	(Appointed 1 September 2024)
L C Eades	(Appointed 1 September 2024 and resigned 24 November 2024)

METHOD OF APPOINTMENT OR ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

The management of the charitable company is the responsibility of the trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Articles of Association.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND DECISION MAKING

The business of the charitable company is managed by the trustees who may exercise all the powers of the charitable company.

The day-to-day management of the charity is delegated to the Chief Executives and their Senior Leadership team. The Senior Leadership Team meets for a weekly catch-up and virtually once a month, to discuss strategic operational developments. Quarterly, these meetings are face-to-face and usually span two or three days.

The charity has a regional structure and each region is led by a Regional Director. Each region is divided into hubs. There are 8 hubs. The chief executives are supported by a small national team.

National Team: Tarn Bright - Co-Chief Executive; Kat Osborn - Co-Chief Executive; Claudia Bell - Director of Safeguarding and Quality Assurance; Martin Dickson - Director of Church Relations (to 29 August 2025); Sian Wade - Director of Church Relations (from 20 October 2025); Matt Jones - Director of Communications, Fundraising and Advocacy; Ian Maith - Head of Finance and Stuart Main - Director of People and Solutions.

Regional Directors:

Central Region: Helen Crandley

South Region: Chris Allcock

North Region: Mark Buchanan

Scotland and Northern Ireland: Roger Cooke

At 31st March 2025 we have an ever-expanding team of 209 staff, FTE of 158.603.

POLICIES ADOPTED FOR THE INDUCTION AND TRAINING OF TRUSTEES

In the past prospective trustees have been brought into the Board of Trustees having observed two board meetings. From April 2026 the approach will alter slightly involving observation and a number of robust conversations with the Chair of Trustees to give prospective trustees an opportunity to get to understand the organisation and to pull together CV's and personal profiles and references. This information is shared with existing trustees and considered carefully and prayerfully.

All trustees are required to remain up to date with safeguarding training. Trustee compliance is recorded alongside the quarterly safeguarding report to the board. Opportunities for other trustee training is identified in the quarterly chairs report.

PAY POLICY FOR SENIOR STAFF

The Senior Leadership Team is remunerated in line with industry levels, with equal pay across each staff hierarchy level across the organisation.

INFORMATION ON FUNDRAISING PRACTICES

The fundraising strategy of the charity is primarily the responsibility of the Chief Executives working closely with the Head of Communications and Influence. Working with the Head of Finance, financial projections supporting applications are submitted within applications.

As a result of merger, we expanded the fundraising team from three to six, including an experienced Head of Fundraising who reports to the Director of Communications, Fundraising and Advocacy.

No staff member or consultant received commission on funds secured.

All data held by the charity is protected by strict and confidential protocols.

RELATED PARTY RELATIONSHIPS

All related party transactions are disclosed in note 26 to the accounts.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Auditor


In accordance with the company's articles, a resolution proposing that Azets Audit Services be reappointed as auditor of the company will be put at a General Meeting.

Disclosure of information to auditor

Each of the Trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditor is aware of such information.

The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Signed by:



.....00B4C0AF8F4A40E.....

J D Eve

Trustee

16 December 2025

Date:

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The Trustees, who are also the directors of Safe Families For Children for the purpose 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 law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- 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 Charity 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 Charity 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 Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Safe Families For Children (the 'Charity') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the statement of financial position, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including 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 charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its 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.

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 Charity 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 Charity'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 other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual 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. 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 course of 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 this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. 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 our audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the Trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED) TO THE MEMBERS OF SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the Trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the 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

As explained more fully in the statement of Trustees' responsibilities, the Trustees, who are also the directors of the Charity for the purpose 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 Charity'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 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.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE MEMBERS OF SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above and on the Financial Reporting Council's website, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud.

We obtain and update our understanding of the entity, its activities, its control environment, and likely future developments, including in relation to the legal and regulatory framework applicable and how the entity is complying with that framework. Based on this understanding, we identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. This includes consideration of the risk of acts by the entity that were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud, we designed procedures which included:

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims as well as actual, suspected and alleged fraud;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Assessing the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations considered to have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the entity through enquiry and inspection;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management bias and override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for indicators of potential bias.

Because of the field in which the charity operates, we identified the following areas as those most likely to have a material impact on the financial statements; compliance with the UK Companies and Charities Acts.

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 of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

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. 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.

Signed by:



A919E10F4B2841D

Simon Brown BA ACA DChA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

**For and on behalf of Azets Audit Services, Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants**

Bulman House
Regent Centre
Gosforth
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE3 3LS

Date: 17 December 2025
Date:

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Current financial year		Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
	Notes				
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	3,006,082	242,077	3,248,159	1,313,595
Charitable activities	4	3,167,284	645,357	3,812,641	3,470,939
Investments	5	20,378	-	20,378	5,268
Other income	6	74,315	-	74,315	59,979
Total income		<u>6,268,059</u>	<u>887,434</u>	<u>7,155,493</u>	<u>4,849,781</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	192,688	-	192,688	20,260
Charitable activities	8	4,994,973	870,854	5,865,827	4,959,524
Total expenditure		<u>5,187,661</u>	<u>870,854</u>	<u>6,058,515</u>	<u>4,979,784</u>
Net gains/(losses) on investments	14	17,092	-	17,092	35,807
Net income/(expenditure) and movement in funds		<u>1,097,490</u>	<u>16,580</u>	<u>1,114,070</u>	<u>(94,196)</u>
Reconciliation of funds:					
Fund balances at 1 April 2024		828,951	11,162	840,113	934,309
Fund balances at 31 March 2025		<u>1,926,441</u>	<u>27,742</u>	<u>1,954,183</u>	<u>840,113</u>

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

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Prior financial year		Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
	Notes			
Income and endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	3	869,035	444,560	1,313,595
Charitable activities	4	3,470,939	-	3,470,939
Investments	5	5,268	-	5,268
Other income	6	59,979	-	59,979
Total income		4,405,221	444,560	4,849,781
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	7	20,260	-	20,260
Charitable activities	8	4,517,367	442,157	4,959,524
Total expenditure		4,537,627	442,157	4,979,784
Net gains/(losses) on investments	14	35,807	-	35,807
Net income/(expenditure) and movement in funds		(96,599)	2,403	(94,196)
Reconciliation of funds:				
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		925,550	8,759	934,309
Fund balances at 31 March 2024		828,951	11,162	840,113

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025		2024	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Intangible assets			-		-
Tangible assets	16		-		-
Investments	17		446,458		429,366
Current assets					
Debtors	18	641,479		446,377	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,448,489		617,069	
		2,089,968		1,063,446	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	19	(582,243)		(652,699)	
Net current assets			1,507,725		410,747
Total assets less current liabilities			1,954,183		840,113
Income funds					
Restricted funds	22		27,742		11,162
<u>Unrestricted funds - general</u>					
Designated funds	23	828,785		55,487	
General unrestricted funds		1,097,656		773,464	
			1,926,441		828,951
			1,954,183		840,113

16 December 2025

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on

Signed by:

Julian Eve

00B4G9AF8F4A40E.....

J D Eve

Trustee

Company registration number 08134971

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	27		822,289		(86,422)
Investing activities					
Cash received on merger		(11,247)		-	
Investment income received		20,378		5,268	
Net cash generated from investing activities			9,131		5,268
Net cash generated from financing activities			-		-
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents			831,420		(81,154)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			617,069		698,223
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			1,448,489		617,069

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Safe Families For Children is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 4 Diamond Court, Kingston Park, Newcastle upon Tyne, Tyne & Wear, NE3 2EN.

The charity does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charity's governing document, being the Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 9 July 2012, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities 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)" (effective 1 January 2019). The Charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include listed investments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Designated funds comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the Trustees for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the Charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Incoming resources from charitable activities is predominantly income from Local Authorities and is accounted for on a time-accrual basis.

Donations and legacies

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the Charity has been notified of the donation. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the Charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

Gift Aid

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Other income

Other income is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent that the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Raising Funds

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, the management of investments and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustee's meetings and reimbursed expenses.

1.6 Intangible fixed assets other than goodwill

Intangible assets acquired separately from a business are recognised at cost and are subsequently measured at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

Intangible assets acquired on business combinations are recognised separately from goodwill at the acquisition date where it is probable that the expected future economic benefits that are attributable to the asset will flow to the entity and the fair value of the asset can be measured reliably; the intangible asset arises from contractual or other legal rights; and the intangible asset is separable from the entity.

Amortisation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Website	Straight line 20%
---------	-------------------

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.7 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets costing individually £1,000 or more are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Computer equipment	100% in year of purchase
--------------------	--------------------------

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.8 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments, other than programme related investments, are included at market value at the balance sheet date. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their market value at the start of the year, or their subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market values during the year and are credited or charged to the Statement of Financial Activities based on the market value at the year end.

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks and other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

1.10 Financial instruments

The Charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Charity's balance sheet when the Charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial assets

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

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

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.11 Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

1.12 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.13 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

1.14 Leases

Rentals payable under operating leases, including any lease incentives received, are charged as an expense on a straight line basis over the term of the relevant lease.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount 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 where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

Critical judgements

Deferred income

Deferred income is estimated to recognise income in the period in which the performance conditions of the income are met. Income is deferred where performance conditions have not been fully met at the year end.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Donations and gifts	1,701,017	61,204	1,762,221	869,035	444,560	1,313,595
Transfer In Home for Good	1,305,065	180,873	1,485,938	-	-	-
	<u>3,006,082</u>	<u>242,077</u>	<u>3,248,159</u>	<u>869,035</u>	<u>444,560</u>	<u>1,313,595</u>

4 Charitable activities

	Income from charitable activities 2025 £	Income from charitable activities 2024 £
Local Authority revenue funding	<u>3,812,641</u>	<u>3,470,939</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds - general	3,167,284	3,470,939
Restricted funds	645,357	-
	<u>3,812,641</u>	<u>3,470,939</u>

5 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Interest receivable	<u>20,378</u>	<u>5,268</u>

6 Other income

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Other Income	<u>74,315</u>	<u>59,979</u>

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

6 Other income (Continued)

Other income comprises student placement fees of £15,711 (2024: £13,180), fees from work with Safe Families USA of £45,458 (2024: £26,875), Contribution towards N Harris £9,449 (2024: £11,143) and other miscellaneous income of £3,697 (2024: £8,781)

7 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Fundraising and publicity		
Direct fundraising costs	18,284	10,024
Fundraising support costs	15,138	10,236
Staff costs	159,266	-
	<u>192,688</u>	<u>20,260</u>

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

8 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Charitable services 2025 £	Charitable services 2024 £
Direct costs		
Staff costs	4,043,788	3,424,331
Depreciation and impairment	11,246	-
Travel and Accomodation	207,553	178,592
Recruitment and Training of Volunteers	17,997	14,237
Office and Telcoms	279,035	230,833
Insurance	4,656	1,387
Professional Fees	47,103	6,899
Communications	25,780	1,922
Emergency Grants	44,088	47,787
Bank Charges	582	-
Other Employment	1,424	5,399
Advocacy	40	-
Legal Fees	8,162	-
Donations Paid	2,605	-
	<u>4,694,059</u>	<u>3,911,387</u>
Share of support and governance costs (see note 9)		
Support	1,155,421	1,026,962
Governance	16,347	21,175
	<u>5,865,827</u>	<u>4,959,524</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	4,994,973	4,517,367
Restricted funds	870,854	442,157
	<u>5,865,827</u>	<u>4,959,524</u>

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

9 Support costs allocated to activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Staff costs	810,649	774,270
Travel and Accomodation	40,791	33,697
Office and Telecom	135,530	83,326
Insurance	26,770	25,784
Professional fees	60,421	54,035
Promotion and Marketing	65,677	49,267
Bank Charges	17	13
Emergemcy Family Purchases	900	-
Donations and fundraising	119	-
Other employment costs	9,000	75
Donations paid	5,547	6,495
Governance costs	16,347	21,175
	<u>1,171,768</u>	<u>1,048,137</u>
Analysed between:		
Provision of services	<u>1,171,768</u>	<u>1,048,137</u>

10 Net movement in funds

	2025 £	2024 £
The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Fees payable to the charity's auditor:		
- for the audit of the charity's financial statements	12,900	13,900
- for other financial services	3,120	-
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	11,246	-
	<u>27,266</u>	<u>13,900</u>

11 Auditor's remuneration

	2025 £	2024 £
Fees payable to the charity's auditor and associates:		
For audit services		
Audit of the financial statements of the charity	12,900	13,900
For other services		
All other non-audit services	3,120	-
	<u>16,020</u>	<u>13,900</u>

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

12 Trustees

During the year the charity made the following transactions with trustees:

S Williams

£20 (2024: £nil) of expenses were reimbursed to S Williams in the year.

A Wallace

£110 (2024: £nil) of expenses were reimbursed to A Wallace in the year.

R M Wescott

£194 (2024: £nil) of expenses were reimbursed to R M Wescott in the year.

C B K Danby

£nil (2024: £166) of expenses were reimbursed to C B K Danby during the year.

I Poree

£nil (2024: £256) of expenses were reimbursed to I Poree during the year.

A McCormick

£nil (2024: £250) of expenses were reimbursed to A McCormick during the year.(Prospective trustee)

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

13 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
Operational	160	148
Finance, Administration and IT	28	13
Management	4	3
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	192	164
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Employment costs

	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	4,174,601	3,499,284
Social security costs	341,028	279,129
Other pension costs	498,074	420,188
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	5,013,703	4,198,601
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

The number of employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000 is as follows:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
In the Band of £60,000 - £70,000	1	1
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

13 Employees

(Continued)

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel was as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Aggregate compensation	525,887	476,498

14 Net gains/(losses) on investments

	Unrestricted funds general 2025 £	Unrestricted funds general 2024 £
Gain/(loss) on investments	17,092	35,807

15 Intangible fixed assets

	Website £
Cost	
At 1 April 2024	-
Transfer from Home for Good	22,410
At 31 March 2025	22,410
Amortisation and impairment	
At 1 April 2024	-
Transfer from Home for Good	22,410
At 31 March 2025	22,410
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2025	-
At 31 March 2024	-

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

16 Tangible fixed assets

	Computer equipment £
Cost	
At 1 April 2024	10,684
Transfer from Home for Good	57,877
	<u> </u>
At 31 March 2025	68,561
	<u> </u>
Depreciation and impairment	
At 1 April 2024	10,684
Depreciation charged in the year	11,246
Transfer from Home for Good	46,631
	<u> </u>
At 31 March 2025	68,561
	<u> </u>
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2025	-
	<u> </u>
At 31 March 2024	-
	<u> </u>

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

17 Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £	Unlisted investments £	Total £
Cost or valuation			
At 1 April 2024	269,225	160,141	429,366
Valuation changes	9,158	7,934	17,092
At 31 March 2025	<u>278,383</u>	<u>168,075</u>	<u>446,458</u>
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2025	<u>278,383</u>	<u>168,075</u>	<u>446,458</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>269,225</u>	<u>160,141</u>	<u>429,366</u>

Listed investments are held at valuation and represent units held in a single Endowment Investment Fund. Unlisted investments are held at cost and represent monies deposited with CCLA.

	2025 £	2024 £
Listed investments carrying amount	<u>278,383</u>	<u>269,225</u>

18 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	401,795	240,237
Other debtors	14,880	56,741
Prepayments and accrued income	224,804	149,399
	<u>641,479</u>	<u>446,377</u>

19 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Other taxation and social security		74,344	58,211
Deferred Income	20	283,459	473,503
Trade creditors		70,974	35,268
Other creditors		82,149	45,269
Accruals		71,317	40,448
		<u>582,243</u>	<u>652,699</u>

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

20 Deferred income

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Deferred income is included within:		
Current liabilities	283,459	473,503
Movements in the year:		
Deferred income at 1 April 2024	473,503	232,124
Released from previous periods	(473,503)	(232,124)
Resources deferred in the year	283,459	473,503
Deferred income at 31 March 2025	283,459	473,503

21 Retirement benefit schemes

	2025 £	2024 £
Defined contribution schemes		
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	498,074	420,188

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Charity in an independently administered fund.

Contributions totalling £69,258 (2024: £40,286) were payable to the scheme at the end of the year and are included in creditors.

22 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 March 2025 £
Family Resources	11,162	54,664	(44,088)	21,738
Volunteer and Church Resources	-	30,000	(30,000)	-
Spring Harvest Festival 2024	-	29,961	(29,961)	-
Supporting Lodgings	-	20,854	(20,854)	-
Homecoming Project	-	23,916	(17,912)	6,004
Enquiy Line	-	1,795	(1,795)	-
Finding Homes Project	-	145,349	(145,349)	-
Hub Funds	-	580,895	(580,895)	-
	11,162	887,434	(870,854)	27,742

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

22 Restricted funds (Continued)

Previous year:	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 March 2024 £
Family Resources and HUB funds	8,759	444,560	(442,157)	11,162

Family resources: This fund is made up of a number of donations that have been received to cover resources for families. This can range from white goods, bedding, gardening services etc.

Volunteer and Church Resources: Funding from the Benefact Trust is to be used for resourcing volunteer engagement and church mobilisation.

Spring Harvest Festival 2024: Funding from the Jerusalem Trust helped fund the Who Cares? Campaign that started in 2024 with the launch of the campaign taking place at Spring Harvest in April 24.

Supported Lodgings: Funding for our continued work in the Supported Lodgings space. We have seen the Supported Lodgings National Network grow and we have started to put together a training package to help support those who run Supported Lodgings placements and hosts.

Homecoming Project: Funding to redevelop the Homecoming Project that was launched to promote family-based care for children around the world. This is being done in collaboration with other charitable organisations.

Enquiry Line: Funding towards Enquiry Line and Journeying has enabled us to further develop the service and support we offer, introducing the delivery of online events and courses to better resource and journey with individuals as they explore fostering and adoption.

Finding Homes Project: Funding enables expansion of our UK-wide church and commissioner engagement and associated activities, and enquiry journeying and support. These funds facilitate enquiry team and engagement team activities and responsibilities across the UK.

Hub Funds: Funding for core activity that has been restricted by location.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

23 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Gains and losses	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Common Purse	12,048	-	(4,187)	-	-	7,861
Cost of Living	35,000	-	-	(35,000)	-	-
Merger	8,439	-	(30,962)	35,000	-	12,477
Future Operational Costs	-	-	-	808,447	-	808,447
General funds	773,464	6,268,059	(5,152,512)	(808,447)	17,092	1,097,656
	<u>828,951</u>	<u>6,268,059</u>	<u>(5,187,661)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,092</u>	<u>1,926,441</u>
	<u><u>828,951</u></u>	<u><u>6,268,059</u></u>	<u><u>(5,187,661)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>17,092</u></u>	<u><u>1,926,441</u></u>
Previous year:	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Gains and losses	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Development and Common Purse	127,211	-	(65,163)	(50,000)	-	12,048
Cost of Living	-	-	-	35,000	-	35,000
Merger	-	-	(6,561)	15,000	-	8,439
General funds	798,339	4,405,221	(4,465,903)	-	35,807	773,464
	<u>925,550</u>	<u>4,405,221</u>	<u>(4,537,627)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35,807</u>	<u>828,951</u>
	<u><u>925,550</u></u>	<u><u>4,405,221</u></u>	<u><u>(4,537,627)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>35,807</u></u>	<u><u>828,951</u></u>

There are 4 designated funds in use:

The first is the Cost of Living Fund. In the year the Trustee Board approved a £35k transfer out of this fund to the Merger Fund.

The second fund is the Common Purse Fund. This fund was borne from the Cost of Living Fund where the Trustee Board approved a transfer of £20k from the Cost of Living Fund to the Common Purse Fund to be used as a staff hardship scheme, whereby staff could apply, or be nominated for, awards of hardship money in times of crisis.

The third fund is the Merger Fund. The Trustee Board originally approved a £15k transfer from the Cost of Living Fund into a new Merger Fund and a further £35k has been transferred from the cost of living fund this year. These funds are to be used to fund any costs incurred as part of exploring the feasibility of merger, including the feasibility study to include financial visibility, key stakeholder analysis, and mapping of engagement with churches and contracts.

The fourth fund is the Future Operational Costs Fund. The Trustee Board approved a transfer of £808,447 from unrestricted funds to designated funds. This fund is designated to cover the forecast deficit for 25/26.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

24 Analysis of net assets between funds	Unrestricted funds		Designated funds		Restricted funds		Total Unrestricted funds		Designated funds		Restricted funds		Total	
	2025	£	2025	£	2025	£	2025	£	2024	£	2024	£	2024	£
Fund balances at 31 March 2025 are represented by:														
Investments	446,458		-		-		446,458		-		-		429,366	
Current assets/(liabilities)	651,198		828,785		27,742		1,507,725		55,487		11,162		410,747	
	1,097,656		828,785		27,742		1,954,183		55,487		11,162		840,113	

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

25 Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the Charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Within one year	72,073	85,460
Between two and five years	41,630	39,614
In over five years	1,256	2,191
	<u>114,959</u>	<u>127,265</u>

26 Related party transactions

The charity received donations of £2,100 (£2024: £3,750) from Beechmount Trust, a charity which is controlled by a Trustee of this charity. There was £nil (2024: £nil) owed from Beechmount Trust at the year end.

The charity recharged expenses of £255 (2024: £236) from Rosegate Consultancy, a company which is related by a common Trustee. There was £nil (2024: £236) owed from Rosegate Consultancy at the year end.

The charity received donations of £nil (2024: £1,000) from Kings Church Cockermouth, a charity which is related by a common Trustee. There was £nil (2024: £nil) owed from Kings Church Cockermouth at the year end.

The Board approved the treatment of the Home for Good merger in accordance with Charity SORP 27.4A to reflect the incoming transfer of £1.486m as income due to the charity's incorporated status.

27 Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations

	2025 £	2024 £
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	1,114,070	(94,196)
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(20,378)	(5,268)
Fair value gains and losses on investments	(17,092)	(35,807)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	11,246	-
Movements in working capital:		
(Increase) in debtors	(195,102)	(187,000)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	119,589	(5,530)
(Decrease)/increase in deferred income	(190,044)	241,379
Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	<u>822,289</u>	<u>(86,422)</u>

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) ***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025***

28 Analysis of changes in net funds

The Charity had no material debt during the year.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

England & Wales - Charity number 1150405

Accounts

Charity registration number 1150405 & SCO48207

Company registration number 08134971 (England and Wales)

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees

C B K Danby
J D Eve
P M Sharman
A P Wallace
I D Poree (Appointed 16 May 2023)
Mr S G Williams
R M Westcott (Appointed 1 September 2024)
S J Blake (Appointed 1 September 2024)
J J Cooper (Appointed 1 September 2024)
L N Bacon (Appointed 1 September 2024)
L C Eades (Appointed 1 September 2024)

Key Management Personnel

K Osborn, Chief Executive Officer
H Crandley
M Buchanan
M Dickson
C Allcock
S Main
M Jones
C Bell

Charity number

1150405 & SCO48207

Company number

08134971

Registered office

4 Diamond Court
Kingston Park
Newcastle upon Tyne
Tyne & Wear
NE3 2EN

Auditor

Azets Audit Services
Bulman House
Regent Centre
Gosforth
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE3 3LS

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc
49-51 Northumberland Street
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 7AF

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

CONTENTS

	Page
Chairman's statement and Chief Executive Report	1 - 4
Trustees' report	5 - 14
Independent auditor's report	15 - 17
Statement of financial activities	18 - 19
Statement of financial position	20
Statement of cash flows	21
Notes to the financial statements	22 - 37

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

This is the Charity's 11th Annual Statement and through the year have been celebrating our 10th Anniversary of supporting Children and Families. We officially started working with Local Authority Children's Services in September 2012. I am pleased to report that, *'for such a time as this'* the original vision of Safe Families was created.

The Charity continues supporting parents and children across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, working with 51 Local Authorities / contracting partners, schools and health trusts, contracted to handle between circa 2150 referrals per year. In such times our mantra is that "No one should feel alone". and so we seek to ensure every child and family feel seen, heard and valued.

The past year has seen the Charity maintain its revenues at £4.8m, which is a combination of Local Authority & other contract referral income and the generosity of regular and one-off donations from individuals and Churches, Corporate and Community giving and Grants from Trusts and Foundations. The Finance Committee closely monitor and review the Reserves Policy, Pension Policy, Insurance Cover and operational expenses against budget.

Our Chief Executive, the Senior Leadership Team, dedicated staff, and the incredible volunteers, without whom, we could not exist, have enabled us to *'make a difference'* in so many children and families' lives. All of this is orchestrated by our passionate and dedicated Chief Executive, Kat Osborn, who has demonstrated again this year her strategic and operational skill set to take the Charity forward. This is not just a job to Kat, but a strong sense of vocation and calling.

The Chief Executive and the Chair who have worked together in various roles for 7 years have a very strong relationship with open and honest dialogue meet regularly for operational reporting, personal consultation and strategic development.

As a Board of Trustees, we aspire to operate demonstrating Good Governance. The Main Trustee Board meet 4 times a year, twice face to face and twice 'virtually'. We have been working hard to ensure we have a blended Board reflecting equality and diversity of skills, gender, age, experience and the Nations and Regions that we work across. All Trustees are involved in one of three Working Groups: Finance, Safeguarding and Quality Assurance, and People and Performance. Each working group is chaired by a Trustee and comprises the Chief Executive, senior staff and at least one or two Trustees.

In line with our 'Observer Induction' process for prospective Trustees we have had two new people join our meetings during the year. Usually, the 'Observer' status allows for attendance at three Trustee Meetings before a mutual decision to join the board. We were delighted that Ian Poree accepted our invitation to be a Trustee. Ian is based in the South East of England and has held several senior executive roles in both the private and public sector for over two decades leading several major transformation programmes. We were very pleased that Andrew Wallace from Northern Ireland joined us as a Trustee during the year. Andrew works as a Management Consultant also working in the private and public sector with a focus on sustainability. Dr Rachel Tooth, who is a GP in Edinburgh, retired as Trustee during the year. We are profoundly grateful to for her tireless commitment and dedication. Rachel served as a Trustee, firstly on the Board of Safe Families for Children Scotland and then joined the UK Board and Chaired the Safeguarding and Quality Assurance Working Group. Rachel will be greatly missed. We were sad to see Joanne O'Connor retire as a Trustee. Joanne was involved in Safe Families right at the very start and she was part of the original delegation that joined Sir Peter Vardy visit Safe Families USA in Chicago in 2012. Her passion and tireless support for Safe Families will be remembered as part of our heritage.

I am grateful to Julian Eve for his service as Vice Chair and his wise counsel and tireless support.


The Trustees want to register their appreciation to all the staff for their dedication to the vision and values of the charity and to our army of volunteers, without which the charity simply could not function.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Post Year end activity

For many years our Chief Executive has met with Chief Executives and Senior Leaders of other Charities working in similar areas as us. These get-togethers engender support, mutual encouragement, exchange of ideas and wisdom. One of the organisations involved is Home for Good who are based in London and started around the same time as Safe Families. Tania Bright, Home for Good's Chief Executive and Kat started to explore the idea of being able to achieve more if we merged the two Charities. In May 2024 Simon Blake, Chair of Home for Good and I happened to both be at a Conference in Windsor together. We took the opportunity to get to know each other and the idea that working closer together might serve both Charities and our service users better. This led to a meeting of the Co Chair's and both Chief Executives for further exploratory talks. We agreed to move forward with the process of engaging Trustees and Senior Staff in the dialogue. Both Boards approved the process and we have engaged a number of agencies to help us with that process. Initially an external feasibility report was undertaken by Eastside people. As the process continued Bates Wells Solicitors and both sets of Auditors have journeyed this with us. Both sets of Trustees completed independent Due Diligence, and we worked with Q5 to undertake a Culture Audit involving staff wide consultation to provide a baseline for us as we start to co create a new culture for the merged organisation. Both Kat and Tania invested time consulting stakeholders across a wide spectrum for considered advice and input, including from Major Trusts and Donors, Church Leaders and volunteers. On 30th August, Chairs and Chief Executives signed the merger agreement. The formal merger took place on 1st September 2024 with strong conviction we are stronger together!



Keith Danby 16 Dec 2024 10:16:29 GMT (UTC +0)

C B K Danby
Chairman

Dated.....16 December 2024

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT

Safe Families for Children (Safe Families), started in the UK in 2012 with a pilot in the North East of England, and today we are working with 51 partner local authorities, schools or health trusts in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Why do we exist?

No one should feel alone. We exist to create relationship and connection because everyone deserves to belong.

What do we do?

Safe Families offer hope, belonging and support to children, families, and care leavers; we do this primarily, but not exclusively, with and through local churches

What are our values?

Love – *Loving abundantly* – Supporting with hope, generosity and dignity

Belonging – *Building community* – Establishing positive relationships that bring security and connection

Faith – *Trusting Boldly* - Believing for lives transformed and in a God who can do more than we can ask or imagine

Empowerment – *Enabling potential* – Confident everyone has the ability to thrive

Humility – *Serving together* - We know we can't do it alone, so we invest in strong, honest and honouring partnerships

For Safe Families 2023-24 has been full of stories of hope against a backdrop of challenge. We our finding that situations facing families are increasing complex and the impact of the cost of living crisis continues to increase the pressure on families while the services they rely on are increasingly stretched.

It is into this backdrop that we celebrate 5,462 volunteers who give of their time, 1,430 churches who partner with us and 1,448 families who have been connected into community; feeling seen, heard and understood; perhaps for the first time.

At Safe Families it is a privilege each day to see the incredible impact of real human kindness transforming the lives of children and families; and having our own lives changed as we do it. As things get harder for the poorest in our society, we believe that the connections that form between volunteers and their families are going to be part of the safety net that prevents these families from breaking down. But even more than that, they will be the foundation that allows these parents and children begin to believe in themselves, know they are loved and step into their potential as parents, young people, or children.

At Safe Families we have always been committed to partnership. One of our core values being Humility; “we know we cannot do it alone and so we invest in strong, honest and honouring partnerships”. During 2023/24 we made the decision to take one of these partnerships a step further and to merge with Home for Good.

Safe Families has a bold vision to ensure no one feels alone; to reduce the isolation and overwhelm experienced by families so that they have the support they need to provide a stable home for children and young people. Home for Good has a bold vision to find a home for every child and young person who needs one in the UK through fostering, adoption and supported lodgings for teenagers. We both believe the Church has a crucial role to play.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

It has been clear to our boards and us how deeply aligned The Home for Good vision and Safe Families vision is and therefore we are really excited that this shared vision of two teams will now be outworked as a joint vision of one team. Committed to support families who are isolated and overwhelmed so that those families do not feel alone and have the support that they need & together, to find and sustain safe, stable homes for children who sadly aren't able to live with their birth families and need to enter the care system.

We believe that by bringing our collective passions and strengths to this vision together, we can be more than the current sum of our parts.

We want to be able to speak to the Church with one voice: to serve the Church with one offer that can activate and equip those who are called to come alongside children and families, be that for an hour, a month or a lifetime.

We want to be able to speak to Local Authorities with one voice: offering a holistic package that enables them to partner with us well in both prevention of care and provision of care when sadly, it is required.

We want to speak to Government with one voice: to see our care system reinvigorated with care and love at its heart, where the Church is recognised as a large part of the solution, where we speak to power, secure statutory funding, advise on best practice and policy, and call decision makers to account on how we collectively care for the overwhelmed and isolated in our nation.

We remain grateful for the continued interest and support of Sir Tim and Lady Susie Sainsbury of the Jerusalem Trust; Sir Brian and Lady Elizabeth Souter of the Souter Charitable Trust; the Macdonald Family of the Cardrona Trust; to The Benefact Trust, The Northwood Charitable Trust, St James Place, The CHK Foundation, Childhood Trust and The Segelman Trust for their ongoing support towards the work of the charity.

There are also a large number of other funders and individuals who contribute significant amounts to Safe Families; The Blakebank Trust, The Alice Ellen Cooper Dean Charitable Foundation. The Eveson Trust, The DMF Ellis Charitable Trust, The TBF & KL Thompson Trust, The Ardbarron Trust, The Seedfield Trust, The Sir James Knott Trust, The Stobart Newlands Trust, The Cumbria Community Foundation, to name but a few. Without the generosity and support of these donations, alongside the kind gifts from individuals, churches and businesses, we simply could not survive. The trustees, directors and staff are profoundly grateful.

Although the board of trustees are ultimately responsible for the charity, they delegate the day to day running of the charity to me as Chief Executive and our Senior Leadership Team (SLT). As we look forward, I want to finish with expressing my heartfelt thanks for everyone who is and has been a part of this journey – whether as a volunteer, whether you give financially, whether you pray, staff and trustees.... we literally would not be here without you.

We all are playing our part in doing the little things that change someone else's story. Enabling families to stay together safe, happy, and connected and working to ensure that no one feels alone.

K Osborn

Kat Osborn 12 Dec 2024 16:01:08 GMT (UTC +0)

Kat Osborn, Chief Executive

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' Report and a Directors' Report under Company Law. The trustees confirm that the annual report and financial statements of the charitable company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), 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 2019).

Since the charitable company qualifies as small under section 382 of the Companies Act 2006, the Strategic Report required of medium and large companies under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 has been omitted.

Objectives and activities

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

Safe Families offer hope, belonging and support to children, families and care leavers; we do this primarily, but not exclusively, with and through local churches.

EQUITY AND DIVERSITY POLICY

Safe Families recognises that our Equality and Diversity Policy is an integral part of our approach to creating belonging for all. This policy underpins all Safe Families' activity in achieving our mission to offer hope, belonging and support to children, families, and care leavers; primarily but not exclusively, through local churches.

Safe Families is a Christian charity. Safe Families policies and protocols are also clear that the project is a family support service offered to those in need and that the purpose of the organisation is to create relationship and connection for all because everyone deserves to belong.

The motivation of all those working and volunteering within Safe Families is to make a tangible difference to the lives of those helped, irrespective of whether the family identifies with the Christian faith, another faith, or no faith. Safe Families is not a vehicle to support proselytisation.

Families and children will be supported regardless of age, disability, gender, reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation.

Safe Families is committed to promoting fairness, equality, and diversity in all its activities. This includes the recruitment, training and development of a diverse group of volunteers able to support a diverse range of families in crisis.

This policy is based on the key principles of equity, equality, inclusion, engagement, and partnership. This policy considers and is compliant with the Equality Act 2010. It covers discrimination based on age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation as set out in the Equality Act (2010).

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Safe Families welcomes the opportunity to work with people from all kinds of social, educational, economic and cultural backgrounds. We will never knowingly discriminate against any person on the grounds of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.

Safe Families Values when considering Diversity and Inclusion are defined below:

Safe Families is committed to creating belonging; (by which we mean the feeling of being seen, heard, and understood) for all recognising that we are all created equal.

- We are aware that there are many factors in the UK that result in inequality and that as a result that opportunity, belonging, and justice is not equally available to all. Our learning, listening and action is rooted in a desire to redress this balance.

- Prejudice seeks to "fix and normalise 'difference' and create boundaries between groups" (Avtar Brah 1992: 143). At Safe Families we desire to create connection and relationship through which boundaries are broken down.

- We want people to look at Safe Families and see the diversity of our global community and an image of our unity as humankind.

- We seek to ensure in all our practices we contribute to the undoing of society's systemic prejudices.

Safe Families has an anti-Racism working group made up of staff members. This group has been proactive in developing an action plan for our journey as an organisation to be anti-racist. The plan focuses on 3 key areas: (1) staff recruitment and building a more diverse workplace (2) staff learning and education & (3) understanding our data (families supported and volunteers recruited).

STRATEGIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES

In achieving our mission, we have identified 2 key strategic themes which are:

(1) To release the potential in families & individuals through offering hope & belonging

(2) To release the potential in the church to offer hope and belonging to all those who need it

We have identified a 2-3 year goal that details the part that Safe Families will play in achieving each strategic theme:

(1) Isolated and struggling families, children, and care leavers, are connected with volunteers to build relationships that last, bringing hope & providing the practical and emotional support needed

(2) The UK church understands its call to love the vulnerable. It has a clear theological understanding, surrounding hospitality and community, and this increased understanding results in action

For each goal we have identified the challenges that limit us in achieving this and identified an action plan to tackle these.

Alongside this we have two foundation goals that will ensure sustainability for all we do. These are to:

(a) Ensure Financial Sustainability: Safe Families delivers quality outcomes to an approved budget that takes into account the Reserves Policy while maintaining a healthy working culture

(b) Prioritise Culture: Safe Families has clear values reflected by our culture.

MAIN ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN TO FURTHER THE CHARITY'S PURPOSE FOR PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the Charity should undertake and all the charity's activities in the year have been in line with the objects and are undertaken to further the charity's charitable purposes for the public benefit.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

ACTIVITIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES

Our core model for providing support to families remains the same and is based around the following three core volunteer roles

- *Host Families* who offer short term overnight respite care to children for a couple of nights to a couple of weeks. On advice from the Department of Education, we operate under the legal framework of Section 17 of the Children Act 1989.

- *Family Friends* who come alongside placing parents/carers offering peer to peer support and mentoring. This relationship can be short-term or long-term depending on the family needs.

- *Resource Friends* who offer goods and services either to the placing parents/carers, such as meals, clothes, toys, beds, buggies etc. These are all free of charge

All volunteers go through a seven-step safeguarding training and accreditation process before they are approved. Thereafter, volunteers meet regularly with paid staff for feedback and ongoing training.

Volunteers are central to every aspect of Safe Families work. Safe Families exists to create relationship and connection because everyone deserves to belong. This belonging is offered solely through the dedication, care, and practical actions of our volunteers. Researchers has found that the impact of loneliness can be worse for health than smoking 15 cigarettes a day. With over 5,000 volunteers across the country offering their time as host families, family friends and resource friends, Safe Families can transform how families feel, and build more connected & hopeful communities.

Achievements and performance

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

Across the regions we achieved the following metrics, compared to the previous financial year(s):

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Local authorities	30	34	39	46	51	51
Accredited volunteers	4,161	4,539	4,897	5,126	5,408	5,397
Families supported (cumulative)	3,256	4,212	5,618	7,018	8,466	9,779
Families supported (in year)	1,001	991	1,483	1,508	1,562	1,448
Children benefitted (cumulative)	7,829	9,965	12,151	16,349	19,644	22,646
Children benefitted (in year)	2,365	2,362	3,231	3,458	3,536	3,291
Number of bed nights (cumulative)	5,612	7,231	7,973	9,264	9,747	10,301
Churches and community groups	848	953	1,099	1,209	1,322	1,391

THE IMPACT OF OUR WORK

Over the last 12 months we have evaluation scores for 1,449 families either at closure or review which demonstrate the impact of Safe Families support across 6 important domains that reflect the health and well-being of the families we support. Given our vision is that no-one should feel alone it is especially encouraging that 96% of people supported report an increase in their social networks.

	Social Networks	Wellbeing	Confidence	Physical Needs	Family Relationships	Positive Parenting
Maintained / Increased	96%	92%	91%	90%	89%	93%
Decreased	4%	8%	5%	10%	11%	7%
Average Change	+1.5	+1.3	+1.3	+0.8	+0.7	+0.9

We have also demonstrated the following impact:

- Delivered a decrease of the flow of children into care of between 9 – 18%
- 90% of children have improved or remained at the same level in Children's Services without escalation of need

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES / INCOME GENERATION

Safe Families undertakes all fundraising activities in line with industry best practice, legal guidelines and in line with our values. We aim to be open with the public about our processes and to explain (where appropriate) if asked for more information. We aim to be honest, acting with integrity, about the cause we are fundraising for or the way a donation will be used. We aim to demonstrate respect whenever we have contact, digital or physical, with any member of the public.

The charity continues to implement its fundraising strategy which seeks to diversify our income base. During the financial year the charity was funded through a blend of its contract work with Local Authorities, external charitable grants, and fundraised income. We had a successful year in terms of income from grants with just over £692k being received from this income stream. Alongside this we also made progress in developing all our fundraised income streams, including corporate donations, one-off and monthly individual giving, and community fundraising. Across these streams we achieved a 23.4% increase in income in 23/24 compared to the previous year.

Financial review

The Charity made a deficit in the year of £94,196 (2023: £75,321 deficit) with income of £4,849,781 (2023: £4,781,950), expenditure of £4,979,784 (2023: £4,848,930) and unrealised gains on investments of £35,807 (2023: £8,341 loss). Income comes from a blend of local authority income for supporting children and families; £3,470,939 (2023: £3,496,341); and donation income from grant-making charities and foundations, churches, and individuals of £1,378,840 (2023: £1,285,608).

Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charitable company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis and the principal uncertainties for the charitable company are set out in the Accounting Policies.

The charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern is governed by its ability to control its principal risks and uncertainties which are set out in the section "Principal Risks and Uncertainties" below.

RESERVES POLICY

The trustees have considered the Reserves Policy that is appropriate to the charity, given the plans for future activities, and understand the importance of a policy that enables it to meet its developing commitments and obligations. The Reserves Policy takes a risk-informed approach to holding reserves to demonstrate appropriate financial management, stewardship, and sustainability. In doing so, the Charity has considered working capital, financial risk management, and future development. Using this rationale, the total free reserves are set at a range of £635k to £755k.

The total funds held by the Charity on 31 March 2024 were £840,113 (2023: £934,309). Of these funds, £11,162 were held in restricted funds (2023: £8,759). The Charity also designated funds for future seed funding and other identified activities that are forecast to require additional funds. The amount of these designated funds totals £55,487 (2023: £127,211). Additionally, the Charity has investments in two investment funds. The valuation of these two funds is £429,366 (2023: £393,557) leaving £344,098 (2023: £404,782) of free reserves at the year end. The target reserves required to comply with the charitable company's reserves policy are between £635k and £755k. The total of free reserves and the funds held in investments that are liquid and can be accessed at short notice is £773,464 (2023: £798,339) and the trustees are comfortable that this falls in-line with the company's reserves policy.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

Risk management

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charitable company is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the charitable company and are satisfied those systems and procedures are in place to mitigate our exposure to the major risks.

Through the internal reporting and careful strategies, these risks are managed.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The risks of the Charity are managed by the Senior Leadership Team and reviewed by the Trustee Board through the appropriate subgroup.

The principal risks to the charity come in two forms; financial and safeguarding, the former due to the uncertainty that occurs with most funding derived from external sources. There is a risk that current funding agreements cease and are not renewed in the long term. The charity manages these risks by working closely with its partners to ensure all parties are content with current arrangements and practices.

The principal risk is identified as being the financing of the growth of the charity. The work of the charity is reported in the Chairman's and Chief Executive's report elsewhere in these financial statements. The growth in activity includes delivery in new locations as well as continuing to service and develop the existing locations.

These developments require funding, and the geographical spread of locations requires careful management to cover the charity's financial needs, much of which is related to the skilled staff and the volunteers who, together, deliver the charitable activities. Most of the funding of the charity comes from the Local Authorities, but financial support from trusts, churches, and individuals is an important part of making all this possible.

As with many charities, there is an in-built uncertainty about financial provision and the raising of finance is a part of its day-to-day work. The growth of activity has been financed by an increase in income from Local Authority contracts, and the generous support of an increasing number of donors. The small decrease in fundraised income is mainly due to a change in the fundraising strategy, becoming less reliant on fixed term transformational grants and moving towards regular giving that traditionally is in place for a longer period.

We have a robust process in place to monitor our financial position and a finance committee oversees our fiduciary responsibilities to ensure that we have sufficient reserves to operate should there be change in income.

Our business continuity planning is strong and is regularly reviewed.

The second principal risk to the charity is safeguarding. Safe Families has a clear, comprehensive safeguarding framework in place in which policy, procedure and guidance are all in line with legislation and the Local Safeguarding Children Boards procedures, all of which are designed to ensure that children and young people using the service are appropriately safeguarded. All staff and volunteers are fully aware of their duty of care to children and young people and vulnerable adults and that safeguarding them is of paramount importance.

We have comprehensive policies and procedures that govern activity and behaviour of all staff and volunteers. All activity is governed by our Quality Standards Framework which provides step by step guidance for the delivery of family support and work with volunteers. The framework sets out best practice that underpins the Safe Families approach in seeking to improve outcomes for children and families and ensure they are being kept safe within the system. The agreed quality standards enable regular audit of practice and case management ensuring consistency of approach and compliance with policies and procedures.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Plans for future periods

As we look forward, we consider our focus under 5 broad headings:

Delivering Support and Creating Connection; we will continue to ensure isolated and struggling families, children and care leavers, are connected with volunteers to build relationships that last; bringing hope & providing the practical and emotional support needed. We have an increased focus on the importance of belonging; defined for us as "being seen, heard and understood". We see this as being the unique offer that Safe Families volunteers can give to families. We also have a deeper focus on the impact of trauma on family life and the wellbeing of children and adults and continue to embed trauma informed support across all we do.

Developing our Volunteers; we will continue to work within local communities to release the potential of the volunteer community there. We are committed to continuous investment in our volunteers; this year we have added training in Understanding ASD, Understanding Teens and Harm outside the Home to our training suite.

Deepening our Church partnerships; we will invest in our relationships with the churches and community groups that our volunteers are rooted in. We believe these communities are perfectly placed to offer love and belonging to families and want to see the potential in them released.

Ensuring our Financial Sustainability; We will deliver quality outcomes on approved budgets while creating opportunities for growth and innovation. We will continue to deliver on our fundraising strategy, seeing growth across all our developing income streams.

Prioritising Culture; Safe Families has clear values reflected by our culture. Our current focus is ensuring that everyone understands how they play their part in achieving a culture that reflects our values and enabling a place where staff and the organisation flourish.

Alongside this focus on our core objectives the trustees have also made the decision for Safe Families to merge with Home for Good. This merge took place on 1st September 2024, with Home for Good transferring into Safe Families. This is a decision motivated by the deep alignment of our vision and mission and a belief that we can achieve more together than we can separately.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Structure, governance and management

CONSTITUTION

The charitable company is constituted under a Memorandum of Association dated 9 July 2012 and is a registered charity, number 1150405.

The principal objects of the charitable company are:

- The provision of relief and respite to families in crisis arising from poverty, conflict, hardship, homelessness, ill health, or addictions.
- Befriending and emotional support to children, parents and carers who are isolated, overwhelmed and not coping.
- The provision of practical help to resource stretched parents and carers.

GOVERNANCE

The Board of Trustees continue to work on the Charity's governance model and have welcomed new trustees to the Board to increase the breadth of expertise among the board members and gears its recruitment of new members to the skills audit conducted last year to identify the profile of prospective new trustees. There are currently three working subgroups; Safeguarding and Quality Assurance; Finance; People and Performance; that meet quarterly as a minimum, and report back into quarterly Trustee Board meetings. It was agreed that a fourth working group focused on Governance and Nominations would be created as soon as Trustee numbers increased to allow for this to effectively function. Each subgroup has a chair and includes at least 2 members of the trustee board alongside the Chief Executive. Each group has its own terms of reference which determines frequency of meetings, the purpose of the committee, and method of reporting back to the main board.

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

C B K Danby	
Dr R J Tooth	(Resigned 4 December 2023)
J M O'Connor	(Resigned 16 May 2023)
J D Eve	
P M Sharman	
A P Wallace	
I D Poree	(Appointed 16 May 2023)
Mr S G Williams	
R M Westcott	(Appointed 1 September 2024)
S J Blake	(Appointed 1 September 2024)
J J Cooper	(Appointed 1 September 2024)
L N Bacon	(Appointed 1 September 2024)
L C Eades	(Appointed 1 September 2024)

METHOD OF APPOINTMENT OR ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

The management of the charitable company is the responsibility of the trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Articles of Association.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND DECISION MAKING

The business of the charitable company is managed by the trustees who may exercise all the powers of the charitable company.

The day-to-day management of the charity is delegated to the Chief Executive and her Senior Leadership team. The Senior Leadership Team meets for a weekly catch-up and virtually once a month, to discuss strategic operational developments. Quarterly, these meetings are face-to-face and usually span two or three days.

During the financial year, the charity was contracted to work with 51 local authorities, schools, and health trusts, operating out of four regions. Each region is led by a Programme Director, alongside a team of experienced social and health care professionals and community volunteer managers. Each region is divided into hubs. There are 9 hubs. The chief executive is supported by a small national team.

National Team: Kat Osborn - Chief Executive; Claudia Bell - Director of Safeguarding and Quality Assurance; Martin Dickson - Director of Church Relations; Matt Jones - Head of Communications and Influence; Ian Maith - Financial Controller and Stuart Main - Head of IT and Solutions.

Central Region: Helen Crandley - Programme Director.

Hubs: Central East, Mid Central, Central West

Local Authorities/Contracting areas (8): Birmingham, Derby City, Dudley, Lincolnshire, North East Lincolnshire, Nottingham City, Nottinghamshire, and Sandwell.

Schools and Health Trusts: (4): Fernwood School, Hull University Teaching Hospital, Learning without Limits Academy Trust, and Steel City Schools Partnership.

North Region: Mark Buchanan - Programme Director.

Hubs: Scotland, North-East, North-West

Local Authorities/Contracting areas (21): Cumbria, Darlington, Gateshead, Middlesbrough, Newcastle, North Tyneside, Northumberland, Stockton, Knowsley, Lancashire, Manchester City, Salford City, Sefton, Aberdeenshire, Clackmannanshire, East Lothian, Edinburgh, Fife, Midlothian, Perth & Kinross, West Lothian.

South Region with Wales and Northern Ireland: Chris Allcock - Programme Director.

Hubs: South, South West, Wales, Northern Ireland

Local Authorities/Contracting areas (13): Bournemouth/Christchurch/Poole, Dorset, East Sussex, Plymouth, Somerset, Southampton, Swindon, Wiltshire, Cardiff, Belfast, Northern Trust.

London: Chris Allcock - Programme Director

Local Authorities (5): Barking & Dagenham, Greenwich, Hammersmith & Fulham, Southwark, Thurrock.

At 31st March 2024 we have an ever-expanding team of 170 staff, FTE of 125.340.

POLICIES ADOPTED FOR THE INDUCTION AND TRAINING OF TRUSTEES

Prospective trustees are invited to attend three board meetings as an observer prior to their nomination meeting. This gives them the chance to learn more about Safe Families and other board members, whilst also allowing the board to get to know the individual prior to them being officially appointed. During this period, they also have one-to-one meetings with both the Chair and Chief Executive Officer as well as one-to-ones with some of the existing trustees. New trustees are also provided with key charity documents to read such as the Staff Handbook, Constitution, Safeguarding Policy, Finance Policy, and minutes from the last twelve months' Trustee Board meetings. Furthermore, new trustees are provided key financial documents such as the last audited Statutory accounts and latest Management Accounts and reports.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

PAY POLICY FOR SENIOR STAFF

The Senior Leadership Team is remunerated in line with industry levels, with equal pay across each staff hierarchy level across the organisation.

INFORMATION ON FUNDRAISING PRACTICES

The fundraising strategy of the charity is primarily the responsibility of the Chief Executive working closely with the Head of Communications and Influence. Working with the Financial Controller, financial projections supporting applications are submitted within applications.

We now have a small fundraising team with 3 part time Fundraising Managers who report to the Head of Communications and Influence. We also engage with Concannon Consultants who concentrate on smaller, more localised grants.

No staff member or consultant received commission on funds secured.

All data held by the charity is protected by strict and confidential protocols.

RELATED PARTY RELATIONSHIPS

All related party transactions are disclosed in note 24 to the accounts.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees, who are also the directors of Safe Families For Children for the purpose 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 Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

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

Auditor

In accordance with the company's articles, a resolution proposing that Azets Audit Services be reappointed as auditor of the company will be put at a General Meeting.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Disclosure of information to auditor

Each of the Trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditor is aware of such information.

The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



Keith Danby 16 Dec 2024 10:16:29 GMT (UTC +0)

.....
C B K Danby

Trustee

Date: 16 December 2024

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Safe Families For Children (the 'Charity') for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the statement of financial position, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including 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 charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its 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.

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 Charity 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 Charity'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 other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual 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. 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 course of 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 this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. 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 our audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the Trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE MEMBERS OF SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the Trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the 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

As explained more fully in the statement of Trustees' responsibilities, the Trustees, who are also the directors of the Charity for the purpose 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 Charity'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 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.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE MEMBERS OF SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above and on the Financial Reporting Council's website, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud.

We obtain and update our understanding of the entity, its activities, its control environment, and likely future developments, including in relation to the legal and regulatory framework applicable and how the entity is complying with that framework. Based on this understanding, we identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. This includes consideration of the risk of acts by the entity that were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud, we designed procedures which included:

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims as well as actual, suspected and alleged fraud;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Assessing the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations considered to have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the entity through enquiry and inspection;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management bias and override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for indicators of potential bias.

Because of the field in which the charity operates, we identified the following areas as those most likely to have a material impact on the financial statements; Health and Safety; employment laws; and compliance with the UK Companies and Charities Acts.

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 of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

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. 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.



Simon Brown 16 Dec 2024 10:47:42 GMT (UTC +0)

Simon Brown BA ACA DChA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Azets Audit Services

16 December 2024

Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor

Bulman House
Regent Centre
Gosforth
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE3 3LS

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Current financial year

	Notes	Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<u>Income and endowments from:</u>					
Donations and legacies	3	869,035	444,560	1,313,595	1,250,579
Charitable activities	4	3,470,939	-	3,470,939	3,496,341
Investments	5	5,268	-	5,268	-
Other income	6	59,979	-	59,979	35,030
Total income		4,405,221	444,560	4,849,781	4,781,950
<u>Expenditure on:</u>					
Raising funds	7	20,260	-	20,260	7,122
Charitable activities	8	4,517,367	442,157	4,959,524	4,841,808
Total expenditure		4,537,627	442,157	4,979,784	4,848,930
Net gains/(losses) on investments	13	35,807	-	35,807	(8,341)
Net movement in funds		(96,599)	2,403	(94,196)	(75,321)
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		925,550	8,759	934,309	1,009,630
Fund balances at 31 March 2024		828,951	11,162	840,113	934,309

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Prior financial year

		Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
	Notes			
<u>Income and endowments from:</u>				
Donations and legacies	3	430,825	819,754	1,250,579
Charitable activities	4	3,496,341	-	3,496,341
Other income	6	35,030	-	35,030
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total income		3,962,196	819,754	4,781,950
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<u>Expenditure on:</u>				
Raising funds	7	7,122	-	7,122
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Charitable activities	8	4,015,658	826,150	4,841,808
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total expenditure		4,022,780	826,150	4,848,930
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net gains/(losses) on investments	13	(8,341)	-	(8,341)
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net movement in funds		(68,925)	(6,396)	(75,321)
Fund balances at 1 April 2022		994,475	15,155	1,009,630
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Fund balances at 31 March 2023		925,550	8,759	934,309
		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

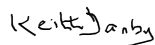
SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	14		-		-
Investments	15		429,366		393,557
Current assets					
Debtors	16	446,377		259,377	
Cash at bank and in hand		617,069		698,223	
			1,063,446		957,600
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(652,699)		(416,848)	
Net current assets			410,747		540,752
Total assets less current liabilities			840,113		934,309
Income funds					
Restricted funds	20		11,162		8,759
<u>Unrestricted funds - general</u>					
Designated funds	21	55,487		127,211	
General unrestricted funds		773,464		798,339	
			828,951		925,550
			840,113		934,309

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 16 December 2024



Keith Danby 16 Dec 2024 10:16:29 GMT (UTC +0)

C B K Danby

Trustee

Company registration number 08134971

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash (absorbed by)/generated from operations	25		(86,422)		101,118
Investing activities					
Investment income received		5,268		-	
Net cash generated from/(used in) investing activities					
			5,268		-
Net cash used in financing activities					
			-		-
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents					
			(81,154)		101,118
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			698,223		597,105
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			<u>617,069</u>		<u>698,223</u>

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Safe Families For Children is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 4 Diamond Court, Kingston Park, Newcastle upon Tyne, Tyne & Wear, NE3 2EN.

The charity does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charity's governing document, being the Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 9 July 2012, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities 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)" (effective 1 January 2019). The Charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include listed investments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Designated funds comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the Trustees for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the Charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Incoming resources from charitable activities is predominantly income from Local Authorities and is accounted for on a time-accrual basis.

Donations and legacies

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the Charity has been notified of the donation. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the Charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

Gift Aid

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Other income

Other income is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent that the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Raising Funds

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, the management of investments and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustee's meetings and reimbursed expenses.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets costing individually £1,000 or more are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Computer equipment	100% in year of purchase
--------------------	--------------------------

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.7 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments, other than programme related investments, are included at market value at the balance sheet date. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their market value at the start of the year, or their subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market values during the year and are credited or charged to the Statement of Financial Activities based on the market value at the year end.

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks and other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

1.9 Financial instruments

The Charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Charity's balance sheet when the Charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial assets

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

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

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.10 Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.11 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.12 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount 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 where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

Critical judgements

Deferred income

Deferred income is estimated to recognise income in the period in which the performance conditions of the income are met. Income is deferred where performance conditions have not been fully met at the year end.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

3 Donations and legacies	Unrestricted funds general		Restricted funds		Total	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations and gifts	869,035		444,560		1,313,595	
					430,825	819,754
						1,250,579

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

4 Charitable activities

	Income from charitable activities 2024 £	Income from charitable activities 2023 £
Local Authority revenue funding	3,470,939	3,496,341
	<u>3,470,939</u>	<u>3,496,341</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds - general	3,470,939	3,496,341
	<u>3,470,939</u>	<u>3,496,341</u>

5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Interest receivable	5,268	-
	<u>5,268</u>	<u>-</u>

6 Other income

	Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £
Other income	59,979	35,030
	<u>59,979</u>	<u>35,030</u>

Other income comprises student placement fees of £13,180 (2023: £21,820), fees from work with Safe Families USA of £26,875 (2023: £12,500) and other miscellaneous income of £19,924 (2023: £710)

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

7 Raising funds

	Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £
<u>Fundraising and publicity</u>		
Fundraising costs	10,024	7,122
Support costs	10,236	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Fundraising and publicity	20,260	7,122
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<u>20,260</u>	<u>7,122</u>

8 Charitable activities

	Charitable services 2024 £	Charitable services 2023 £
Staff costs	3,424,331	3,437,572
Travel and accommodation	178,592	164,612
Recruitment and training of volunteers	14,237	16,976
Office and telecom	230,833	211,927
Insurance	1,387	664
Professional fees	6,899	16,675
Promotions and marketing	1,922	210
Emergency family purchases	47,787	47,338
Bank charges	-	5,608
Other employment costs	5,399	2,750
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3,911,387	3,904,332
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Share of support costs (see note 9)	1,026,962	926,676
Share of governance costs (see note 9)	21,175	10,800
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	4,959,524	4,841,808
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds - general	4,517,367	4,015,658
Restricted funds	442,157	826,150
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<u>4,959,524</u>	<u>4,841,808</u>

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

9 Support costs

	Support costs	Governance costs	2024	Support costs	Governance costs	2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	774,270	-	774,270	695,399	-	695,399
Travel and accommodation	33,697	-	33,697	27,116	-	27,116
Office and Telecom	83,326	-	83,326	93,753	-	93,753
Insurance	25,784	-	25,784	22,841	-	22,841
Professional Fees	54,035	-	54,035	55,808	-	55,808
Promotions & Marketing	49,267	-	49,267	20,992	-	20,992
Bank Charges	13	-	13	1,021	-	1,021
Emergency Family Purchases	32	-	32	-	-	-
Other employment costs	75	-	75	-	-	-
Donations and fundraising	16,699	-	16,699	9,746	-	9,746
Audit fees	-	13,900	13,900	-	10,800	10,800
Other governance costs	-	6,600	6,600	-	-	-
Trustees' expenses	-	675	675	-	-	-
	<u>1,037,198</u>	<u>21,175</u>	<u>1,058,373</u>	<u>926,676</u>	<u>10,800</u>	<u>937,476</u>
Analysed between						
Fundraising	10,236	-	10,236	-	-	-
Charitable activities	<u>1,026,962</u>	<u>21,175</u>	<u>1,048,137</u>	<u>926,676</u>	<u>10,800</u>	<u>937,476</u>
	<u>1,037,198</u>	<u>21,175</u>	<u>1,058,373</u>	<u>926,676</u>	<u>10,800</u>	<u>937,476</u>

10 Auditor's remuneration

Fees payable to the Charity's auditor and associates:	2024	2023
	£	£
Audit of the Charity's annual accounts	13,900	10,800

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

11 Trustees

During the year the charity made the following transactions with trustees:

C B K Danby

£166 (2023: £973) of expenses were reimbursed to C B K Danby during the year.

J D Eve

£Nil (2023: £132) of expenses were reimbursed to J D Eve during the year.

P M Sharman

£Nil (2023: £32) of expenses were reimbursed to P M Sharman during the year.

S G Williams

£Nil (2023: £192) of expenses were reimbursed to S G Williams during the year.

I Poree

£256 (2023: £Nil) of expenses were reimbursed to I Poree during the year.

A McCormick

£250 (2023: £Nil) of expenses were reimbursed to A McCormick during the year.(Prospective trustee)

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

12 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024	2023
	Number	Number
Operational	148	146
Finance, Administration and IT	13	15
Management	3	3
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	164	164
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Employment costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	3,499,284	3,431,046
Social security costs	279,129	286,629
Other pension costs	420,188	415,296
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	4,198,601	4,132,971
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

The number of employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000 is as follows:

	2024	2023
	Number	Number
In the Band of £60,000 - £70,000	1	1
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

13 Net gains/(losses) on investments

	Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £
Gain/(loss) on investments	35,807	(8,341)

14 Tangible fixed assets

	Computer equipment £
Cost	
At 1 April 2023	10,684
At 31 March 2024	10,684
Depreciation and impairment	
At 1 April 2023	10,684
At 31 March 2024	10,684
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2024	-
At 31 March 2023	-

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

15 Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £	Unlisted investments £	Total £
Cost or valuation			
At 1 April 2023	240,841	152,716	393,557
Additions	-	7,425	7,425
Valuation changes	28,384	-	28,384
At 31 March 2024	<u>269,225</u>	<u>160,141</u>	<u>429,366</u>
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2024	<u>269,225</u>	<u>160,141</u>	<u>429,366</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>240,841</u>	<u>152,716</u>	<u>393,557</u>

Listed investments are held at valuation and represent units held in a single Endowment Investment Fund. Unlisted Investments are held at cost and represent monies deposited with CCLA.

	2024 £	2023 £
Listed investments carrying amount	<u>269,225</u>	<u>240,841</u>

16 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	240,237	102,392
Other debtors	56,741	33,775
Prepayments and accrued income	149,399	123,210
	<u>446,377</u>	<u>259,377</u>

17 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Other taxation and social security		58,211	62,418
Deferred income	18	473,503	232,124
Trade creditors		35,268	50,664
Other creditors		45,269	31,219
Accruals		40,448	40,423
		<u>652,699</u>	<u>416,848</u>

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

18 Deferred income

	2024 £	2023 £
Deferred income	473,503	232,124

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Deferred income is included within:		
Current liabilities	473,503	232,124
Movements in the year:		
Deferred income at 1 April 2023	232,124	288,667
Released from previous periods	(232,124)	(288,667)
Resources deferred in the year	473,503	232,124
Deferred income at 31 March 2024	473,503	232,124

19 Retirement benefit schemes

Defined contribution schemes

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Charity in an independently administered fund.

The charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes was £420,188 (2023 - £415,296).

Contributions totalling £40,286 (2023: £29,852) were payable to the scheme at the end of the year and are included in creditors.

20 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds			Movement in funds			
	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Family Resources and HUB funds	15,155	819,754	(826,150)	8,759	444,560	(442,157)	11,162

Family resources and Hub funds. This fund is made up of a number of donations that have been received to cover resources for families. This can range from white goods, bedding, gardening services etc.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

21 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes:

	Balance at 1 April 2022	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 1 April 2023	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Development and Common Purse	150,000	(92,789)	70,000	127,211	(65,163)	(50,000)	12,048
Cost of Living	-	-	-	-	-	35,000	35,000
Merger	-	-	-	-	(6,561)	15,000	8,439
	<u>150,000</u>	<u>(92,789)</u>	<u>70,000</u>	<u>127,211</u>	<u>(71,724)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>55,487</u>

There are 4 designated funds in use:

The first is the Development Fund which was to be used for start-up costs in new areas. It takes around 3 months, at a cost of circa £15k to set up in a new area before we receive funding from Local Authorities and £150k was placed into the Development Fund to cover start ups with 10 new Local Authorities. The balance of this fund now stands at £nil (2023: £60,000)

The second is the Cost of Living Fund. In Sept 22 the Trustee Board approved a £70k transfer from unrestricted reserves into the Cost of Living Fund to be used to support staff through the cost of living crisis.

The third fund is the Common Purse Fund. This fund was borne from the Cost of Living Fund where the Trustee Board approved a transfer of £20k from the Cost of Living Fund to the Common Purse Fund to be used as a staff hardship scheme, whereby staff could apply, or be nominated for, awards of hardship money in times of crisis.

The fourth fund is the Merger Fund. The Trustee Board approved a £15k transfer from the Cost of Living Fund into a new Merger Fund. This £15k was to be used to fund any costs incurred as part of exploring the feasibility of merger, including the feasibility study to include financial visibility, key stakeholder analysis, and mapping of engagement with churches and contracts.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

22 Analysis of net assets between funds	Unrestricted funds		Designated funds		Restricted funds		Total Unrestricted funds		Designated funds		Restricted funds		Total	
	2024	£	2024	£	2024	£	2024	£	2023	£	2023	£	2023	£
Fund balances at 31 March 2024 are represented by:														
Investments	429,366		-		-		393,557		-		-		393,557	
Current assets/(liabilities)	344,098		55,487		11,162		404,782		127,211		8,759		540,752	
	773,464		55,487		11,162		798,339		127,211		8,759		934,309	

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

23 Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the Charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Within one year	85,460	52,368
Between two and five years	39,614	21,267
In over five years	2,191	-
	<u>127,265</u>	<u>73,635</u>

24 Related party transactions

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel is as follows.

	2024 £	2023 £
Aggregate compensation	<u>476,498</u>	<u>490,569</u>

The charity received donations of £3,750 (£2023: £1,500) from Beechmount Trust, a charity which is controlled by a Trustee of this charity. There was £nil (2023: £nil) owed from Beechmount Trust at the year end.

The charity recharged expenses of £236 (2023: £nil) from Rosegate Consultancy, a company which is related by a common Trustee. There was £236 (2023: £nil) owed to Rosegate Consultancy at the year end.

The charity received donations of £1,000 (2023: £nil) from Kings Church Cockermouth, a charity which is related by a common Trustee. There was £nil (2023: £nil) owed from Kings Church Cockermouth at the year end.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

25 Cash generated from operations	2024 £	2023 £
Deficit for the year	(94,196)	(75,321)
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(5,268)	-
Fair value gains and losses on investments	(35,807)	8,341
Movements in working capital:		
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(187,000)	217,302
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(5,530)	7,339
Increase/(decrease) in deferred income	241,379	(56,543)
Cash (absorbed by)/generated from operations	(86,422)	101,118
26 Analysis of changes in net funds		
The Charity had no debt during the year.		

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

England & Wales - Charity number 1150405

Accounts

Company registration number: 08134971

Charity registration number: 1150405 & SCO48207

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Safe Families for Children

Contents

Reference and Administrative Details	1
Trustees' Report	2 to 13
Chairman's Statement	14 to 15
Chief Executive Report	16 to 17
Independent Auditors' Report	18 to 20
Statement of Financial Activities	21
Statement of Financial Activities	22
Balance Sheet	23
Statement of Cash Flows	24
Notes to the Financial Statements	25 to 41

Safe Families for Children

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees	C B K Danby Dr R J Tooth S G Williams D E Ryan (resigned 4 November 2022) J M O'Connor (resigned 16 May 2023) J D Eve P M Sharman A P Wallace (appointed 20 February 2023) I D Poree (appointed 16 May 2023)
Key Management Personnel	K Osborn, Chief Executive Officer H Crandley M Buchanan M Dickson C Allcock K Wordsworth A Day S Main M Jones
Registered Office	Unit 4, Diamond Court Kingston Park Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 2EN The charity is incorporated in England and Wales.
Company Registration Number	08134971
Charity Registration Number	1150405 & SCO48207
Bankers	Barclays Bank plc 49 - 51 Northumberland Street Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7AF
Auditor	Azets Audit Services Bulman House Regent Centre Gosforth Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 3LS

Safe Families for Children

Trustees' Report

The trustees present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of Safe Families for Children for the year 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023. The annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' Report and a Directors' Report under Company Law. The trustees confirm that the annual report and financial statements of the charitable company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), 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 2019).

Since the charitable company qualifies as small under section 382 of the Companies Act 2006, the Strategic Report required of medium and large companies under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 has been omitted.

Structure, Governance and Management

CONSTITUTION

The charitable company is constituted under a Memorandum of Association dated 9 July 2012 and is a registered charity, number 1150405.

The principal objects of the charitable company are:

- The provision of relief and respite to families in crisis arising from poverty, conflict, hardship, homelessness, ill health, or addictions.
- Befriending and emotional support to children, parents and carers who are isolated, overwhelmed and not coping.
- The provision of practical help to resource stretched parents and carers.

METHOD OF APPOINTMENT OR ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

The management of the charitable company is the responsibility of the trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Articles of Association.

GOVERNANCE

The Board of Trustees continue to work on the Charity's governance model and have welcomed new trustees to the Board to increase the breadth of expertise among the board members and gears its recruitment of new members to the skills audit conducted last year to identify the profile of prospective new trustees. There are currently three working subgroups; Safeguarding and Quality Assurance; Finance; People and Performance; that meet quarterly as a minimum, and report back into quarterly Trustee Board meetings. It was agreed that a fourth working group focused on Governance and Nominations would be created as soon as Trustee numbers increased to allow for this to effectively function. Each subgroup has a chair and includes at least 2 members of the trustee board alongside the Chief Executive. Each group has its own terms of reference which determines frequency of meetings, the purpose of the committee, and method of reporting back to the main board.

Safe Families for Children

Trustees' Report

POLICIES ADOPTED FOR THE INDUCTION AND TRAINING OF TRUSTEES

Prospective trustees are invited to attend three board meetings as an observer prior to their nomination meeting. This gives them the chance to learn more about Safe Families and other board members, whilst also allowing the board to get to know the individual prior to them being officially appointed. During this period, they also have one-to-one meetings with both the Chair and Chief Executive Officer as well as one-to-ones with some of the existing trustees. New trustees are also provided with key charity documents to read such as the Staff Handbook, Constitution, Safeguarding Policy, Finance Policy, and minutes from the last twelve months' Trustee Board meetings. Furthermore, new trustees are provided key financial documents such as the last audited Statutory accounts and latest Management Accounts and reports.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND DECISION MAKING

The business of the charitable company is managed by the trustees who may exercise all the powers of the charitable company.

The day-to-day management of the charity is delegated to the Chief Executive and her Senior Leadership team. The Senior Leadership Team meets for a weekly catch-up and virtually once a month, to discuss strategic operational developments. Quarterly, these meetings are face-to-face and usually span two or three days.

During the financial year, the charity was contracted to work with 51 local authorities, schools, and health trusts, operating out of four regions. Each region is led by a Programme Director, alongside a team of experienced social and health care professionals and community volunteer managers. Each region is divided into hubs. There are 11 hubs. The chief executive is supported by a small national team.

National Team: Kat Osborn - Chief Executive; Ann Day - Director of Safeguarding and Quality Assurance; Martin Dickson – Director of Church Relations; Matt Jones – Head of Communications and Influence; Ian Maith - Financial Controller and Stuart Main – Head of IT and Solutions.

Central Region: Helen Crandley - Programme Director.

Hubs: Central East, Mid Central, Central West

Local Authorities/Contracting areas (9): Birmingham, Derby City, Dudley, Leicester City, Lincolnshire, North East Lincolnshire, Nottingham City, Nottinghamshire, and Sandwell.

Schools and Health Trusts: (5): Adoption East Midlands, Greenwood Academies Trust, Fernwood School, Hull University Teaching Hospital, and Steel City Schools Partnership.

North Region: Mark Buchanan - Programme Director.

Hubs: Scotland, North-East, North-West

Local Authorities/Contracting areas (20): Cumbria, Darlington, Gateshead, Middlesbrough, Newcastle, North Tyneside, Northumberland, Stockton, Knowsley, Lancashire, Manchester City, Salford City, Sefton, Dundee, Edinburgh, Midlothian, East Lothian, West Lothian, Perth & Kinross.

South Region with Wales and Northern Ireland: Chris Allcock - Programme Director.

Hubs: South, South West, Wales, Northern Ireland

Safe Families for Children

Trustees' Report

Local Authorities/Contracting areas (13): Bournemouth/Christchurch/Poole, Dorset, East Sussex, Plymouth, Somerset, Southampton, Swindon, Wiltshire, Cardiff, Caerphilly, Neath Port Talbot, Belfast, Northern Trust.

London: Chris Allcock – Programme Director

Local Authorities (4): Hammersmith & Fulham, Greenwich, Barking & Dagenham, Southwark

At 31st March 2023 we have an ever-expanding team of 164 staff, FTE of 122.362.

RELATED PARTY RELATIONSHIPS

All related party transactions are disclosed in note 23 to the accounts.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charitable company is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the charitable company and are satisfied those systems and procedures are in place to mitigate our exposure to the major risks.

Through the internal reporting and careful strategies, these risks are managed.

Objectives and Activities

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

Safe Families offer hope, belonging and support to children, families, and care leavers; we do this primarily, but not exclusively, with and through local churches.

POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the trustees have given due consideration to general guidance published by the charity commission relating to public benefit.

Equality and Diversity Policy

Safe Families recognises that our Equality and Diversity Policy is an integral part of our approach to creating belonging for all. This policy underpins all Safe Families' activity in achieving our mission to offer hope, belonging and support to children, families, and care leavers; primarily but not exclusively, through local churches.

Safe Families is a Christian charity. Safe Families policies and protocols are also clear that the project is a family support service offered to those in need and that the purpose of the organisation is to create relationship and connection for all because everyone deserves to belong.

The motivation of all those working and volunteering within Safe Families is to make a tangible difference to the lives of those helped, irrespective of whether the family identifies with the Christian faith, another faith, or no faith. Safe Families is not a vehicle to support proselytisation.

Families and children will be supported regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation.

Safe Families for Children

Trustees' Report

Safe Families is committed to promoting fairness, equality, and diversity in all its activities. This includes the recruitment, training, and development of a diverse group of volunteers able to support a diverse range of families in crisis.

This policy is based on the key principles of equity, equality, inclusion, engagement, and partnership. The policy considers and is compliant with the Equality Act 2010. It covers discrimination based on age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation as set out in the Equality Act (2010).

Safe Families welcomes the opportunity to work with people from all kinds of social, educational, economic, and cultural backgrounds. We will never knowingly discriminate against any person on the grounds of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.

Safe Families Values when considering Diversity and Inclusion are defined below:

Safe Families is committed to creating belonging; (by which we mean the feeling of being seen, heard, and understood) for all recognising that we are all created equal.

- We are aware that there are many factors in the UK that result in inequality and that as a result that opportunity, belonging, and justice is not equally available to all. Our learning, listening and action is rooted in a desire to redress this balance.
- Prejudice seeks to "fix and normalise 'difference' and create boundaries between groups" (Avtar Brah 1992: 143). At Safe Families we desire to create connection and relationship through which boundaries are broken down.
- We want people to look at Safe Families and see the diversity of our global community and an image of our unity as humankind.
- We seek to ensure in all our practices we contribute to the undoing of society's systemic prejudices.

Safe Families has an anti-Racism working group made up of staff members. This group has been proactive in developing an action plan for our journey as an organisation to be anti-racist. The plan focuses on 3 key areas: (1) staff recruitment and building a more diverse workforce (2) staff learning and education & (3) understanding our data (families supported and volunteers recruited).

STRATEGIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES

In achieving our mission, we have identified 2 key strategic themes which are:

- (1) To release the potential in families & individuals through offering hope & belonging
- (2) To release the potential in the church to offer hope and belonging to all those who need it

We have identified a 2-3-year goal that details the part that Safe Families will play in achieving each strategic theme:

- (1) Isolated and struggling families, children, and care leavers, are connected with volunteers to build relationships that last; bringing hope & providing the practical and emotional support needed
- (2) The UK church understands its call to love the vulnerable. It has a clear theological understanding surrounding hospitality and community, and this increased understanding results in action

Safe Families for Children

Trustees' Report

For each goal we have identified the challenges that limit us in achieving this and identified an action plan to tackle these.

Alongside this we have two foundational goals that will ensure sustainability for all we do. These are to:

(a) Ensure Financial Sustainability: Safe Families delivers quality outcomes to an approved budget that takes into account the Reserves Policy, while maintaining a healthy working culture

(b) Prioritise Culture: Safe Families has clear values reflected by our culture.

ACTIVITIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES

Our core model for providing support to families remains the same and is based around the following three core volunteer roles

- *Host Families* who offer short term overnight respite care to children for a couple of nights to a couple of weeks. On advice from the Department for Education, we operate under the legal framework of Section 17 of the Children Act 1989.
- *Family Friends* who come alongside placing parents/carers offering peer to peer support and mentoring. This relationship can be short-term or long-term depending on the family needs.
- *Resource Friends* who offer goods and services either to the placing parents/carers, such as meals, clothes, toys, beds, buggies etc. These are all free of charge.

All volunteers go through a seven-step safeguarding training and accreditation process before they are approved. Thereafter, volunteers meet regularly with paid staff for feedback and ongoing training.

Volunteers are central to every aspect of Safe Families work. Safe Families exists to create relationship and connection because everyone deserves to belong. This belonging is offered solely through the dedication, care, and practical actions of our volunteers. Researchers have found that the impact of loneliness can be worse for health than smoking 15 cigarettes a day. With over 5,000 volunteers across the country offering their time as host families, family friends and resource friends, Safe Families can transform how families feel, and build more connected & hopeful communities.

MAIN ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN TO FURTHER THE CHARITY'S PURPOSES FOR PUBLIC BENEFIT

All the charity's activities in the year have been in line with the objects and are undertaken to further the charity's charitable purposes for the public benefit.

Achievements and performance

GOING CONCERN

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charitable company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis and the principal uncertainties for the charitable company are set out in the Accounting Policies.

Safe Families for Children

Trustees' Report

The charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern is governed by its ability to control its principal risks and uncertainties which are set out within the section "Principal Risks and Uncertainties" below.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

Across the regions we achieved the following metrics, compared to the previous financial year(s):

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Local authorities	30	34	39	46	51
Accredited volunteers	4,161	4,539	4,897	5,126	5,408
Families supported (cumulative)	3,256	4,212	5,618	7,018	8,466
Families supported (in year)	1001	991	1,483	1,508	1,562
Children benefited (cumulative)	7,829	9,965	12,151	16,349	19,644
Children benefited (in year)	2,365	2,362	3,231	3,458	3,536
Number of bed nights (cumulative)	5,612	7,231	7,973	9,264	9,747
Churches and community groups	848	953	1099	1,209	1,322

Safe Families for Children

Trustees' Report

Safe Families UK in numbers



Figures accurate as of the 1st April 2023

Safe Families for Children

Trustees' Report

THE IMPACT OF OUR WORK

Over the last 12 months we have evaluation scores for 2,223 families either at closure or review which demonstrate the impact of Safe Families support across 6 important domains that reflect the health and well-being of the families we support. Given our vision is that no-one should feel alone it is especially encouraging that 97% of people supported report an increase in their social networks.

	Social Networks	Wellbeing	Confidence	Physical Needs	Family Relationships	Positive Parenting
Maintained/Increased	97%	93%	95%	89%	91%	92%
Decreased	3%	7%	5%	11%	9%	8%
Average Change	1.8	1.5	1.4	0.8	0.8	0.9

We have also demonstrated the following impact:

- Delivered a decrease of the flow of children into care of between 9 – 18%
- 90% of children have improved or remained at the same level in Children's Services without escalation of need

FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES / INCOME GENERATION

Safe Families undertakes all fundraising activities in line with industry best practice, legal guidelines and in line with our values. We aim to be open with the public about our processes and to explain (where appropriate) if asked for more information. We aim to be honest, acting with integrity, about the cause we are fundraising for or the way a donation will be used. We aim to demonstrate respect whenever we have contact, digital or physical, with any member of the public.

The charity continues to implement its fundraising strategy which seeks to diversify our income base. During the financial year the charity was funded through a blend of its contract work with Local Authorities, external charitable grants, and fundraised income. We had a successful year in terms of transformational grants with just over £540,000 being received from this income stream. Alongside this we also made progress in developing all our fundraised income streams, including corporate donations, one-off and monthly individual giving, and community fundraising. Across these streams we achieved a 31.5% increase in income in 22/23 compared to the previous year.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The risks of the Charity are managed by the Senior Leadership Team and reviewed by the Trustee Board through the appropriate subgroup.

The principal risks to the charity come in two forms; financial and safeguarding, the former due to the uncertainty that occurs with most funding derived from external sources. There is a risk that current funding agreements cease and are not renewed in the long term. The charity manages these risks by working closely with its partners to ensure all parties are content with current arrangements and practices.

The principal risk is identified as being the financing of the growth of the charity. The work of the charity is reported in the Chairman's and Chief Executive's report elsewhere in these financial statements. The growth in activity includes delivery in new locations as well as continuing to service and develop the existing locations.

Safe Families for Children

Trustees' Report

These developments require funding, and the geographical spread of locations requires careful management to cover the charity's financial needs, much of which is related to the skilled staff and the volunteers who, together, deliver the charitable activities. Most of the funding of the charity comes from the Local Authorities, but financial support from trusts, churches, and individuals is an important part of making all this possible.

As with many charities, there is an in-built uncertainty about financial provision and the raising of finance is a part of its day-to-day work. The growth of activity has been financed by an increase in income from Local Authority contracts, and the generous support of an increasing number of donors. The small decrease in fundraised income is mainly due to a change in the fundraising strategy, becoming less reliant on fixed term transformational grants and moving towards regular giving that traditionally is in place for a longer period.

We have a robust process in place to monitor our financial position and a finance committee oversees our fiduciary responsibilities to ensure that we have sufficient reserves to operate should there be change in income.

Our business continuity planning is strong and has served us well during the unprecedented COVID 19 period.

The second principal risk to the charity is safeguarding. Safe Families has a clear, comprehensive safeguarding framework in place in which policy, procedure and guidance are all in line with legislation and the Local Safeguarding Children Boards procedures, all of which are designed to ensure that children and young people using the service are appropriately safeguarded. All staff and volunteers are fully aware of their duty of care to children and young people and vulnerable adults and that safeguarding them is of paramount importance.

We have comprehensive policies and procedures that govern activity and behaviour of all staff and volunteers. All activity is governed by our Quality Standards Framework which provides step by step guidance for the delivery of family support and work with volunteers. The framework sets out best practice that underpins the Safe Families approach in seeking to improve outcomes for children and families and ensure they are being kept safe within the system. The agreed quality standards enable regular audit of practice and case management ensuring consistency of approach and compliance with policies and procedures.

RESERVES POLICY

The trustees have considered the Reserves Policy that is appropriate to the charity, given the plans for future activities, and understand the importance of a policy that enables it to meet its developing commitments and obligations.

The Reserves Policy takes a risk-informed approach to holding reserves to demonstrate appropriate financial management, stewardship, and sustainability. In doing so, the Charity has considered working capital, financial risk management, and future development. Using this rationale, the total free reserves are set at a range of £635k to £755k.

Safe Families for Children

Trustees' Report

The total funds held by the Charity on 31 March 2023 were £934,309 (2022 - £1,009,630). Of these funds, £8,759 were held in restricted funds (2022 - £15,155). The Charity also designated funds for future seed funding and other identified activities that are forecast to require additional funds. The amount of these designated funds totals £127,211 (2022 - £150,000). Additionally, the Charity has investments in two investment funds. The valuation of these two funds is £393,557 (2022 - £401,898) leaving £404,782 (2022 - £442,577) of free reserves at the year end. The target reserves required to comply with the charitable company's reserves policy are between £635k and £755k. The total of free reserves and the funds held in investments that are liquid and can be accessed at short notice is £798,339 (2022 - £ 844,475) and the trustees are comfortable that this falls in-line with the company's reserves policy.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Charity made a deficit in the year of £75,321 (2022 - £42,109 surplus) with income of £4,781,950 (2022 - £4,157,283), expenditure of £4,848,930 (2021 - £4,117,066) and unrealised losses on investments of £8,341.

Income comes from a blend of local authority income for supporting children and families; £3,496,341 (2022 - £3,021,598); and donation income from grant-making charities and foundations, churches, and individuals of £1,247,107 (2022 - £1,107,151).

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

As we look forward, we consider our focus under 5 broad headings:

Delivering Support and Creating Connection; we will continue to ensure isolated and struggling families, children and care leavers, are connected with volunteers to build relationships that last; bringing hope & providing the practical and emotional support needed. We have an increased focus on the importance of belonging; defined for us as "being seen, heard and understood". We see this as being the unique offer that Safe Families volunteers can give to families. We also have a deeper focus on the impact of trauma on family life and the wellbeing of children and adults and continue to embed trauma informed support across all we do.

We also recognise we are in a cost-of-living crisis that will have a huge detrimental impact on the families we support. We are working with other third sector providers and our church and community providers to ensure we and our volunteers have innovative and joined up approaches to supporting all those impacted by this.

Developing our Volunteers; we will continue to work within local communities to release the potential of the volunteer community there. Over the last 12 months we redeveloped our core volunteer training, with a focus on developing the content to keep it in line with how we are developing as a charity and to increase the consistency of how it is delivered across the nations. We are investing time in understanding the lived experience of our volunteers; why they volunteer, why they stop volunteering, what they gain from their experience and what we can do better. We will use all of these findings to continue to improve on how recruit and support our volunteers.

Deepening our Church partnerships; we will invest in our relationships with the churches and community groups that our volunteers are rooted in. We believe these communities are perfectly placed to offer love and belonging to families and want to see the potential in them released. We are launching The Belonging Course in 2023 is a 6-session course designed to help churches and their members think about how they can tackle the issue of loneliness and offer belonging.

Safe Families for Children

Trustees' Report

Ensuring our Financial Sustainability; We will deliver quality outcomes on approved budgets while creating opportunities for growth and innovation. We will continue to deliver on our fundraising strategy, seeing growth across all our developing income streams.

Prioritising Culture; Safe Families has clear values reflected by our culture. Our current focus is ensuring that everyone understands how they play their part in achieving a culture that reflects our values and enabling a place where staff and the organisation flourish.

PAY POLICY FOR SENIOR STAFF

The senior leadership team is remunerated in line with industry levels, with equal pay across each staff hierarchy level across the organisation.

INFORMATION ON FUNDRAISING PRACTICES

The fundraising strategy of the charity is primarily the responsibility of the Chief Executive working closely with the Head of Communications and Influence. Working with the Financial Controller, financial projections supporting applications are submitted within applications.

We now have a small fundraising team with 2 part time Fundraising Managers who report to the Head of Communications and Influence. We also engage with Concannon Consultants who concentrate on smaller, more localised grants.

No staff member or consultant received commission on funds secured.

All data held by the charity is protected by strict and confidential protocols.

Safe Families for Children

Trustees' Report

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Safe Families for Children for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements 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 business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and 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.

Disclosure of information to auditor

Each trustee has taken steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information. The trustees confirm that there is no relevant information that they know of and of which they know the auditor is unaware.

Reappointment of auditor

In accordance with section 485 of the Companies Act 2006, a resolution for the re-appointment of Azets Audit Services as auditors of the charity is to be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 25.10.23 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
C B K Danby
Trustee

Safe Families for Children

Chairman's Statement

This is the Charity's 10th Annual Statement and we have been celebrating our 10th Anniversary of supporting Children and Families. We officially started working with Local Authority Children's Services in September 2012. I am pleased to report that, *'for such a time as this'* the original vision of Safe Families was created.

In difficult trading conditions, which were made worse by the impact of the Covid Pandemic, with huge impact on all families, creating additional economic and sociological problems, with many parents just coping, and Local Authority Children's Services also struggling to give needed support, Safe Families has continued to expand its services.

The Charity continues supporting parents and children across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, working with 51 Local Authorities / contracting partners, schools and health trusts, contracted to handle between circa 2300 referrals per year. In such times our mantra is that "No one should feel alone" and *'every child and family matter'*.

The past year has seen the Charity continue to grow its revenues to £4.8m, which is a combination of Local Authority & other contract referral income and the generosity of regular and one-off donations from individuals and Churches, Corporate and Community giving and Grants from Trusts and Foundations. The Finance Committee closely monitor and review the Reserves Policy, Pension Policy, Insurance Cover and operational expenses against budget.

Our Chief Executive, the Senior Leadership Team, dedicated staff, and the incredible volunteers, without whom, we could not exist, have enabled us to 'make a difference' in so many children and families' lives. All of this is orchestrated by our passionate and dedicated Chief Executive, Kat Osborn, who has demonstrated again this year her strategic and operational skill set to take the Charity forward. This is not just a job to Kat, but a strong sense of vocation and calling.

The Chief Executive and the Chair meet regularly for operational reporting, personal consultation and strategic development. We work hard on our working relationship with open and honest dialogue.

As a Board of Trustees, we aspire to operate demonstrating Good Governance. The Main Trustee Board meet 4 times a year, twice face to face and twice 'virtually'. We have been working hard to ensure we have a blended Board reflecting equality and diversity of skills, gender, age, experience and the Nations and Regions that we work across. In line with our 'Observer Induction' process for prospective Trustees we have had three new people join our meetings during the year. Usually, the 'Observer' status allows for attendance at three Trustee Meetings before a mutual decision to join the board. David Ryan who was Chair of the Finance Committee for 3 years and brought a wealth of Charity Finance experience retired as a Trustee and I want to place on record our thanks for the enormous contribution he made. He is succeeded as finance chair by Patrick Sharman who was a former Managing Partner in a Chartered Accountancy Practice in West Cumbria.

All Trustees are involved in one of three Working Groups: Finance, Safeguarding and Quality Assurance, and People and Performance. Each working group is chaired by a Trustee and comprises the Chief Executive, senior staff and at least one or two Trustees.

Trustees are committed to be proactive in demonstrating best practice which includes on-going training including, NSPCC Safeguarding online training, Wrigley's Good Governance and Trustee Training Webinars and face to face Conferences.

Safe Families for Children

Chairman's Statement

I am grateful to Steve Williams for his service as Vice Chair and his wise counsel and tireless support.

The Trustees want to register their appreciation to all the staff for their dedication to the vision and values of the charity and to our army of volunteers, without which the charity simply could not function.

Keith Danby, Chair

.....

Safe Families for Children

Chief Executive Report

Safe Families for Children (Safe Families), started in the UK in 2012 with a pilot in the North East of England, and today we are working with 51 partner local authorities, schools or health trusts in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Why do we exist?

No one should feel alone. We exist to create relationship and connection because everyone deserves to belong.

What do we do?

Safe Families offer hope, belonging and support to children, families, and care leavers; we do this primarily, but not exclusively, with and through local churches.

What are our values?

Love - Loving abundantly - Supporting with hope, generosity and dignity

Belonging - Building community - Establishing positive relationships that bring security and connection

Faith - Trusting Boldly Believing for lives transformed and in a God who can do more than we can ask or imagine

Empowerment - Enabling potential - Confident everyone has the ability to thrive

Humility - Serving together - We know we can't do it alone, so we invest in strong, honest and honouring partnerships

For Safe Families 2022-23 has been full of stories of hope against a backdrop of challenge. Our nation has been in a state of permacrisis since 2008; with the financial crash, austerity, the Covid-19 pandemic, and the current cost of living crisis. The national picture is that volunteer numbers are falling, that 1 in 5 people in the UK are living in poverty and 1 in 20 adults feel lonely often or always.

It is into this backdrop that we celebrate 5,399 volunteers who give of their time, 1,344 churches who partner with us and 1,562 families who have been connected into community; feeling seen, heard and understood; perhaps for the first time.

As Safe Families it is a privilege each day to see the incredible impact of real human kindness transforming the lives of children and families; and having our own lives changed as we do it. As things get harder for the poorest in our society, we believe that the connections that form between volunteers and their families are going to be part of the safety net that prevents these families from breaking down. But even more than that, they will be the foundation that allows these parents and children begin to believe in themselves, know they are loved and step into their potential as parents, young people, or children.

During the year Safe Families income totalled £4,782k. This came from our 51 partnering LAs, schools and health trusts as well as a significant number of foundations, corporate partners, and individuals. We remain grateful for the continued interest and support of Sir Tim and Lady Susie Sainsbury of the Jerusalem Trust; Sir Brian and Lady Elizabeth Souter of the Souter Charitable Trust; to The National Lottery Community Fund for their continued support in Cumbria, Humber and Scotland; Benefact Trust, The Northwood Charitable Trust, The CHK Foundation, The Dulverton Trust, Childhood Trust and The Segelman Trust for their ongoing support towards the core costs of the charity.

Safe Families for Children

Chief Executive Report

There are also a large number of other funders and individuals who contribute significant amounts to Safe Families; The Blakebank Trust, The Anchor Foundation, The Shears Foundation, The RRAF Charitable Trust The TBF & KL Thompson Trust, The Ardbarron Trust, The John R Murray Charitable Trust, The Louis Nicholas Residuary Charitable Trust, The Grant Foundation, The Desmond Foundation, The Stobart Newlands Trust, The Cardrona Charitable Trust, Kathleen Beryl Sleigh Charitable Trust, The Cumbria Community Foundation, West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner, and Women for Mission, to name but a few. Without the generosity and support of these donations, alongside the kind gifts from individuals, churches and businesses, we simply could not survive. The trustees, directors and staff are profoundly grateful.

Although the board of trustees are ultimately responsible for the charity, they delegate the day to day running of the charity to me as Chief Executive and our Senior Leadership Team (SLT). As we look forward, Safe Families will continue to dig into our values to keep loving abundantly, building community, trusting boldly, enabling potential, and serving together to offer hope, belonging and opportunity into the lives of children and families across our nations. Providing a real alternative for families who are in crisis.

And so, I want to finish with expressing my heartfelt thanks for everyone who is and has been a part of this journey - whether as a volunteer, whether you give financially, whether you pray, staff and trustees.... we literally would not be here without you.

We all are playing our part in doing the little things that change someone else's story. Enabling families to stay together safe, happy, and connected and working to ensure that no one feels alone.

Kat Osborn, Chief Executive

.....

Safe Families for Children

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Safe Families for Children

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Safe Families for Children (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2023, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows, and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising Charities SORP - FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and applicable law (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its 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.

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 responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity 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 the provisions available for small entities, in the circumstances set out in note to the financial statements, 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 charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements were 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 annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. 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.

Safe Families for Children

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Safe Families for Children

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion 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 for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the 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

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities (set out on page 13), the trustees 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 charity'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 charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor 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.

Safe Families for Children

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Safe Families for Children

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:

- Enquiries with management about any known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud;
- Reviewing board minutes;
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in their significant accounting estimates; and
- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness.

Because of the field in which the client operates, we identified the following areas as those most likely to have a material impact on the financial statements: Health and Safety; employment laws; and compliance with the UK Companies Act and Charities Act.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that some material misstatements in the financial statements may not be detected, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with ISAs (UK). For instance, the further removed non-compliance is from the event and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the auditor is to become aware of it or to recognise the non-compliance.

A further description of our responsibilities is available 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 trustees, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees 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 its trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Simon Brown BA ACA DChA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of
Azets Audit Services
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor
Bulman House
Regent Centre
Gosforth
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE3 3LS

Date: 13-11-2023

Azets Audit Services is a trading name of Azets Audit Services Limited

Safe Families for Children

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2023 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Income and Endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	3	430,825	-	819,754	1,250,579	1,107,151
Charitable activities	4	3,496,341	-	-	3,496,341	3,021,598
Other income	5	35,030	-	-	35,030	28,534
Total Income		<u>3,962,196</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>819,754</u>	<u>4,781,950</u>	<u>4,157,283</u>
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds		(7,122)	-	-	(7,122)	(4,195)
Charitable activities	6	<u>(3,922,869)</u>	<u>(92,789)</u>	<u>(826,150)</u>	<u>(4,841,808)</u>	<u>(4,112,871)</u>
Total Expenditure		<u>(3,929,991)</u>	<u>(92,789)</u>	<u>(826,150)</u>	<u>(4,848,930)</u>	<u>(4,117,066)</u>
Gains/losses on investment assets		<u>(8,341)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(8,341)</u>	<u>1,892</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		23,864	(92,789)	(6,396)	(75,321)	42,109
Transfers between funds		<u>(70,000)</u>	<u>70,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		(46,136)	(22,789)	(6,396)	(75,321)	42,109
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		<u>844,475</u>	<u>150,000</u>	<u>15,155</u>	<u>1,009,630</u>	<u>967,521</u>
Total funds carried forward	19	<u>798,339</u>	<u>127,211</u>	<u>8,759</u>	<u>934,309</u>	<u>1,009,630</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2022 is shown in note 19.

Safe Families for Children

Comparative Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)


	Note	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total 2022 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	190,879	-	916,272	1,107,151
Charitable activities	4	3,021,598	-	-	3,021,598
Other income	5	28,534	-	-	28,534
Total income		<u>3,241,011</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>916,272</u>	<u>4,157,283</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		(4,195)	-	-	(4,195)
Charitable activities	6	<u>(2,968,269)</u>	<u>(177,662)</u>	<u>(966,940)</u>	<u>(4,112,871)</u>
Total expenditure		(2,972,464)	(177,662)	(966,940)	(4,117,066)
Gains/losses on investment assets		<u>1,892</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,892</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		270,439	(177,662)	(50,668)	42,109
Transfers between funds		<u>(33,700)</u>	<u>33,700</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		236,739	(143,962)	(50,668)	42,109
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>607,736</u>	<u>293,962</u>	<u>65,823</u>	<u>967,521</u>
Total funds carried forward	19	<u>844,475</u>	<u>150,000</u>	<u>15,155</u>	<u>1,009,630</u>

Safe Families for Children

(Registration number: 08134971)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	13	-	-
Investments	14	<u>393,557</u>	<u>401,898</u>
		<u>393,557</u>	<u>401,898</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	15	259,377	476,679
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>698,223</u>	<u>597,105</u>
		957,600	1,073,784
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	16	<u>(416,848)</u>	<u>(466,052)</u>
Net current assets		<u>540,752</u>	<u>607,732</u>
Net assets		<u>934,309</u>	<u>1,009,630</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted		<u>8,759</u>	<u>15,155</u>
Unrestricted income funds			
Designated funds		127,211	150,000
Unrestricted funds		<u>798,339</u>	<u>844,475</u>
Total unrestricted funds		<u>925,550</u>	<u>994,475</u>
Total funds	19	<u>934,309</u>	<u>1,009,630</u>

The financial statements on pages 21 to 41 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on ~~25.10.23~~ and signed on their behalf by:


.....
C B K Danby
Trustee

Safe Families for Children

Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash (expenditure)/income		(75,321)	42,109
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items			
Financial instrument net (gains) losses through statement of financial activities		<u>11,051</u>	<u>(1,892)</u>
		(64,270)	40,217
Working capital adjustments			
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	15	217,302	(257,750)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	16	<u>(49,204)</u>	<u>169,524</u>
Net cash flows from operating activities		103,828	(48,009)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of investments	14	<u>(2,710)</u>	<u>(400,006)</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		101,118	(448,015)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April		<u>597,105</u>	<u>1,045,120</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March		<u><u>698,223</u></u>	<u><u>597,105</u></u>

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two periods.

Safe Families for Children

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is: Unit 4, Diamond Court, Kingston Park, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE3 2EN

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)) (issued in January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

Safe Families for Children 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.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

Estimation uncertainty and judgements

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported.

Key sources of estimation uncertainty

The key assumptions concerning the future and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year include:

Deferred income is estimated to recognise income in the period in which the performance conditions of the income are met. Income is deferred where performance conditions have not been fully met at year end.

Income and endowments

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

Safe Families for Children

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Donations and legacies

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the group has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Gift aid

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Charitable activities

Incoming resources from charitable activities is predominantly income from Local Authorities and is accounted for on a time-accrued basis.

Other income

Other income is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Raising funds

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, the management of investments and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees's meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Safe Families for Children

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000.00 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Computer equipment	100% in year of purchase

Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments, other than programme related investments, are included at market value at the balance sheet date. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their market value at the start of the year, or their subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market values during the year and are credited or charged to the Statement of Financial Activities based on the market value at the year end.

Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

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

Trade creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Safe Families for Children

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Pensions and other post retirement obligations

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the charity has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions even if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when they are due. If contribution payments exceed the contribution due for service, the excess is recognised as a prepayment.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Donations and legacies;			
Donations	430,825	819,754	1,250,579
	<u>430,825</u>	<u>819,754</u>	<u>1,250,579</u>
	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £
Donations and legacies;			
Donations	160,879	916,272	1,077,151
Franchise fees	30,000	-	30,000
	<u>190,879</u>	<u>916,272</u>	<u>1,107,151</u>

Safe Families for Children

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2023 £
Local Authority revenue funding	<u>3,496,341</u>	<u>3,496,341</u>
	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2022 £
Local Authority revenue funding	<u>3,021,598</u>	<u>3,021,598</u>

5 Other income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2023 £
Other income	<u>35,030</u>	<u>35,030</u>
	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2022 £
Other income	<u>28,534</u>	<u>28,534</u>

Other income comprises student placement fees of £21,820 (2022: £28,534), fees from work with Safe Families USA of £12,500 (2022: £Nil) and other miscellaneous income of £710 (2022: £Nil).

Safe Families for Children

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total
	General	Designated	funds	2023
	£	£	£	£
Provision of services	<u>3,922,869</u>	<u>92,789</u>	<u>826,150</u>	<u>4,841,808</u>
	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total
	General	Designated	funds	2022
	£	£	£	£
Provision of services	<u>2,968,269</u>	<u>177,662</u>	<u>966,940</u>	<u>4,112,871</u>
		Activity undertaken directly	Activity support costs	2023
		£	£	£
Provision of services		<u>3,904,332</u>	<u>937,476</u>	<u>4,841,808</u>
		Activity undertaken directly	Activity support costs	2022
		£	£	£
Provision of services		<u>3,373,410</u>	<u>739,461</u>	<u>4,112,871</u>

Safe Families for Children

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

7 Analysis of governance and support costs

Direct costs

	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Staff and employment costs	3,440,322	2,994,494
Travel and accommodation	164,612	105,713
Recruitment and training of volunteers	16,976	16,766
Office and telecom	211,927	182,557
Insurance	664	1,439
Professional fees	16,675	1,449
Promotions and marketing	210	1,691
Emergency family purchases	47,338	65,833
Bank charges	5,608	3,468
	<u>3,904,332</u>	<u>3,373,410</u>

Support costs

	Other support costs £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Staff and employment costs	695,399	695,399	553,780
Travel and accommodation	27,116	27,116	16,321
Office and telecom	93,753	93,753	96,407
Insurance	22,841	22,841	19,220
Professional fees	66,608	66,608	30,924
Promotions and marketing	20,992	20,992	18,268
Bank charges	1,021	1,021	1,005
Donations	9,746	9,746	3,536
	<u>937,476</u>	<u>937,476</u>	<u>739,461</u>

Safe Families for Children

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

8 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net (outgoing)/incoming resources for the year include:

	2023 £	2022 £
Audit fees	<u>10,800</u>	<u>10,800</u>

9 Trustees remuneration and expenses

During the year the charity made the following transactions with trustees:

C B K Danby

£973 (2022: £992) of expenses were reimbursed to C B K Danby during the year.

J D Eve

£132 (2022: £Nil) of expenses were reimbursed to J D Eve during the year.

P M Sharman

£32 (2022: £Nil) of expenses were reimbursed to P M Sharman during the year.

S G Williams

£192 (2022: £Nil) of expenses were reimbursed to S G Williams during the year.

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

10 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	3,431,046	2,920,373
Social security costs	286,629	239,780
Pension costs	<u>415,296</u>	<u>366,507</u>
	<u>4,132,971</u>	<u>3,526,660</u>

Safe Families for Children

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2023 No	2022 No
Operational	146	128
Finance, administration and IT	15	9
Management	3	3
	<u>164</u>	<u>140</u>

The number of employees whose emoluments fell within the following bands was:

	2023 No	2022 No
£60,001 - £70,000	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £490,569 (2022 - £466,346).

11 Auditors' remuneration

	2023 £	2022 £
Audit of the financial statements	<u>10,800</u>	<u>10,800</u>

12 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Safe Families for Children

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

13 Tangible fixed assets

	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2022	<u>10,684</u>	<u>10,684</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>10,684</u>	<u>10,684</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2022	<u>10,684</u>	<u>10,684</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>10,684</u>	<u>10,684</u>
Net book value		
At 31 March 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

Safe Families for Children

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

14 Fixed asset investments

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other investments	<u>393,557</u>	<u>401,898</u>

Other investments

	Listed	Unlisted	Total
	investments	investments	Total
	£	£	£
Cost or Valuation			
At 1 April 2022	251,892	150,006	401,898
Additions	-	2,710	2,710
Revaluation	<u>(11,051)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(11,051)</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>240,841</u>	<u>152,716</u>	<u>393,557</u>
Net book value			
At 31 March 2023	<u>240,841</u>	<u>152,716</u>	<u>393,557</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>251,892</u>	<u>150,006</u>	<u>401,898</u>

Listed Investments are held at valuation and represent units held in a single Endowment Investment Fund. Unlisted Investments are held at cost and represent monies deposited with CCLA.

15 Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade debtors	102,392	387,290
Prepayments and accrued income	123,210	78,193
Other debtors	<u>33,775</u>	<u>11,196</u>
	<u>259,377</u>	<u>476,679</u>

Safe Families for Children

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	50,664	37,606
Other taxation and social security	62,418	57,223
Other creditors	31,219	54,486
Accruals and deferred income	272,547	316,737
	<u>416,848</u>	<u>466,052</u>
	2023 £	2022 £
Deferred income at 1 April 2022	288,667	155,317
Resources deferred in the period	232,124	288,667
Amounts released from previous periods	<u>(288,667)</u>	<u>(155,317)</u>
Deferred income at year end	<u>232,124</u>	<u>288,667</u>

17 Obligations under leases and hire purchase contracts

Operating lease commitments

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

	2023 £	2022 £
Land and buildings		
Within one year	43,676	19,846
Between one and five years	<u>15,022</u>	<u>16,016</u>
	<u>58,698</u>	<u>35,862</u>
Other		
Within one year	8,692	8,892
Between one and five years	<u>6,245</u>	<u>1,142</u>
	<u>14,937</u>	<u>10,034</u>

18 Pension and other schemes

Defined contribution pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the charity to the scheme and amounted to £415,296 (2022 - £366,507).

Contributions totalling £29,852 (2022 - £38,257) were payable to the scheme at the end of the year and are included in creditors.

Safe Families for Children

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

19 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds						
<i>General</i>						
General fund	844,475	3,962,196	(3,929,991)	(70,000)	(8,341)	798,339
<i>Designated</i>						
Development fund	150,000	-	(92,789)	70,000	-	127,211
Total unrestricted funds	994,475	3,962,196	(4,022,780)	-	(8,341)	925,550
Restricted funds						
Family Resources and HUB funds	15,155	819,754	(826,150)	-	-	8,759
Total funds	<u>1,009,630</u>	<u>4,781,950</u>	<u>(4,848,930)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(8,341)</u>	<u>934,309</u>

Safe Families for Children

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Unrestricted funds						
<i>General</i>						
General fund	607,736	3,241,011	(2,972,464)	(33,700)	1,892	844,475
<i>Designated</i>						
COVID-19 fund	141,962	-	(141,962)	-	-	-
Development fund	152,000	-	(35,700)	33,700	-	150,000
	293,962	-	(177,662)	33,700	-	150,000
Total unrestricted funds	901,698	3,241,011	(3,150,126)	-	1,892	994,475
Restricted						
Family Resources and HUB funds	65,823	916,272	(966,940)	-	-	15,155
Total funds	967,521	4,157,283	(4,117,066)	-	1,892	1,009,630

Safe Families for Children

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

Designated funds

There are 2 designated funds in place.

There first is the Development Fund which is to be used for start-up costs in new areas. It takes around 3 months, at a cost of circa £15k, to set up in a new area before we receive funding from Local Authorities and £150k was placed into the Development fund to cover start ups with 10 new Local Authorities. The balance of this fund currently stands at £60,000.

The second is the Common Purse Fund. The Trustee Board approved an in-year £70k transfer from Unrestricted reserves into the Common Purse Fund. This is to be used to support staff through the cost of living crisis. The balance of this fund is £67,211.

Restricted funds

Family resources and Hub funds. This fund is made up of a number of donations that have been received to cover resources for families. This can range from white goods, bedding, gardening services, etc.

Safe Families for Children

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

20 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted			Total funds at 31 March 2023 £
	General £	Designated £	Restricted £	
Fixed asset investments	393,557	-	-	393,557
Net current assets/(liabilities)	<u>404,782</u>	<u>127,211</u>	<u>8,759</u>	<u>540,752</u>
Total net assets	<u><u>798,339</u></u>	<u><u>127,211</u></u>	<u><u>8,759</u></u>	<u><u>934,309</u></u>

	Unrestricted			Total funds at 31 March 2022 £
	General £	Designated £	Restricted £	
Fixed asset investments	401,898	-	-	401,898
Net current assets/(liabilities)	<u>442,577</u>	<u>150,000</u>	<u>15,155</u>	<u>607,732</u>
Total net assets	<u><u>844,475</u></u>	<u><u>150,000</u></u>	<u><u>15,155</u></u>	<u><u>1,009,630</u></u>

21 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 April 2022 £	Financing cash flows £	At 31 March 2023 £
	Cash at bank and in hand	<u>597,105</u>	<u>101,118</u>
Net funds	<u><u>597,105</u></u>	<u><u>101,118</u></u>	<u><u>698,223</u></u>
	At 1 April 2021 £	Financing cash flows £	At 31 March 2022 £
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>1,045,120</u>	<u>(448,015)</u>	<u>597,105</u>
Net funds	<u><u>1,045,120</u></u>	<u><u>(448,015)</u></u>	<u><u>597,105</u></u>

Safe Families for Children

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

22 Related party transactions

The charity made purchases of £Nil (2022 - £13,194) from Pure Panel Management Limited, a company which is related by a common Trustee. There was £Nil owed to Pure Panel Management Limited at the year end (2022 - £nil).

The charity received donations of £1,500 (2022 - £Nil) from Beechmount Trust, a charity which is controlled by a Trustee of this charity. There was £nil owed from Beechmount Trust at the year end (2022 - £nil).

The charity made purchases of £nil (2022 - £nil) and recharged expenses of £Nil (2022 - £480) from Rosegate Consultancy, a company which is related by a common Trustee. There was £Nil owed to Rosegate Consultancy at the year end (2022 - £nil).

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

England & Wales - Charity number 1150405

Accounts

Company registration number: 08134971
Charity registration number: 1150405 & SCO48207

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Safe Families for Children

Contents

Reference and Administrative Details	1
Trustees' Report	2 to 15
Chairman's Statement	16 to 17
Independent Auditors' Report	18 to 20
Statement of Financial Activities	21
Statement of Financial Activities	22
Balance Sheet	23
Statement of Cash Flows	24
Notes to the Financial Statements	25 to 40

Safe Families for Children

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees	C B K Danby J J Phillipson (resigned 31 October 2021) D J Gillam (resigned 19 October 2021) P M Sharman (appointed 21 March 2022) Dr R J Tooth J D Eve (appointed 21 March 2022) S G Williams D E Ryan J M O'Connor
Key Management Personnel	K Osborn, Chief Executive Officer H Crandley M Buchanan M Dickson C Allcock K Wordsworth L Pattison (resigned 20 May 21) A Day S Main M Jones
Registered Office	Unit 4, Diamond Court Kingston Park Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 2EN The charity is incorporated in England and Wales.
Company Registration Number	08134971
Charity Registration Number	1150405 & SCO48207
Bankers	Barclays Bank plc 49 - 51 Northumberland Street Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7AF
Auditor	Azets Audit Services Bulman House Regent Centre Gosforth Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 3LS

Safe Families for Children

Trustees' Report

The trustees present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of Safe Families for Children for the year 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022. The annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' Report and a Directors' Report under Company Law. The term "charity" will be used to encompass the organisation's status as a charitable company. 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), 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 2019).

Since the charity qualifies as small under section 382 of the Companies Act 2006, the Strategic Report required of medium and large companies under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 has been omitted.

Structure, Governance and Management

CONSTITUTION

The charity is constituted under a Memorandum of Association dated 9 July 2012 and is a registered charity, number 1150405.

The principal objects of the charity are:

- The provision of relief and respite to families in crisis arising from poverty, conflict, hardship, homelessness, ill health, or addictions.
- Befriending and emotional support to children, parents and carers who are isolated, overwhelmed and not coping.
- The provision of practical help to resource stretched parents and carers.

METHOD OF APPOINTMENT OR ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

The management of the charity is the responsibility of the trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Articles of Association.

GOVERNANCE

The Board of Trustees continue work on the Charity's governance model and have welcomed new trustees to the Board to increase the breadth of expertise among the board members and gear its recruitment of new members to the skills audit conducted last year to identify the profile of prospective new trustees. There are currently three working committees; Safeguarding and Quality Assurance; Finance; Service Delivery and HR, that meet quarterly as a minimum, and report back into quarterly Trustee Board meetings. It was agreed that a fourth working group focused on Governance and Nominations would be created as soon as Trustee numbers increased to allow for this to effectively function. Each subgroup has a chair and includes at least 2 members of the trustee board alongside the Chief Executive. Each group has its own terms of reference which determines frequency of meetings, the purpose of the committee, and method of reporting back to the main board.

Safe Families for Children

Trustees' Report

POLICIES ADOPTED FOR THE INDUCTION AND TRAINING OF TRUSTEES

Prospective trustees are invited to attend three board meetings as an observer prior to their nomination meeting. This gives them the chance to learn more about Safe Families and other board members, whilst also allowing the board to get to know the individual prior to them being officially appointed. During this period, they also have one-to-one meetings with both the Chair and Chief Executive Officer as well as one-to-ones with some of the existing trustees. New trustees are also provided with key charity documents to read such as the Staff Handbook, Constitution, Safeguarding Policy, Finance Policy, and minutes from the last twelve months' Trustee Board meetings. Furthermore, new trustees are provided key financial documents such as the last audited Statutory accounts and latest Management Accounts and reports.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND DECISION MAKING

The business of the charity is managed by the trustees who may exercise all the powers of the charity.

The day-to-day management of the charity is delegated to the Chief Executive and her Senior Leadership team. The Senior Leadership Team meets for a weekly catch-up and virtually once a month, to discuss strategic operational developments. Quarterly, these meetings are face-to-face and usually span two or three days.

During the financial year, the charity was contracted to work with 46 local authorities, schools, and health trusts, operating out of four regions. Each region is led by a Programme Director, alongside a team of experienced social and health care professionals and community volunteer managers. Each region is divided into hubs. There are 11 hubs. The chief executive is supported by a small national team.

National Team: Kat Osborn - Chief Executive; Ann Day - Director of Safeguarding and Quality Assurance; Martin Dickson – Director of Church Relations; Matt Jones – Head of Communications and Influence; Ian Maith - Financial Controller and Stuart Main – Head of IT and Solutions.

Midlands Region: Helen Crandley - Programme Director.

Hubs: Central East, Mid Central, Central West

Local Authorities (9): Birmingham, Derby City, Dudley, Leicester City, Lincolnshire, North East Lincolnshire, Nottingham City, Nottinghamshire, and Sandwell.

Schools: (2): Greenwood Academies Trust and Steel City Schools Partnership.

North Region: Mark Buchanan - Programme Director.

Hubs: Scotland, North-East, North-West

Local Authorities (19): Cumbria, Darlington, Gateshead, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, North Tyneside, Northumberland, Stockton, Knowsley, Sefton, Lancashire, Manchester City, Salford City, St. Helen's, Wirral, Edinburgh, Midlothian, East Lothian, West Lothian.

South Region with Wales and Northern Ireland: Chris Allcock - Programme Director.

Hubs: South, South West, Wales, Northern Ireland

Safe Families for Children

Trustees' Report

Local Authorities (12): Bournemouth/Christchurch/Poole, Dorset, Somerset, Southampton, Swindon, Plymouth, Wiltshire, West Sussex, East Sussex, Cardiff, Caerphilly, Northern Trust.

London: Kirsty Wordsworth – Programme Director

Local Authorities (4): Hammersmith & Fulham, Croydon, Greenwich, Barking & Dagenham.

At 31st March 2022, we have an ever-expanding team of 150 staff, FTE of 116.988.

RELATED PARTY RELATIONSHIPS

All related party transactions are disclosed in note 23 to the accounts.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the charity and are satisfied those systems and procedures are in place to mitigate our exposure to the major risks.

Through the internal reporting and careful strategies, these risks are managed.

Objectives and Activities

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

Safe Families offer hope, belonging and support to children, families, and care leavers; we do this primarily, but not exclusively, with and through local churches.

POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the trustees have given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit.

Equality and Diversity Policy

Safe Families recognises that our Equality and Diversity Policy is an integral part of our approach to creating belonging for all. This policy underpins all Safe Families' activity in achieving our mission to offer hope, belonging and support to children, families, and care leavers; primarily but not exclusively, through local churches.

Safe Families is a Christian charity. Safe Families policies and protocols are also clear that the project is a family support service offered to those in need and that the purpose of the organisation is to create relationship and connection for all because everyone deserves to belong.

The motivation of all those working and volunteering within Safe Families is to make a tangible difference to the lives of those helped, irrespective of whether the family identifies with the Christian faith, another faith, or no faith. Safe Families is not a vehicle to support proselytisation.

Families and children will be supported regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation.

Safe Families for Children

Trustees' Report

Safe Families is committed to promoting fairness, equality, and diversity in all its activities. This includes the recruitment, training, and development of a diverse group of volunteers able to support a diverse range of families in crisis.

This policy is based on the key principles of equity, equality, inclusion, engagement, and partnership. The policy considers and is compliant with the Equality Act 2010. It covers discrimination based on age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation as set out in the Equality Act (2010).

Safe Families welcomes the opportunity to work with people from all kinds of social, educational, economic, and cultural backgrounds. We will never knowingly discriminate against any person on the grounds of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.

Safe Families Values when considering Diversity and Inclusion are defined below:

Safe Families is committed to creating belonging; (by which we mean the feeling of being seen, heard, and understood) for all recognising that we are all created equal.

- We are aware that there are many factors in the UK that result in inequality and that as a result that opportunity, belonging, and justice is not equally available to all. Our learning, listening and action is rooted in a desire to redress this balance.
- Prejudice seeks to "fix and normalise 'difference' and create boundaries between groups" (Avtar Brah 1992: 143). At Safe Families we desire to create connection and relationship through which boundaries are broken down.
- We want people to look at Safe Families and see the diversity of our global community and an image of our unity as humankind.
- We seek to ensure in all our practices we contribute to the undoing of society's systemic prejudices.

Safe Families has an anti-Racism working group made up of staff members. This group has been proactive in developing an action plan for our journey as an organisation to be anti-racist. The plan focuses on 3 key areas: (1) staff recruitment and building a more diverse workforce (2) staff learning and education & (3) understanding our data (families supported and volunteers recruited).

STRATEGIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES

In achieving our mission, we have identified 2 key strategic themes which are:

- (1) To release the potential in families & individuals through offering hope & belonging
- (2) To release the potential in the church to offer hope and belonging to all those who need it

We have identified a 2-3-year goal that details the part that Safe Families will play in achieving each strategic theme:

- (1) Isolated and struggling families, children, and care leavers, are connected with volunteers to build relationships that last; bringing hope & providing the practical and emotional support needed
- (2) The UK church understands its call to love the vulnerable. It has a clear theological understanding surrounding hospitality and community, and this increased understanding results in action

Safe Families for Children

Trustees' Report

For each goal we have identified the challenges that limit us in achieving this and identified an action plan to tackle these.

Alongside this we have two foundational goals that will ensure sustainability for all we do. These are to:

(a) Ensure Financial Sustainability: Safe Families delivers quality outcomes on a balanced budget, while maintaining a healthy working culture

(b) Prioritise Culture: Safe Families has clear values reflected by our culture.

ACTIVITIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES

Our core model for providing support to families remains the same and is based around the following three core volunteer roles

- *Host Families* who offer short term overnight respite care to children for a couple of nights to a couple of weeks. On advice from the Department for Education, we operate under the legal framework of Section 17 of the Children Act 1989.
- *Family Friends* who come alongside placing parents/carers offering peer to peer support and mentoring. This relationship can be short-term or long-term depending on the family needs.
- *Resource Friends* who offer goods and services either to the placing parents/carers, such as meals, clothes, toys, beds, buggies etc. These are all free of charge.

All volunteers go through a seven-step safeguarding training and accreditation process before they are approved. Thereafter, volunteers meet regularly with paid staff for feedback and ongoing training.

Volunteers are central to every aspect of Safe Families work. Safe Families exists to create relationship and connection because everyone deserves to belong. This belonging is offered solely through the dedication, care, and practical actions of our volunteers. Researchers have found that the impact of loneliness can be worse for health than smoking 15 cigarettes a day. With almost 5,000 volunteers across the country offering their time as host families, family friends and resource friends, Safe Families can transform how families feel, and build more connected & hopeful communities.

MAIN ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN TO FURTHER THE CHARITY'S PURPOSES FOR PUBLIC BENEFIT

All the charity's activities in the year have been in line with the objects and are undertaken to further the charity's charitable purposes for the public benefit.

Achievements and performance

GOING CONCERN

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis and the principal uncertainties for the charity are set out in the Accounting Policies.

Safe Families for Children

Trustees' Report

The charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern is governed by its ability to control its principal risks and uncertainties which are set out within the section "Principal Risks and Uncertainties" below.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

Across the regions we achieved the following metrics, compared to the previous financial year(s):

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Local authorities	30	34	39	46
Accredited volunteers	4,161	4,539	4,897	5,126
Families supported (cumulative)	3,256	4,212	5,618	7,018
Families supported (in year)	1001	991	1,483	1,508
Children benefited (cumulative)	7,829	9,965	12,151	16,349
Children benefited (in year)	2,365	2,362	3,231	3,458
Number of bed nights (cumulative)	5,612	7,231	7,973	9,264
Churches and community groups	848	953	1099	1,209

Safe Families UK in numbers



Figures accurate as of the 1st April 2022

Safe Families for Children

Trustees' Report

THE IMPACT OF OUR WORK

Over the last 12 months we have evaluation scores for 2,521 families either at closure or review which demonstrate the impact of Safe Families support across 6 important domains that reflect the health and well-being of the families we support. Across every domain over 90% of families supported maintain or increase in their score.

	Social Networks	Wellbeing	Confidence	Physical Needs	Family Relationships	Positive Parenting
Maintained/Increased	97%	93%	93%	90%	90%	91%
Decreased	3%	7%	7%	10%	10%	9%
Average Change	+2.0	+1.7	+1.5	+1.0	+1.0	+1.1

We have also demonstrated the following impact:

- Delivered a decrease of the flow of children into care of between 9 – 16%
- 90% of cases have improved or remained at the same level in Children's Services without escalation of need
- A longitudinal review of cases across that have been closed for more than 6 months to both Safe Families and the Local Authority showed that 93% of cases remained closed to Children's Services
- A recent case study on one Local Authority area showed that 70% of volunteers remain as an informal part of the families support network following Safe Families formal case closure.

FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES / INCOME GENERATION

Safe Families undertakes all fundraising activities in line with industry best practice, legal guidelines and in line with our values. We aim to be open with the public about our processes and to explain (where appropriate) if asked for more information. We aim to be honest, acting with integrity, about the cause we are fundraising for or the way a donation will be used. We aim to demonstrate respect whenever we have contact, digital or physical, with any member of the public.

The charity continues to implement its fundraising strategy which seeks to diversify our income base. During the financial year the charity was funded through a blend of its contract work with Local Authorities, external charitable grants, and fundraised income. We had a successful year in terms of transformational grants (grants over £30k) with just over £500,000 being received from this income stream. Alongside this we also made progress in developing all our fundraised income streams, including corporate donations, one-off and monthly individual giving, and community fundraising.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The risks of the charity are managed by the Senior Leadership Team and reviewed by the Trustee Board through the appropriate subgroup.

The principal risks to the charity come in two forms; financial and safeguarding, the former due to the uncertainty that occurs with most funding derived from external sources. There is a risk that current funding agreements cease and are not renewed in the long term. The charity insures itself from these risks by working closely with its partners to ensure all parties are content with current arrangements and practices.

The principal risk is identified as being the financing of the growth of the charity. The work of the charity is reported in the Chairman's and Chief Executive's report elsewhere in these financial statements. The growth in activity includes delivery in new locations as well as continuing to service and develop the existing locations.

Safe Families for Children

Trustees' Report

These developments require funding, and the geographical spread of locations requires careful management to cover the charity's financial needs, much of which is related to the skilled staff and the volunteers who, together, deliver the charitable activities. Most of the funding of the charity comes from the Local Authorities, but financial

support from trusts, churches, and individuals, is an important part of making all this possible.

As with many charities, there is an in-built uncertainty about financial provision and the raising of finance is a part

of its day-to-day work. The growth of activity has been financed by an increase in income from Local Authority contracts, and the generous support of an increasing number of donors. The small decrease in fundraised income is mainly due to a change in the fundraising strategy, becoming less reliant on fixed-term transformational grants and moving towards regular giving that traditionally is in place for a longer period.

We have a robust process in place to monitor our financial position and a finance committee oversees our fiduciary responsibilities to ensure that we have sufficient reserves to operate should there be change in income.

Our business continuity planning is strong and has served us well during the unprecedented COVID 19 period.

The second principal risk to the charity is safeguarding. Safe Families has a clear, comprehensive safeguarding framework in place in which policy, procedure and guidance are all in line with legislation and the Local Safeguarding Children Boards procedures, all of which are designed to ensure that children and young people using the service are appropriately safeguarded. All staff and volunteers are fully aware of their duty of care to children and young people and vulnerable adults and that safeguarding them is of paramount importance.

We have comprehensive policies and procedures that govern activity and behaviour of all staff and volunteers. All activity is governed by our Quality Standards Framework which provides step by step guidance for the delivery of family support and work with volunteers. The framework sets out best practice that underpins the Safe Families approach in seeking to improve outcomes for children and families and ensure they are being kept safe within the system. The agreed quality standards enable regular audit of practice and case management ensuring consistency of approach and compliance with policies and procedures

RESERVES POLICY

The trustees have considered the Reserves Policy that is appropriate to the charity, given the plans for future activities, and understand the importance of a policy that enables it to meet its developing commitments and obligations. The policy is to work towards unrestricted reserves equivalent to 6 months of the annual core expenditure. Progress towards this target is monitored quarterly by the Finance Committee and reported to the full Trustee Board. The Reserves Policy is reviewed by the Board annually.

Safe Families for Children

Trustees' Report

The total funds held by the Charity on 31 March 2022 were £1,009,630 (2021 - £967,521). Of these funds, £15,155 were held in restricted funds (2021 - £65,823). The Charity also designated funds for future seed funding and other identified activities that are forecast to require additional funds. The amount of these designated funds totals £150,000 (2021 - £293,962). During the year, the Charity invested into two investment funds. The valuation of these two funds is £401,898 (2021 - £0) leaving £442,577 (2021 - £607,736) of free reserves at the year end. The target reserves required to comply with the charity's reserves policy would be circa £450,000 (equivalent to 6 months of annual core expenditure). This year, the free reserves are in-line with the charity's reserves policy (2021 - +£247,736). It should be noted that the investments are readily accessible if required.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The financial picture is one of stabilising the financial strength maintained in the previous year's accounts. The Charity made a surplus in the year of £42,109 (2021: £699,999) with income of £4,157,283 (2021 - £4,296,501) and expenditure of £4,117,066 (2021 - £3,596,502). The increased expenditure reflects the spend of COVID grants received in 20-21. As a result, the Charity was able to increase the level of unrestricted reserves (excluding designated reserves) to £844,475 (2021 - £607,736).

Income comes from a blend of local authority income for supporting children and families; £3,021,598 (2021 - £2,522,105); and donation income from grant-making charities and foundations, churches, and individuals of £1,107,151 (2021 - £1,714,136).

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

As we look forward, we consider our focus under 5 broad headings:

Delivering Support and Creating Connection; we will continue to ensure isolated and struggling families, children and care leavers, are connected with volunteers to build relationships that last; bringing hope & providing the practical and emotional support needed. We have an increased focus on the importance of belonging; defined for us as "being seen, heard and understood". We see this as being the unique offer that Safe Families volunteers can give to families. We also have a deeper focus on the impact of trauma on family life and the wellbeing of children and adults and continue to embed trauma informed support across all we do.

We also recognise we in (and it is likely to get worse) a cost-of-living crisis that will have a huge detrimental impact on the families we support. We are working with other third sector providers and our church and community providers to ensure we and our volunteers have innovative and joined up approaches to supporting all those impacted by this.

Developing our Volunteers; we will continue to work within local communities to release the potential of the volunteer community there. We have an immediate focus ensuring that their experience with Safe Families results in them remaining volunteers and /or ambassadors of Safe Families for a long time.

Deepening our Church partnerships; we will invest in our relationships with the churches and community groups that our volunteers are rooted in. We believe these communities are perfectly placed to offer love and belonging to families and want to see the potential in them released.

Ensuring our Financial Sustainability; We will deliver quality outcomes on a balanced budget while creating opportunities for growth and innovation. We will continue to deliver on our fundraising strategy, seeing growth across all our developing income streams.

Safe Families for Children

Trustees' Report

Prioritising Culture; Safe Families has clear values reflected by our culture. We have launched an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) for all staff and our new wellbeing framework. We will be embedding the framework across our staff teams, investing in training for all staff around secondary trauma and supporting line managers to feel empowered to support the teams with their wellbeing.

PAY POLICY FOR SENIOR STAFF

The senior leadership team is remunerated in line with industry levels, with equal pay across each staff hierarchy level across the organisation.

INFORMATION ON FUNDRAISING PRACTICES

The fundraising strategy of the charity is primarily the responsibility of the Chief Executive working closely with the Head of Communications and Influence. Working with the Financial Controller, financial projections supporting applications are submitted within applications.

We now have a small fundraising team with 2 part time Fundraising Managers who report to the Head of Communications and Influence. We also engage with Concannon Consultants who concentrate on smaller, more localised grants.

No staff member or consultant received commission on funds secured.

All data held by the charity is protected by strict and confidential protocols.

Safe Families for Children

Trustees' Report

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Safe Families for Children for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements 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 business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and 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.

Disclosure of information to auditor

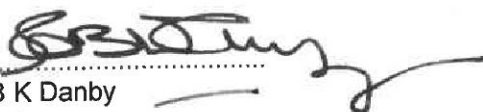
Each trustee has taken steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information. The trustees confirm that there is no relevant information that they know of and of which they know the auditor is unaware.

Reappointment of auditor

Azets Audit Services Limited, trading as Azets Audit Services, were appointed auditor to the company following their acquisition of the trade of Tait Walker LLP, trading as MHA Tait Walker, on 1 May 2022.

In accordance with section 485 of the Companies Act 2006, a resolution for the re-appointment of Azets Audit Services as auditors of the charity is to be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 7/11/2022 and signed on its behalf by:


.....
C B K Danby
Trustee

Safe Families for Children

Trustees' Report

Chief Executive Report

Safe Families for Children (Safe Families), started in the UK in 2012 with a pilot in the North East of England, and today we are working with 46 partner local authorities or schools trusts in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Why do we exist?

No one should feel alone. We exist to create relationship and connection because everyone deserves to belong.

What do we do?

Safe Families offer hope, belonging and support to children, families, and care leavers; we do this primarily, but not exclusively, with and through local churches

What are our values?

Love - Loving abundantly - Supporting with hope, generosity and dignity

Belonging - Building community- Establishing positive relationships that bring security and connection

Faith - Trusting Boldly Believing for lives transformed and in a God who can do more than we can ask or imagine

Empowerment - Enabling potential- Confident everyone has the ability to thrive

Humility - Serving together We know we can't do it alone, so we invest in strong, honest and honouring partnerships

The year 2021-22 saw the continued impacts of COVID as lock downs and uncertainty continued. For Safe Families it was a year of embedding the significant growth we had seen in the previous year with new partner Local Authorities and schools trusts to continue to provide support, hope and belonging to families who were struggling and overwhelmed by their circumstances.

During the year, thanks to the support of the Vardy Foundation and DCMS, we commissioned an external evaluation completed by Sonnet. This was a key piece of work that demonstrated the impact of our volunteer support around families and their children. Some of the statistics evidenced were:

- 90% of families referred were prevented from escalating further within children's services and 52% de-escalated to lower levels of children's services need
- £47.8m in savings to the public purse over 5 years from the 1,383 families supported by Safe Families in 20/21.

However, it went on to say that **“These financial reflections are mere shadows of the deep, life-changing benefits enjoyed by families who find new opportunities, new focus, and new friends through Safe Families’ support. Enabling families to support, nurture and provide safe homes for their children is the exciting story here.”**

This sentence sums up why I am so passionate about the work of Safe Families - we have seen time and time again the impact that consistent, positive friendship offered to families and their children has, to enable parents to feel more confident and children to therefore be provided with safe and nurturing homes. As Psychiatrist Bruce Perry has said ‘Relationships are the agents of change, and the most powerful therapy is human love.’

Safe Families for Children

Trustees' Report

During the year Safe Families income totalled £4,171k. This came from our 46 partnering LAs, schools and health trusts as well as a significant number of foundations and individuals. We remain grateful for the continued interest and support of Sir Tim and Lady Susie Sainsbury of the Jerusalem Trust; of Jane Oglesby and the Oglesby Charitable Trust; to The Big Lottery for their continued support in Cumbria, Humber and Scotland; Porticus, Benefact Trust, Childhood Trust and The Segelman Trust for their ongoing support towards the core costs of the charity.

There are also a large number of other funders and individuals who contribute significant amounts to Safe Families; the Dulverton Trust, Souter Charitable Trust, The House of Vicryn, The Ardbarron Trust, The Feathers Association, The Archer Trust, Stobart Newlands Trust, Cardrona Charitable Trust, David Cock Foundation, Beechmount Trust, The Good Faith Partnership, The Highfield Foundation and Alice Ellen Cooper Dean Charitable Foundation, to name but a few. Without the generosity and support of these donations, alongside the kind gifts from individuals and churches, we simply could not survive. The trustees, directors and staff are profoundly grateful.

Although the board of trustees are ultimately responsible for the charity, they delegate the day to day running of the charity to me as Chief Executive and our Senior Leadership Team (SLT). As we look forward, Safe Families will continue to dig into our values to keep loving abundantly, building community, trusting boldly, enabling potential, and serving together to offer hope, belonging and opportunity into the lives of children and families across our nations. Providing a real alternative for families who are in crisis.

We want to see more opportunities to partner with and serve local churches across the country. We know that what it looks like to lead a church has changed drastically in the last 2+ years. But we also know that those living in the neighbourhoods surrounding our churches need that sense of belonging and connection now more than ever. So, we want to partner with churches to transform how children, families and those coming out of care are loved and supported in our communities.

We want to invest into our volunteers. We want to dig in further to this idea of belonging - which will mean different things to different people. For us at its heart it is about being seen, heard, and understood. Out of that we see parents and children begin to believe in themselves, know they are loved and step into their potential as parents, young people or children.

And so, I want to finish with expressing my heartfelt thanks for everyone who is and has been a part of this journey - whether as a volunteer, whether you give financially, whether you pray, staff and trustees.... we literally would not be here without you.

We all are playing our part in doing the little things that change someone else's story. Enabling families to stay together safe, happy, and connected and working to ensure that no one feels alone.

Kat Osborn, Chief Executive

.....

Safe Families for Children

Chairman's Statement

This is the Charity's 9th Annual Statement but, in reality, we celebrate our 10th Anniversary of supporting Children and Families. We officially started working with Local Authority Children's Services in September 2012. Someone once said, *'it is easy to exaggerate what can be achieved in a year and underestimate what can be achieved in ten years'*, this is definitely true when we consider Safe Families!

The past twelve months, once again, has seen continued development, on all fronts, for the Charity under the dynamic leadership of Kat Osborn, our Chief Executive, and her Senior Leadership Team. We have successfully transitioned from a 'start-up' charity to one that has grown and matured and is consistently *'making a difference'* in the lives of the children and families we work with across the nations and regions of the UK.

Trustees have been involved in three Working Subgroups: Finance, Safeguarding and Quality Assurance, and Service Delivery and HR. The working group is chaired by a Trustee and comprises the Chief Executive, senior staff and at least one or two Trustees.

During the past few years, we have been working hard on our Governance model. At the start of this process, we resolved to develop a Board of Trustees that reflected the equality and diversity of skills, gender, age and the Nations and Regions that we aspire to work across. We also introduced an 'observer status' which would allow prospective Trustees the opportunity to get to know the Charity better and the existing Trustees chance to become acquainted with the interested candidates. Usually, the Observer status allows for attendance at three Trustee Meetings.

It has also been a year of change, particularly involving our Board of Trustees with a number of significant changes. John Phillipson retired as a Trustee in October 2021 having been appointed as a Trustee in April 2014. John trained as a Social Worker and served as Director of Children's Services at Newcastle City Council, and for the last seventeen years has been Chief Executive of North East Autism Society. As a result John brought incredible experience and insight to the Trustee Board and the Charity. Sadly, we also lost David Gilliam, who was also appointed in April 2014 and was an active volunteer and generous donor. David died suddenly after a short illness in October 2021. Both John and David made a huge contribution to what Safe Families has become today and will both be greatly missed.

During the year we invited 2 people to join the trustee board having completed the 'Observer role'.

Julian Eve lives in the East Midlands and is experienced in Human Resources and Organisational Development with a clinical and leadership career spanning 30 years within the NHS. He has considerable Board and Board Committee experience.

Patrick Sharman is a Chartered Accountant and served as Senior Partner in a practice in West Cumbria. He held the post of Finance Director of Cumbria Health on Call Ltd, alongside being a Non-Executive Board member and Audit and Risk Committee member of Your Housing Group.

Safe Families for Children

Chairman's Statement

We have sought to operate during, and post-Covid, with a balance between Virtual and Face to Face Trustee Meetings and Working Group meetings. Minutes of all meetings are recorded and circulated and the Chair of each working Group reports at each Trustee Meeting.

I am grateful to Steve Williams, who was the Founder of Safe Families Wales, for serving as Vice Chair.

The Trustees want to register their appreciation to all the staff for their tireless dedication to the vision and values of the charity and to our army of volunteers, without which the charity simply could not function.

Keith Danby, Chair

.....

Safe Families for Children

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Safe Families for Children

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Safe Families for Children (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2022, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows, and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising Charities SORP - FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and applicable law (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its 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.

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 responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity 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 the provisions available for small entities, in the circumstances set out in note to the financial statements, 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 charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements were 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 annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. 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.

Safe Families for Children

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Safe Families for Children

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion 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 for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the 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

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities (set out on page 13), the trustees 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 charity'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 charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor 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.

Safe Families for Children

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Safe Families for Children

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:

- Enquiries with management about any known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud;
- Reviewing board minutes;
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in their significant accounting estimates; and
- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness.

Because of the field in which the client operates, we identified the following areas as those most likely to have a material impact on the financial statements: Health and Safety; employment laws; and compliance with the UK Companies Act and Charities Act.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that some material misstatements in the financial statements may not be detected, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with ISAs (UK). For instance, the further removed non-compliance is from the event and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the auditor is to become aware of it or to recognise the non-compliance.

A further description of our responsibilities is available 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 trustees, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees 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 its trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Simon Brown ACA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of
Azets Audit Services
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor
Bulman House
Regent Centre
Gosforth
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE3 3LS

Date: 14/11/2022

Azets Audit Services is a trading name of Azets Audit Services Limited

Safe Families for Children

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2022 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Income and Endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	3	190,879	-	916,272	1,107,151	1,714,136
Charitable activities	4	3,021,598	-	-	3,021,598	2,522,105
Other income	5	28,534	-	-	28,534	60,260
Total Income		<u>3,241,011</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>916,272</u>	<u>4,157,283</u>	<u>4,296,501</u>
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds		(4,195)	-	-	(4,195)	(36,460)
Charitable activities	6	<u>(2,968,269)</u>	<u>(177,662)</u>	<u>(966,940)</u>	<u>(4,112,871)</u>	<u>(3,560,042)</u>
Total Expenditure		<u>(2,972,464)</u>	<u>(177,662)</u>	<u>(966,940)</u>	<u>(4,117,066)</u>	<u>(3,596,502)</u>
Gains/losses on investment assets		<u>1,892</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,892</u>	<u>-</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		270,439	(177,662)	(50,668)	42,109	699,999
Transfers between funds		<u>(33,700)</u>	<u>33,700</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		236,739	(143,962)	(50,668)	42,109	699,999
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		<u>607,736</u>	<u>293,962</u>	<u>65,823</u>	<u>967,521</u>	<u>267,522</u>
Total funds carried forward	19	<u>844,475</u>	<u>150,000</u>	<u>15,155</u>	<u>1,009,630</u>	<u>967,521</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2021 is shown in note 19.

Safe Families for Children

Comparative Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2021 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

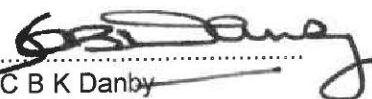
	Note	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total 2021 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	285,252	-	1,428,884	1,714,136
Charitable activities	4	2,522,105	-	-	2,522,105
Other income	5	60,260	-	-	60,260
Total income		<u>2,867,617</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,428,884</u>	<u>4,296,501</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		(36,460)	-	-	(36,460)
Charitable activities	6	(2,104,626)	-	(1,455,416)	(3,560,042)
Total expenditure		<u>(2,141,086)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,455,416)</u>	<u>(3,596,502)</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		726,531	-	(26,532)	699,999
Transfers between funds		(293,962)	293,962	-	-
Net movement in funds		432,569	293,962	(26,532)	699,999
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>175,167</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>92,355</u>	<u>267,522</u>
Total funds carried forward	19	<u>607,736</u>	<u>293,962</u>	<u>65,823</u>	<u>967,521</u>

Safe Families for Children

(Registration number: 08134971)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	13	-	-
Investments	14	<u>401,898</u>	<u>-</u>
		<u>401,898</u>	<u>-</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	15	476,679	218,929
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>597,105</u>	<u>1,045,120</u>
		1,073,784	1,264,049
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	16	<u>(466,052)</u>	<u>(296,528)</u>
Net current assets		<u>607,732</u>	<u>967,521</u>
Net assets		<u>1,009,630</u>	<u>967,521</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted			
		<u>15,155</u>	<u>65,823</u>
Unrestricted income funds			
Designated funds		150,000	293,962
Unrestricted funds		<u>844,475</u>	<u>607,736</u>
Total unrestricted funds		<u>994,475</u>	<u>901,698</u>
Total funds	19	<u>1,009,630</u>	<u>967,521</u>

The financial statements on pages 21 to 40 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on ~~31/03/2022~~ and signed on their behalf by:


C B K Danby
Trustee

Safe Families for Children

Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash income		42,109	699,999
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items			
Financial instrument net (gains) losses through statement of financial activities		<u>(1,892)</u>	<u>-</u>
		40,217	699,999
Working capital adjustments			
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	15	(257,750)	36,458
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	16	<u>169,524</u>	<u>(2,573)</u>
Net cash flows from operating activities		(48,009)	733,884
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of investments	14	<u>(400,006)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents		(448,015)	733,884
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April		<u>1,045,120</u>	<u>311,236</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March		<u>597,105</u>	<u>1,045,120</u>

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two periods.

Safe Families for Children

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is: Unit 4, Diamond Court, Kingston Park, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE3 2EN

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)) (issued in January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

Safe Families for Children 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.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

Estimation uncertainty and judgements

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported.

Key sources of estimation uncertainty

The key assumptions concerning the future and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year include:

Deferred income is estimated to recognise income in the period in which the performance conditions of the income are met. Income is deferred where performance conditions have not been fully met at year end.

Income and endowments

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

Safe Families for Children

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Donations and legacies

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the group has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Gift aid

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Charitable activities

Incoming resources from charitable activities is predominantly income from Local Authorities and is accounted for on a time-accrued basis.

Other income

Other income is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Raising funds

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, the management of investments and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees's meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Safe Families for Children

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000.00 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Computer equipment	100% in year of purchase

Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments, other than programme related investments, are included at market value at the balance sheet date. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their market value at the start of the year, or their subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market values during the year and are credited or charged to the Statement of Financial Activities based on the market value at the year end.

Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

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

Trade creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Safe Families for Children

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Hire purchase and finance leases

Leases in which substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases. Rentals payable under operating leases are charged in the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

Pensions and other post retirement obligations

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the charity has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions even if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when they are due. If contribution payments exceed the contribution due for service, the excess is recognised as a prepayment.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £
Donations and legacies;			
Donations	160,879	916,272	1,077,151
Franchise fees	30,000	-	30,000
	<u>190,879</u>	<u>916,272</u>	<u>1,107,151</u>
	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £
Donations and legacies;			
Donations	251,502	1,428,884	1,680,386
Franchise fees	33,750	-	33,750
	<u>285,252</u>	<u>1,428,884</u>	<u>1,714,136</u>

Safe Families for Children

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2022 £
Local Authority revenue funding	<u>3,021,598</u>	<u>3,021,598</u>
	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2021 £
Local Authority revenue funding	2,462,105	2,462,105
Revenue funding from other institutions	<u>60,000</u>	<u>60,000</u>
	<u>2,522,105</u>	<u>2,522,105</u>

5 Other income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2022 £
Other income	<u>28,534</u>	<u>28,534</u>
	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2021 £
Other income	<u>60,260</u>	<u>60,260</u>

Other income comprises student placement fees of £28,534 (2021 - £nil) and income from the early surrender of a lease £nil (2021 - £60,260).

Safe Families for Children

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total
	General	Designated		2022
	£	£	£	£
Provision of services	<u>2,968,269</u>	<u>177,662</u>	<u>966,940</u>	<u>4,112,871</u>
	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total
	General	Designated		2021
	£	£	£	£
Provision of services	<u>2,104,626</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,455,416</u>	<u>3,560,042</u>
	Activity undertaken directly		Activity support costs	2022
	£		£	£
Provision of services	<u>3,373,410</u>		<u>739,461</u>	<u>4,112,871</u>
	Activity undertaken directly		Activity support costs	2021
	£		£	£
Provision of services	<u>2,923,109</u>		<u>636,933</u>	<u>3,560,042</u>

Safe Families for Children

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

7 Analysis of governance and support costs

Direct costs

	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Staff and employment costs	2,994,494	2,576,610
Travel and accommodation	105,713	30,399
Recruitment and training of volunteers	16,766	18,688
Office and telecom	182,557	177,332
Insurance	1,439	1,502
Professional fees	1,449	3,102
Promotions and marketing	1,691	49,001
Emergency family purchases	65,833	66,475
Bank charges	3,468	-
	<u>3,373,410</u>	<u>2,923,109</u>

Support costs

	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Staff and employment costs	553,780	436,118
Travel and accommodation	16,321	3,122
Hospitality	-	9
Office and telecom	96,407	58,493
Insurance	19,220	14,301
DCMS Impact Assessment fees	-	78,000
Professional fees	30,924	28,580
Promotions and marketing	18,268	7,768
Bank charges	1,005	582
Governance costs	-	9,960
Donations	3,536	-
	<u>739,461</u>	<u>636,933</u>

Safe Families for Children

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

8 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net incoming resources for the year include:

	2022 £	2021 £
Audit fees	<u>10,800</u>	<u>8,300</u>

9 Trustees remuneration and expenses

During the year the charity made the following transactions with trustees:

C B K Danby

£992 (2021: £25) of expenses were reimbursed to C B K Danby during the year.

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

10 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	2,920,373	2,548,584
Social security costs	239,780	173,576
Pension costs	<u>366,507</u>	<u>310,183</u>
	<u>3,526,660</u>	<u>3,032,343</u>

Safe Families for Children

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2022 No	2021 No
Operational	128	107
Finance, administration and IT	9	6
Management	3	3
	<u>140</u>	<u>116</u>

The number of employees whose emoluments fell within the following bands was:

	2022 No	2021 No
£60,001 - £70,000	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £466,346 (2021 - £557,113).

11 Auditors' remuneration

	2022 £	2021 £
Audit of the financial statements	<u>10,800</u>	<u>8,300</u>

12 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Safe Families for Children

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

13 Tangible fixed assets

	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2021	<u>10,684</u>	<u>10,684</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>10,684</u>	<u>10,684</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2021	<u>10,684</u>	<u>10,684</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>10,684</u>	<u>10,684</u>
Net book value		
At 31 March 2022	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>
At 31 March 2021	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>

Safe Families for Children

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

14 Fixed asset investments

	2022 £	2021 £
Other investments	<u>401,898</u>	<u>-</u>

Other investments

	Listed investments £	Unlisted investments £	Total £
Cost or Valuation			
Additions	250,000	150,006	400,006
Revaluation	<u>1,892</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,892</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>251,892</u>	<u>150,006</u>	<u>401,898</u>
Net book value			
At 31 March 2022	<u>251,892</u>	<u>150,006</u>	<u>401,898</u>

15 Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade debtors	387,290	142,738
Prepayments and accrued income	78,193	8,511
Other debtors	<u>11,196</u>	<u>67,680</u>
	<u>476,679</u>	<u>218,929</u>

Safe Families for Children

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors	37,606	7,433
Other taxation and social security	57,223	67,318
Other creditors	54,486	36,459
Accruals and deferred income	316,737	185,318
	<u>466,052</u>	<u>296,528</u>

17 Obligations under leases and hire purchase contracts

Operating lease commitments

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

	2022 £	2021 £
Land and buildings		
Within one year	19,846	39,144
Between one and five years	16,016	18,346
	<u>35,862</u>	<u>57,490</u>
Other		
Within one year	8,892	4,537
Between one and five years	1,142	5,112
	<u>10,034</u>	<u>9,649</u>

18 Pension and other schemes

Defined contribution pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the charity to the scheme and amounted to £366,507 (2021 - £310,183).

Contributions totalling £38,257 (2021 - £32,064) were payable to the scheme at the end of the year and are included in creditors.

Safe Families for Children

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

19 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Unrestricted funds						
<i>General</i>						
General fund	607,736	3,241,011	(2,972,464)	(33,700)	1,892	844,475
<i>Designated</i>						
COVID-19 fund	141,962	-	(141,962)	-	-	-
Development fund	152,000	-	(35,700)	33,700	-	150,000
	<u>293,962</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(177,662)</u>	<u>33,700</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>150,000</u>
Total unrestricted funds	901,698	3,241,011	(3,150,126)	-	1,892	994,475
Restricted funds						
Family Resources and HUB funds	65,823	916,272	(966,940)	-	-	15,155
Total funds	<u>967,521</u>	<u>4,157,283</u>	<u>(4,117,066)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,892</u>	<u>1,009,630</u>

Safe Families for Children

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
Unrestricted funds					
<i>General</i>					
General fund	175,167	2,867,617	(2,141,086)	(293,962)	607,736
<i>Designated</i>					
COVID-19 fund	-	-	-	141,962	141,962
Development fund	-	-	-	152,000	152,000
	-	-	-	293,962	293,962
Total unrestricted funds	175,167	2,867,617	(2,141,086)	-	901,698
Restricted					
Family Resources and HUB funds	92,355	1,428,884	(1,455,416)	-	65,823
Total funds	267,522	4,296,501	(3,596,502)	-	967,521

Designated Funds

In previous years, the charity set aside funds from its unrestricted general reserves in two areas where future expenditure is forecast to exceed income receivable:

The COVID-19 fund related to forecast future costs that the charity incurred to deal with the elongation of the time period that SFFC had to spend with families over the pandemic.

The Development fund was set up to allow the charity to seed-fund new areas of work.

Restricted Funds

Family Resources and Hub Funds arise through donations received from individuals and Trusts to provide resources for families we are supporting or that are received within a particular geographical area to be spent only within that area.

Safe Families for Children

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

20 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted			Total funds at 31 March 2022 £
	General £	Designated £	Restricted £	
Fixed asset investments	401,898	-	-	401,898
Net current assets/(liabilities)	<u>442,577</u>	<u>150,000</u>	<u>15,155</u>	<u>607,732</u>
Total net assets	<u>844,475</u>	<u>150,000</u>	<u>15,155</u>	<u>1,009,630</u>

	Unrestricted			Total funds at 31 March 2021 £
	General £	Designated £	Restricted £	
Net current assets/(liabilities)	<u>607,736</u>	<u>293,962</u>	<u>65,823</u>	<u>967,521</u>

21 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 April 2021 £	Financing cash flows £	At 31 March 2022 £
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>1,045,120</u>	<u>(448,016)</u>	<u>597,104</u>
Net funds	<u>1,045,120</u>	<u>(448,016)</u>	<u>597,104</u>

	At 1 April 2020 £	Financing cash flows £	At 31 March 2021 £
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>311,236</u>	<u>733,884</u>	<u>1,045,120</u>
Net funds	<u>311,236</u>	<u>733,884</u>	<u>1,045,120</u>

Safe Families for Children

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

22 Related party transactions

The charity made purchases of £13,194 (2021 - £12,090) from Pure Panel Management Limited, a company which is related by a common Trustee. There was £Nil owed to Pure Panel Management Limited at the year end (2021 - £nil).

The charity received donations of £nil (2021 - £2,600) and recharged expenses of £nil (2021 - £770) from Beechmount Trust, a charity which is controlled by a Trustee of this charity. There was £nil owed to Beechmount Trust at the year end (2021 - £nil).

The charity made purchases of £nil (2021 - £nil) and recharged expenses of £480 (2021 - £431) from Rosegate Consultancy, a company which is related by a common Trustee. There was £480 owed to Rosegate Consultancy at the year end (2021 - £nil).

The charity received donations of £nil (2021 - £9,000) from The Seedfield Trust, a charity which is related by a common Trustee.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

England & Wales - Charity number 1150405

Accounts

Registered number: 08134971
Charity numbers: 1150405 & SCO48207

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(A company limited by guarantee)

CONTENTS

	Page
Reference and administrative details of the charitable company, its Trustees and advisers	1
Statements of the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer	2 - 4
Trustees' report	5 - 15
Independent auditor's report on the financial statements	16 - 19
Statement of financial activities	20
Balance sheet	21
Statement of cash flows	22
Notes to the financial statements	23 - 36

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(A company limited by guarantee)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITABLE COMPANY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Trustees

Mr Keith Danby, Chairman
Bishop Paul Butler (resigned 31 December 2020)
Dr Rachel Tooth
Mr David Gillam
Mr John Phillipson
Mr David Ryan FCA
Mrs Joanne O'Connor
Mr Steve Williams

Company registered number

08134971

Charity registered numbers

1150405 and SCO48207

Registered office

4 Diamond Court
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE3 2EN

Chief Executive Officer

Kat Osborn

Independent auditor

Ryecroft Glenton
Chartered Accountants
32 Portland Terrace
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE2 1QP

Bankers

Barclays Bank
49-51 Northumberland Street
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 7AF

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(A company limited by guarantee)

**STATEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

Chairman's report

This is the Charity's 8th Annual Statement and one which represents significant step changes in the last 12 months, as our Chief Executive, Kat Osborn, who having consulted extensively with stakeholders -internally and externally completed her strategic review setting the goals, objectives, and values for the Charity for the next 3 -5 years.

None of us could have imagined at the start of this new financial year the huge impact the Covid Pandemic would have on our nation in general and particularly our lives. As a charity we wanted to ensure that the support we were giving children and families continued. I am truly in awe of what an amazing job our staff and volunteers did, adapting quickly with innovative ways to connect with and care for the vulnerable and needy. It is quite extraordinary that despite everything that we have faced in this year we have started working with families in 5 new Local Authority areas and supported almost 50% more families across the country. Without doubt this has been our most outstanding year. On behalf of the Trustees, I want to express my sincere appreciation.

As a Board of Trustees, we recognised the need to embrace a more mature approach to 'Good Governance'. We conducted a skills gap analysis and identified areas where we needed expertise. We committed to Trustee Training Days and Retreats and allocating time to learn from other like-minded Charities who demonstrated 'best practice'. In the last two years we have been intentionally looking for new Trustees. In the last year a person joined us as an observer but sadly because of a growing pressure from her 'day job' withdrew her interest. We have now actively started to advertise vacancies.

All existing Trustees completed an NSPCC Safeguarding online course during the period. Others attended the Wrigley's Annual Trustees Conference, albeit this year a Virtual Conference.

In the previous year we had established two 'Working Groups': Finance Committee and Safeguarding and Quality Assurance Group. During the current year we started a 'Service Delivery and HR Group'. Each Group meets at least once between Trustee Meetings. Minutes are taken at all meetings and a 'Dashboard' report included with Trustee Board papers

As Chair I endeavour to meet each Trustee in person for a one-on-one consultation to get their feed-back to understand what they think is 'going well', what they think 'is not working' and what they think 'could be done better'.

In closing my report, I would like to place on record a deep gratitude to Bishop Paul Butler, Bishop of Durham, who has served as a Trustee since December 2016 and he and his wife Rosemary were active volunteers. +Paul was Deputy Chair for over two years but needed to retire as a Trustee in December 2020 to take up a larger portfolio in the House of Lords. We hope he will continue to be involved as a Patron later this year as we establish this Group. Steve Williams will serve as Deputy Chair going forward.

Keith Danby, Chair
18th October 2021

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Chief Executive Report

Safe Families for Children (Safe Families), started in the UK in 2012 with a pilot in the North East of England, and today we are working with 39 local authorities in England, Scotland and Wales.

Why do we exist?

No one should feel alone. We exist to create relationship and connection because everyone deserves to belong.

What do we do?

Safe Families offer hope, belonging and support to children, families and care leavers; we do this primarily, but not exclusively, with and through local churches

What are our values?

Love – *Loving abundantly* – Supporting with hope, generosity and dignity

Belonging – *Building community* – Establishing positive relationships that bring security and connection

Faith – *Trusting Boldly* - Believing for lives transformed and in a God who can do more than we can ask or imagine

Empowerment – *Enabling potential* – Confident everyone has the ability to thrive

Humility – *Serving together* - We know we cannot do it alone, so we invest in strong, honest and honouring partnerships

The year 2020-21 is one that will be engrained in our memories for many years to come but for Safe Families it was a year where we supported more children and families than ever before. Each one of these numbers represents one family, one child, one parent whose story has been changed because of the friendship, practical support, encouragement, or ordinary acts of kindness that they received.

Safe Families is grateful to have the support of a number of sponsors and supporters. We remain grateful for the continued interest and support of Sir Tim and Lady Susie Sainsbury of the Jerusalem Trust, of Jane Oglesby and the Oglesby Charitable Trust, to The Big Lottery for their continued support in Cumbria, Humber and Scotland, to St James Place who continue to support our North East region, Porticus, All Churches Trust, Childhood Trust and The Segelman Trust for their ongoing support towards the core costs of the Charity, and Stewardship, Barclays and The Vardy Foundation for their specific support towards our COVID-19 response.

There are also a large number of other funders and individuals who contribute significant amounts to Safe Families: The Souter Charitable Trust, The Seedfield Trust, The House of Vicryn, The Ardbarron Trust, The 29th May 1961 Charitable Trust, The Archer Trust, The Louis Nicholas Residuary Charitable Trust, to name but a few. Without the generosity and support of these donations, alongside the kind gifts from individuals and churches, we simply could not survive. The Trustees, directors and staff are profoundly grateful.

Although the board of Trustees are ultimately responsible for the charity, they delegate the day to day running of the charity to me as Chief Executive and our Senior Leadership Team (SLT). One of the key things that we have seen over the past 8 years is that isolation is the root of so much of the challenges our families face – a lack of consistent, positive, holding, day to day friendships. I am deeply passionate about the role of Safe Families, and its incredible volunteers, to offer these positive friendships to families. We have seen how these can change the story and outcome for a family; enabling them to thrive together, safe and happy. What is amazing is that as that happens, the volunteers are changed too, and the ripple effect of this into our communities is significant.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

As we look forward, Safe Families will continue to dig into our values to keep loving abundantly, building community, trusting boldly, enabling potential and serving together to offer hope, belonging and opportunity into the lives of children and families across our nations, providing a real alternative for families who are in crisis.

We want to see more opportunities to partner with and serve local churches across the country. We know that what it looks like to lead a church at the moment has changed drastically. But we also know that those living in the neighbourhoods surrounding our churches need that sense of belonging and connection now more than ever. So, we want to partner with churches to transform how children, families and those coming out of care are loved and supported in our communities.

We want to invest into our volunteers. We want to dig in further to this idea of belonging, which will mean different things to different people. For us at its heart it is about being seen, heard, and understood. Out of that we see parents and children begin to believe in themselves, know they are loved and step into their potential as parents, young people or children.

This brings to mind a quote by Gustavo Gutierrez, a Dominican priest who said "You tell me you care about the poor? Then tell me, what are their names?" Relationship, friendship, being known are at the heart of who we are at Safe Families and it is where transformation begins.

And so, I want to finish with expressing my heartfelt thanks for everyone who is and has been a part of this journey – whether as a volunteer, whether you give financially, whether you pray, staff and Trustees.... we literally would not be here without you.

We all are playing our part in doing the little things that change someone else's story. Enabling families to stay together safe, happy, and connected and working to ensure that no one feels alone.

Kat Osborn, Chief Executive
18th October 2021

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The Trustees present their Annual Report together with the audited financial statements of the charitable company for the year 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021. The Annual Report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a directors' report under company law. The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the charitable company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective January 2019).

Since the charitable company qualifies as small under section 382 of the Companies Act 2006, the Strategic report required of medium and large companies under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 has been omitted.

Structure, Governance and Management

CONSTITUTION

The charitable company is constituted under a Memorandum of Association dated 9 July 2012 and is a registered charity, number 1150405.

The principal objects of the charitable company are:

- The provision of relief and respite to families in crisis arising from poverty, conflict, hardship, homelessness, ill health or addictions.
- Befriending and emotional support to children, parents and carers who are isolated, overwhelmed and not coping.
- The provision of practical help to resource stretched parents and carers.

METHOD OF APPOINTMENT OR ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

The management of the charitable company is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Articles of Association.

GOVERNANCE

The Trustees continue work on the Charity's governance model and have welcomed new Trustees to the Board to increase the breadth of expertise among the board members and gear its recruitment of new members to the skills audit conducted last year to identify the profile of prospective new trustees. The three working committees established last year, as well as a newly created committee this year, meet quarterly as a minimum, and report back into quarterly Trustee board meetings. The four areas covered by these committees are as follows: Safeguarding and Quality Assurance; Finance; HR and Performance, and Governance and Nominations.

The Trustees meet 4 times a year either face to face or by Tele/Video Conference.

POLICIES ADOPTED FOR THE INDUCTION AND TRAINING OF TRUSTEES

Prospective Trustees are invited to attend 2-3 board meetings as an observer prior to their nomination meeting. This gives them the chance to learn more about Safe Families and other board members, whilst also allowing the board to get to know the individual prior to them being officially appointed. During this period, they also have one-to-one meetings with both the Chair and Chief Executive Officer as well as one-to-ones with some of the existing Trustees. New Trustees are also provided with key charity documents to read such as the Staff Handbook, Constitution, Safeguarding Policy, Finance Policy, and minutes from the last 12 months' Trustee Board meetings. Furthermore, new Trustees are provided key financial documents such as the last audited Statutory accounts and latest Management Accounts and reports.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND DECISION MAKING

The business of the charitable company is managed by the Trustees who may exercise all the powers of the charitable company. There are three sub-committees of the board: Safeguarding, Finance, and Governance and nominations. During the last year we have also formed a 4th sub-committee which is HR and Performance. Each sub-group has a chair and includes at least 2 members of the Trustee board alongside the Chief Executive. Each group has its own terms of reference which determines frequency of meetings, purpose of committee and method of reporting back to the main board. The Governance and nominations committee led on a board skills audit to aid with a review of the composition of the board and provide a framework for the nomination of 3-4 new Trustees over the next 2-3 years.

The day-to-day management of the charity is delegated to the Chief Executive and her Senior Leadership Team. The Senior Leadership Team meets once a month to discuss strategic operational developments.

During the year, the charity was contracted to work with 39 local authorities operating out of four regions. Each region is led by a Programme Director, alongside a team of experienced social and health care professionals and community volunteer managers. Each region is divided into hubs. There are 10 hubs. The chief executive is supported by a small national team.

National Team: Kat Osborn - Chief Executive; Ann Day - Director of Safeguarding and Quality Assurance; Martin Dickson – Director of Church Relations; Matt Jones – Head of Communications and Influence; Ian Maith - Financial Controller and Stuart Main – Head of IT and Solutions.

Midlands Region: Helen Crandley - Programme Director.

Hubs: Central East, Mid Central, Central West

Local Authorities (10): Birmingham, Derby City, Dudley, Leicester City, Lincolnshire, North East Lincolnshire, Nottingham City, Nottinghamshire, Sandwell and Sheffield.

North Region: Mark Buchanan - Programme Director.

Hubs: Scotland, North-East, North-West

Local Authorities (17): Cumbria, Darlington, Hartlepool, North Tyneside, Northumberland, Stockton, Knowsley, Sefton, Lancashire, Manchester City, Salford City, St. Helen's, Wirral, Edinburgh, Midlothian, East Lothian, West Lothian.

South Region with Wales and Northern Ireland: Chris Allcock - Programme Director.

Local Authorities (9): Bournemouth/Christchurch/Poole, Dorset, Somerset, Southampton, Swindon, East Sussex, Cardiff, Caerphilly, Northern Trust.

London: Kirsty Wordsworth – Programme Director

Local Authorities (3): Hammersmith & Fulham, Croydon, Greenwich

At 31st March 2021, we have an ever-expanding team of 129 staff, FTE of 96.6.

RELATED PARTY RELATIONSHIPS

All related party transactions are disclosed in note 24 to the accounts.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charitable company is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the charitable company and are satisfied those systems and procedures are in place to mitigate our exposure to the major risks.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Objectives and Activities

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

Safe Families offer hope, belonging and support to children, families, and care leavers; we do this primarily, but not exclusively, with and through local churches.

POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the Trustees have given due consideration to general guidance published by the charity commission relating to public benefit.

Equality and Diversity Policy

Safe Families recognises that our Equality and Diversity Policy is an integral part of our approach to creating belonging for all. This policy underpins all Safe Families activity in achieving our mission to offer hope, belonging and support to children, families, and care leavers; primarily but not exclusively, through local churches.

Safe Families is a Christian charity. Safe Families' policies and protocols are clear that the project is a family support service offered to those in need and that the purpose of the organisation is to create relationship and connection for all because everyone deserves to belong.

The motivation of all those working and volunteering within Safe Families is to make a tangible difference to the lives of those helped, irrespective of whether the family identifies with the Christian faith, another faith, or no faith. Safe Families is not a vehicle to support proselytization.

Families and children will be supported regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation.

Safe Families is committed to promoting fairness, equality, and diversity in all its activities. This includes the recruitment, training, and development of a diverse group of volunteers able to support a diverse range of families in crisis.

This policy is based on the key principles of equity, equality, inclusion, engagement, and partnership. The policy considers and is compliant with the Equality Act 2010. It covers discrimination based on age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation, as set out in the Equality Act (2010).

Safe Families welcomes the opportunity to work with people from all kinds of social, educational, economic, and cultural backgrounds. We will never knowingly discriminate against any person on the grounds of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.

STRATEGIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES

In achieving our mission, we have identified 2 key strategic themes which are:

- (1) To release the potential in families and individuals through offering hope & belonging
- (2) To release the potential in the church to offer hope and belonging to all those who need it

We have identified a 2-3-year goal that details the part Safe Families will play in achieving each strategic theme:

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

- (1) Isolated and struggling families, children, and care leavers, are connected with volunteers to build relationships that last; bringing hope and providing the practical and emotional support needed;
- (2) The UK church understands its call to love the vulnerable. It has a clear theological understanding surrounding hospitality and community, and this increased understanding results in action.

For each goal we have identified the challenges that limit us in achieving this and identified an action plan to tackle these.

Alongside this we have two foundational goals that will ensure sustainability for all we do. These are to:

- (a) Ensure Financial Sustainability: Safe Families delivers quality outcomes on a balanced budget, while maintaining a healthy working culture;
- (b) Prioritise Culture: Safe Families has clear values reflected by our culture.

ACTIVITIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES

Our core model for providing support to families remains the same and is based around the following 3 core volunteer roles

- Host Families who offer short term overnight respite care to children for a couple of nights to a couple of weeks. On advice from the Department for Education, we operate under the legal framework of Section 17 of the Children Act 1989.
- Family Friends who come alongside placing parents/carers offering peer to peer support and mentoring. This relationship can be short-term or long-term depending on the family needs.
- Resource Friends who offer goods and services either to the placing parents/carers, such as meals, clothes, toys, beds, buggies etc. These are all free of charge.

All volunteers go through a seven-step safeguarding training and accreditation process before they are approved. Thereafter, volunteers meet regularly with paid staff for feedback and ongoing training.

Volunteers are central to every aspect of Safe Families work. Safe Families exists to create relationship and connection because everyone deserves to belong. This belonging is offered solely through the dedication, care, and practical actions of our volunteers. We know that the impact of loneliness can be worse for health than smoking 15 cigarettes a day. With almost 5,000 volunteers across the country offering their time as Host Families, Family Friends and Resource Friends, Safe Families can transform how families feel, and build more connected and hopeful communities.

MAIN ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN TO FURTHER THE CHARITY'S PURPOSES FOR PUBLIC BENEFIT

All the charity's activities in the year have been in line with the objects and are undertaken to further the charity's charitable purposes for the public benefit.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Achievements and performance

GOING CONCERN

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charitable company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis and the principal uncertainties for the charitable company are set out in the Accounting Policies.

The charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern is governed by its ability to control several principal risks and uncertainties which are set out within the section "Principal Risks and Uncertainties" below.

Impact of COVID

Safe Families core business is supporting isolated children and families. The families we support often have multiple and complex needs which are compounded by minimal support networks. As a result, they have been some of those most impacted by Coronavirus. The impact of coronavirus and the measures taken to keep us safe has compounded the traumas that both children and parents were already experiencing. We have seen escalating mental health needs and increasing safeguarding concerns. We have seen increased stress due to financial disadvantage or lack of future employment and feeling disempowered to do anything about it. We have seen the strain on family relationships enforced by proximity and the added pressure of educating, entertaining and keeping children safe with none of the usual respite (family, friends, school etc).

Through 2020-21 Safe Families continued to provide emotional and practical support to children and families. We have continued to take new referrals alongside our pre-existing case load. Due to a combination of new Local Authority growth combined with the needs of families, the total number of active families being supported at any one time by Safe Families has increased by 40% over this reporting period (from 1,003 to 1,409 families).

Safe Families rapidly adapted and put in place policies, procedures and guidance that allowed staff and volunteers to flex how support was provided dependent both on the level of need for the families and the specific government guidelines/tiers as they changed. Where support could be provided remotely during periods of increased restrictions, we would do this; but where the family's needs were escalating and/or restrictions eased we were able to maintain face to face support for families.

Despite the challenges of the pandemic, we were still able to launch new services in 3 London boroughs, Birmingham, Nottinghamshire, East Sussex and Sheffield. It is clear that although Local Authorities face increased financial pressures, the impact and outcomes of Safe Families support to families is well recognised.

We have stayed in regular dialogue with all our referring Local Authorities and have received compliments from them for the way we have operated throughout such challenging circumstances.

While COVID has impacted on some of our fundraising plans for the year (e.g. events, sponsored fundraisers etc.) there have been other areas (e.g., large grants and one-off individual giving) which have exceeded our forecast. This has meant that we are in a strong position and have not needed to utilise reserves to sustain the charity. While the future remains uncertain, we have a strong financial base and a sustainable financial model with which to move forward.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

Across the regions we achieved the following metrics, compared to the previous financial years:

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Local authorities	30	34	39
Accredited volunteers	4,161	4,539	4,897
Families supported (cumulative)	3,256	4,212	5,618
Families supported (in year)	1,001	991	1,483
Children benefitted (cumulative)	7,829	9,965	12,151
Children benefitted (in year)	2,365	2,362	3,231
Number of bed nights (cumulative)	5,612	7,231	7,973
Churches and community groups	848	953	1,099

* In year numbers refer to families and children commencing support in that year. That support may continue into the following year but would only be counted in the year it started.

* Cumulative numbers refer to the total unique families and children supported. Therefore if a family start support in year a and are then referred again for a new support to start in year c then they would count in both year a and year c for the in year number, but only once in the cumulative number.

Safe Families UK in numbers



Figures accurate from 1st April 2021

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

THE IMPACT OF OUR WORK

Over the last 12 months we have evaluation scores for 1,107 families either at closure or review which demonstrate the impact of Safe Families support across 6 important domains that reflect the health and well-being of the families we support. Across every domain over 90% of families supported maintain or increase in their score.

Stage	#	Social Networks	Wellbeing	Confidence	Physical Needs	Family Relationships	Positive Parenting
Maintained/Increased	1107	96%	94%	94%	93%	94%	93%
Decreased		4%	6%	6%	7%	6%	7%

We have also demonstrated the following impact:

- Delivered a decrease of the flow of children into care of between 9 – 16%.
- 88 – 96% of cases have improved or remained at the same level in Children's Services without escalation of need.
- A longitudinal review across cases that have been closed for more than 6 months to both Safe Families and the Local Authority showed that 93% of cases remained closed to Children's Services (review undertaken for cases in Lincolnshire and Sandwell LAs).
- A recent case study on one Local Authority area showed that 70% of volunteers remain as an informal part of the families support network following Safe Families formal case closure.

FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES / INCOME GENERATION

Safe Families undertakes all fundraising activities in line with industry best practice, legal guidelines and in line with our values. We aim to be open with the public about our processes and to explain (where appropriate) if asked for more information. We aim to be honest, acting with integrity about the cause we are fundraising for or the way a donation will be used. We aim to demonstrate respect whenever we have contact, digital or physical with any member of the public.

The charity continues to implement its new fundraising strategy which seeks to diversify our income base. During the financial year, the charity was funded through a blend of its contract work with Local Authorities, external charitable grants and fundraised income. We had a very successful year in terms of large grants with just over £500,000 of COVID specific income. Alongside this we also made progress in developing all our fundraised income streams, including corporate donations, one off and monthly individual giving and community fundraising. Each of these income streams have shown a year-on-year increase.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The principal risks to the charity come in two forms; financial and safeguarding, the former due to the uncertainty that occurs with most funding derived from external sources. There is a risk that current funding agreements cease and are not renewed in the long term. The charity insures itself against these risks by working closely with its partners to ensure all parties are content with current arrangements and practices.

The principal risk is identified as being the financing of the growth of the charity. The work of the charity is reported in the Chairman's and Chief Executive's report elsewhere in these financial statements. The growth in activity includes delivery in new locations as well as continuing to service and develop the existing locations.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

These developments require funding, and the geographical spread of locations requires careful management to cover the charity's financial needs, much of which is related to the skilled staff and the volunteers who, together, deliver the charitable activities. Most of the funding of the charity comes from the Local Authorities, but financial support from trusts, churches, and individuals, is an important part of making all this possible.

As with many charities, there is an inbuilt uncertainty about financial provision and the raising of finance is a part of its day-to-day work. The growth of activity has been financed by an increase in income from both Local Authority contracts (+32.3%) and the generous support of an increasing number of donors (+85.2%).

The second principal risk to the charity is safeguarding. Safe Families has a clear, comprehensive safeguarding framework in place in which policy, procedure and guidance are all in line with legislation and the Local Safeguarding Children Boards procedures, all of which are designed to ensure that children and young people using the service are appropriately safeguarded. All staff and volunteers are fully aware of their duty of care to children and young people and vulnerable adults and that safeguarding them is of paramount importance.

We have comprehensive policies and procedures that govern activity and behaviour of all staff and volunteers. All activity is governed by our Quality Standards Framework which provides step by step guidance for the delivery of family support and work with volunteers. The framework sets out best practice that underpins the Safe Families approach in seeking to improve outcomes for children and families and ensure they are being kept safe within the system. The agreed quality standards enable regular audit of practice and case management ensuring consistency of approach and compliance with policies and procedures

We have a robust process in place to monitor our financial position and a finance committee oversees our fiduciary responsibilities to ensure that we have sufficient reserves to operate should there be change in income.

Our business continuity planning is strong and has served us well during the unprecedented COVID 19 period.

RESERVES POLICY

The Trustees have considered the Reserves Policy that is appropriate to the charity, given the plans for future activities, and understand the importance of a policy that enables it to meet its developing commitments and obligations. The policy is to work towards unrestricted reserves equivalent to 6 months of the annual core expenditure. Progress towards this target is monitored quarterly by the Finance Committee and reported to the full Trustee Board.

The total funds held by the Charity on 31 March 2021 were £967,521 (2020: £267,522). Of these funds, £65,823 were held in restricted funds (2020: £92,355). The Charity also designated funds for future seed funding and other identified activities that are forecast to require additional funds. The amount of these designated funds totals £293,962, leaving £607,736 of free reserves at the year end. The target reserves required to comply with the charitable company's reserves policy would be circa £360,000 (equivalent to 6 months of annual core expenditure). This year, the free reserves exceeded the target reserves by £247,736 primarily because some grant funding has been received in advance of spending. The charity's forecasts show that this additional reserve will dissipate over the next financial year.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The financial picture is one of increasing financial strength compared to the previous year's accounts. The Charity made a surplus in the year of £699,999 (2020: £167,310) with income of £4,296,501 (2020: £2,831,761) and expenditure of £3,596,502 (2020: £2,664,451). As a result, the Charity was able to increase the level of unrestricted reserves to £607,736 (2020: £175,167).

Income comes from a blend of Local Authority income for supporting children and families; £2,522,105 (2020 - £1,906,067); and donation income from grant-making charities and foundations, churches and individuals of £1,714,136 (2020 - £925,694).

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

This last 18 months has been unprecedented, and it feels like we are only just settling into our new normal.

As we look forward, we consider our focus under 5 broad headings:

Delivering Support and Creating Connection: We will continue to ensure isolated and struggling families, children and care leavers are connected with volunteers to build relationships that last; bringing hope and providing the practical and emotional support needed. We have an increased focus on the importance of belonging; defined for us as "being seen, heard and understood". We see this as being the really unique offer that Safe Families volunteers can give to families. We also have a new and deeper focus on the impact of trauma on family life and the wellbeing of children and adults.

Developing our Volunteers: We will continue to work within local communities to release the potential of the volunteer community there. We have an immediate focus on supporting every one of our volunteers as they navigate this transition into the new normal and ensuring they feel loved and supported by Safe Families.

Deepening our Church partnerships: We will invest in our relationships with the churches and community groups that our volunteers are rooted in. We believe these communities are perfectly placed to offer love and belonging to families and want to see the potential in them released.

Ensuring our Financial Sustainability: We will deliver quality outcomes on a balanced budget while creating opportunities for growth and innovation. We will continue to deliver on our fundraising strategy, seeing growth across all of our developing income streams.

Prioritising Culture: Safe Families has clear values reflected by our culture. Following a staff wellbeing survey, we are formalising our staff wellbeing offer so that there is consistency across the regions and clarity on how as Safe Families we prioritise and support staff wellbeing.

PAY POLICY FOR SENIOR STAFF

The senior leadership team is remunerated in line with industry levels, with equal pay across each staff hierarchy level across the organisation.

INFORMATION ON FUNDRAISING PRACTICES

The fundraising strategy of the charity is primarily the responsibility of the Chief Executive working closely with the Head of Communications and Influence. Working with the Financial Controller, financial projections are submitted to support applications.

We now have a small fundraising team with 1 part time Fundraising Manager who reports to the Head of Communications and Influence. We also engage with Concannon Consultants who concentrate on smaller, more localised grants.

No staff member or consultant received commission on funds secured.

All data held by the charity is protected by strict and confidential protocols.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The Trustees (who are also directors of Safe Families for Children for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they 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 accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and 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.

DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO AUDITOR

Each of the persons who are Trustees at the time when this Trustee's 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 auditor is unaware, and
- that Trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Trustee to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable company's auditor is aware of that information.

This report has taken advantage of exemptions available to small companies under the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the Trustees, on 18 October 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

Keith Danby
Chairman of the Trustee Board



Mr Keith Danby
(Chair of Trustees)

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Safe Families for Children (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2021 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the 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 charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its 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, Charities Act 2011, 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 charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council'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 charitable company'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.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(CONTINUED)

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditor's report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual 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. 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 course of 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 this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. 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.

Opinion 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 for the financial Year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' report.

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the 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.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(CONTINUED)

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, 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 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 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

We have been appointed as auditor under section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and under the Companies Act 2006 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the Charity through discussions with Trustees and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the child support services sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the Charity, including Charities Act 2011 et seq., the Charities (Protection and Social Investment) Act 2016, the Trustees Acts 1925 and 2000 and Charity Commission regulation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence; and
- we ensured that the identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(CONTINUED)

We assessed the susceptibility of the Charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by: -

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud and their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we: -

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships; and
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to: -

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims; and
- reviewing correspondence with HMRC and the Charity Commission.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the Trustees and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

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, and to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with 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 and Trustees 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 its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.


Detlev Anderson (Senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of
Ryecroft Glenton
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor
32 Portland Terrace
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE2 1QP

Date: *19th October 2021*

Ryecroft Glenton are eligible to act as auditors in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

(A company limited by guarantee)

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

	Note	Unrestricted designated funds 2021 £	Unrestricted general funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Income from:						
Donations and legacies	3	-	285,252	1,428,884	1,714,136	925,694
Charitable activities	4	-	2,522,105	-	2,522,105	1,906,067
Other income	5	-	60,260	-	60,260	-
Total income		-	2,867,617	1,428,884	4,296,501	2,831,761
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	6	-	36,460	-	36,460	15,600
Charitable activities	7	-	2,104,626	1,455,416	3,560,042	2,648,851
Total expenditure		-	2,141,086	1,455,416	3,596,502	2,664,451
Net income/(expenditure)		-	726,531	(26,532)	699,999	167,310
Transfers between funds	15	293,962	(293,962)	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		293,962	432,569	(26,532)	699,999	167,310
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		-	175,167	92,355	267,522	100,212
Net movement in funds		293,962	432,569	(26,532)	699,999	167,310
Total funds carried forward		293,962	607,736	65,823	967,521	267,522

The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the Year.

The notes on pages 23 to 36 form part of these financial statements.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 08134971

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2021

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets	12	-	-
Current assets			
Debtors	13	218,929	255,387
Cash at bank and in hand		1,045,120	311,236
		<u>1,264,049</u>	<u>566,623</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(296,528)	(299,101)
Net current assets		<u>967,521</u>	<u>267,522</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>967,521</u>	<u>267,522</u>
Total net assets		<u>967,521</u>	<u>267,522</u>
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	15	65,823	92,355
Unrestricted funds			
Designated funds	15	293,962	-
General funds	15	607,736	175,167
Total unrestricted funds	15	<u>901,698</u>	<u>175,167</u>
Total funds		<u>967,521</u>	<u>267,522</u>

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

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

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 18 October 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

Mr Keith Danby
 (Chair of Trustees)



The notes on pages 23 to 36 form part of these financial statements.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities	18	733,884	86,818
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the Year		733,884	86,818
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the Year		311,236	224,418
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the Year	19	1,045,120	311,236
		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

The notes on pages 23 to 36 form part of these financial statements

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1. General information

The charitable company is a private company limited by guarantee and is registered in England and Wales. Its registered office is Unit 4, Diamond Court, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 2EN. The members of the company are the Trustees named on page 1. In the event of the charitable company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the charitable company.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Safe Families for Children 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.

2.2 Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis. As with many charities, there is an inbuilt uncertainty about financial provision and the raising of finance is a part of its day to day work. The growth of activity has been financed by an increase in income from Local Authority contracts and the generous support of an increasing number of donors. Through the internal reporting and careful strategies, these risks are managed. The going concern basis of accounting remains appropriate. In coming to this conclusion the Trustees have considered the effects of Covid-19 on the organisation, further details of which are provided within the Trustees' Report.

2.3 Income

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

Voluntary income is received by way of grants and donations and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charitable company, are recognised when the charitable company becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant. Grants received where conditions specified by the donor have not yet been met by the charity or where the donor has specified the time period in which the expenditure of resources can take place are deferred and recognised once all conditions have been met, or over the time period specified by the donor.

Incoming resources from charitable activities is predominantly income from Local Authorities and is accounted for on a time-accrued basis.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the charitable company to raise funds for its charitable purposes.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the charitable company's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

2.5 Taxation

The charitable company is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charitable company is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

The charity is not registered for VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the costs of those items to which it relates.

2.6 Tangible fixed assets

All assets costing more than £1,000 are capitalised.

2.7 Debtors

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

2.8 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.9 Liabilities

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the charitable company anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

2.10 Operating leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged to the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account on a straight line basis over the lease term.

2.11 Pensions

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the charitable company to the fund in respect of the year.

2.12 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 charitable 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.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charitable 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.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Donations	251,502	1,428,884	1,680,386
Franchise fees	33,750	-	33,750
	<u>285,252</u>	<u>1,428,884</u>	<u>1,714,136</u>

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2020 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2020 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2020 £</i>
Donations	290,581	627,704	918,285
	<u>290,581</u>	<u>635,113</u>	<u>925,694</u>

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	<i>Total funds 2020 £</i>
Local Authority revenue funding	2,462,105	2,462,105	1,906,067
Revenue funding from other institutions	60,000	60,000	-
Total 2021	<u>2,522,105</u>	<u>2,522,105</u>	<u>1,906,067</u>

5. Other incoming resources

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	<i>Total funds 2020 £</i>
Income from early surrender of lease	60,260	60,260	-
	<u>60,260</u>	<u>60,260</u>	<u>-</u>

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

6. Expenditure on raising funds

Costs of raising voluntary income

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	<i>Total funds 2020 £</i>
Fundraiser's fees	16,845	16,845	15,600
Costs of raising voluntary income - wages and salaries	19,615	19,615	-
	<u>36,460</u>	<u>36,460</u>	<u>15,600</u>

7. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Provision of services	2,104,626	1,455,416	3,560,042

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2020 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2020 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2020 £</i>
Provision of services	<u>2,070,495</u>	<u>578,356</u>	<u>2,648,851</u>

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2021 £	Support costs 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Provision of services	2,923,109	636,933	3,560,042

	<i>Activities undertaken directly 2020 £</i>	<i>Support costs 2020 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2020 £</i>
Provision of services	2,200,180	448,671	2,648,851

Analysis of direct costs

	Activities 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	<i>Total funds 2020 £</i>
Staff costs	2,576,610	2,576,610	1,887,942
Travel and accommodation	30,399	30,399	106,870
Recruitment and training of volunteers	18,688	18,688	20,636
Office and telecom	177,332	177,332	148,817
Insurance	1,502	1,502	1,669
Professional fees	3,102	3,102	3,262
Promotions and marketing	49,001	49,001	5,948
Emergency family purchases	66,475	66,475	25,036
	2,923,109	2,923,109	2,200,180

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Activities 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	<i>Total</i> <i>funds</i> 2020 £
Staff costs	436,118	436,118	346,857
Travel and accommodation	3,122	3,122	18,845
Hospitality	9	9	16
Office and telecom	58,493	58,493	40,279
Insurance	14,301	14,301	12,627
DCMS Impact Assessment fees	78,000	78,000	-
Professional fees	28,580	28,580	19,301
Promotions and marketing	7,768	7,768	1,397
Bank charges	582	582	349
Governance costs	9,960	9,960	9,000
	<u>636,933</u>	<u>636,933</u>	<u>448,671</u>

Included within support costs are governance costs of £9,960 (2020 - £9,000) in respect of accrued costs for the preparation and audit of the financial statements, inclusive of VAT.

9. Auditor's remuneration

The auditor's remuneration amounts to an auditor fee of £8,300 (2020 - £7,500).

10. Staff costs

	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	2,548,584	1,874,515
Social security costs	173,576	122,406
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	310,183	237,878
	<u>3,032,343</u>	<u>2,234,799</u>

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

10. Staff costs (continued)

The average number of persons employed by the charitable company during the Year was as follows:

	2021 No.	2020 No.
Operational	107	80
Finance, administration and IT	6	4
Management	3	2
	<u>116</u>	<u>86</u>

The average headcount expressed as full-time equivalents was: 97

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2021 No.	2020 No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	1	1

Payments of £13,373 (2020 - £13,373) were made to a money purchase pension scheme in respect of this individual.

11. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the Year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2020 - £NIL).

During the Year ended 31 March 2021, expenses totalling £25 were reimbursed or paid directly to 1 Trustee (2020 - £1,868) for travel and accommodation incurred whilst conducting the business of the charity.

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Computer equipment £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 April 2020	10,684
At 31 March 2021	<u>10,684</u>

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

12. Tangible fixed assets (continued)

	Computer equipment £
Depreciation	
At 1 April 2020	10,684
At 31 March 2021	10,684
Net book value	
At 31 March 2021	-
At 31 March 2020	-

13. Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	142,738	201,227
Other debtors	67,680	2,826
Prepayments and accrued income	8,511	51,334
	218,929	255,387

14. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade creditors	7,433	16,355
Other taxation and social security	67,318	42,375
Other creditors	36,459	28,307
Accruals	185,318	212,064
	296,528	299,101

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

15. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current Year

	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
COVID-19 fund	-	-	-	141,962	141,962
Development fund	-	-	-	152,000	152,000
	-	-	-	293,962	293,962
General funds					
General Funds - all funds	175,167	2,867,617	(2,141,086)	(293,962)	607,736
Total Unrestricted funds	175,167	2,867,617	(2,141,086)	-	901,698
Restricted funds					
Family Resources and Hub funds	92,355	1,428,884	(1,455,416)	-	65,823
Total of funds	267,522	4,296,501	(3,596,502)	-	967,521

Designated Funds

During the year, the charitable company set aside funds from its unrestricted general reserves in two areas where future expenditure is forecast to exceed income receivable:

The **COVID-19 fund** relates to forecast future costs that the charitable company will incur to deal with the elongation of the time period that SFFC has to spend with families over the pandemic.

The **Development fund** is set up to allow the charitable company to seed-fund new areas of work.

Restricted Funds

Family Resources and Hub Funds arise through donations received from individuals and Trusts to provide resources for families we are supporting or that are received within a particular geographical area to be spent only within that area. These funds include £4,000 of monies received in respect of Safe Families for Children Wales which amalgamated with this charity in 2019.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

15. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior Year

	<i>Balance at 1 April 2019</i> £	<i>Income</i> £	<i>Expenditure</i> £	<i>Balance at 31 March 2020</i> £
Unrestricted funds				
General Funds - all funds	64,614	2,196,648	(2,086,095)	175,167
Restricted funds				
Family Resources and Hub funds	35,598	627,704	(570,947)	92,355
Safe Families for Children Wales	-	7,409	(7,409)	-
	<u>35,598</u>	<u>635,113</u>	<u>(578,356)</u>	<u>92,355</u>
Total of funds	<u><u>100,212</u></u>	<u><u>2,831,761</u></u>	<u><u>(2,664,451)</u></u>	<u><u>267,522</u></u>

16. Summary of funds

Summary of funds - current Year

	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
Designated funds	-	-	-	293,962	293,962
General funds	175,167	2,867,617	(2,141,086)	(293,962)	607,736
Restricted funds	92,355	1,428,884	(1,455,416)	-	65,823
	<u>267,522</u>	<u>4,296,501</u>	<u>(3,596,502)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>967,521</u>

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

16. Summary of funds (continued)

Summary of funds - prior Year

	<i>Balance at 1 April 2019</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Balance at 31 March 2020</i>
	£	£	£	£
General funds	64,614	2,196,648	(2,086,095)	175,167
Restricted funds	35,598	635,113	(578,356)	92,355
	<u>100,212</u>	<u>2,831,761</u>	<u>(2,664,451)</u>	<u>267,522</u>

17. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2021	Restricted funds 2021	Total funds 2021
	£	£	£
Current assets	1,198,226	65,823	1,264,049
Creditors due within one year	(296,528)	-	(296,528)
Total	<u>901,698</u>	<u>65,823</u>	<u>967,521</u>

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2020</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2020</i>	<i>Total funds 2020</i>
	£	£	£
Current assets	474,268	92,355	566,623
Creditors due within one year	(299,101)	-	(299,101)
Total	<u>175,167</u>	<u>92,355</u>	<u>267,522</u>

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

18. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2021 £	2020 £
Net income for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	699,999	167,310
Adjustments for:		
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	36,458	(127,704)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(2,573)	47,212
Net cash provided by operating activities	733,884	86,818

19. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2021 £	2020 £
Cash in hand	1,045,120	311,236
Total cash and cash equivalents	1,045,120	311,236

20. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 April 2020 £	Cash flows £	At 31 March 2021 £
Cash at bank and in hand	311,236	733,884	1,045,120
	311,236	733,884	1,045,120

21. Pension commitments

The company contributes to a defined contribution pension scheme for its employees. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the charitable company to the fund and amounted to £310,183 (2020 - £237,878). Contributions of £32,064 (2020 - £22,211) were payable to the fund at the balance sheet date and are included in creditors.

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

22. Operating lease commitments

At 31 March 2021 the charitable company had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Within 1 year	32,430	23,971
Between 1 and 5 years	23,738	15,108
	<u>56,168</u>	<u>39,079</u>

23. Trustees' benefits: advances, credit and guarantees

Keith Danby was the charity's CEO to October 2018. He became the Executive Chair of Trustees since his resignation from that role. As agreed with the Charity Commission, during this transitional period, Mr Danby has fulfilled the role as a paid Trustee with the remit of concentrating on 4 key areas: lead on a number of exploratory negotiations with new Local Authorities; fundraising; strategic finance and long-term cashflow; and Board governance.

Mr Danby has received remuneration from the charity, in the amount of £nil (2020 - £5,100) and repayment of expenses of £nil (2020 - repayment of expenses £1,868).

24. Related party transactions

The charity made purchases of £12,090 (2020 - £14,256) from Pure Panel Management Limited, a company which is related by a common Trustee. There was £Nil owed to Pure Panel Management Limited at the year end (2020 - £Nil).

The charity received donations of £2,600 (2020 - £6,250) and recharged expenses of £431 (2020 - £Nil) from Beechmount Trust, a charity which is controlled by a Trustee of this charity.

The charity made purchases of £Nil (2020 - £6,529) and recharged expenses of £770 (2020 - £Nil) from Rosegate Consultancy, a company which is related by a common Trustee. There was £Nil owed to Rosegate Consultancy at the year end (2020 - £218).

The charity received donations of £9,000 (2020 - £5,000) from The Seedfield Trust, a charity which is related by a common Trustee.

Key management personnel remuneration: The key management personnel are the Trustees and the 10 members of the senior management team. Trustees do not receive remuneration. The total remuneration for the senior management team for the year totalled £557,113 (2020 - £607,639).