

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

tc accounts · tax · legal · financial planning

10 Bridge Street
Christchurch
Dorset
BH23 1EF

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THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mr. A Deutsch
	Mr. J Pantlington-Skeet
	Ms. A Collins
	Mr. D McEvoy
	Ms. C Palmer
	Ms. A Jackson
Charity number	1150538
Principal address	695-697 Christchurch Road
	Bournemouth
	Dorset
	BH7 6AF
Independent examiner	TC Group
	10 Bridge Street
	Christchurch
	Dorset
	BH23 1EF

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The Trustees present this report with the financial statement for the year ending 31st March 2023.

The Trustees have adopted the provision of accounting and reporting by the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts, with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective 01/01/2015.

The Trustees believe that the information included in this report demonstrates how the activities of The Dorset Children's Foundation has created public benefit.

The Dorset Children's Foundation

Charity Reg: 1150538 in England and Wales

Principal & Registered address: 695-697 Christchurch Road, Bournemouth BH7 6AF

Trustees

A Collins

A Deutsch

J Pantling-Skeet

A Jackson

D McEvoy

C Palmer

There trustees delegate the day-to-day management to:

CEO and Co-Founder - Patricia Hallmey (Governor of Montecute Special School member of Dorset IAG committee, trustee for Enable My Trip and panel member of AFCB Disability and inclusion team).

CFO and Co-Founder - Scott Akam

Accountants:

TC Group

10 Bridge Street

Christchurch

BH23 1EF

Bank:

Barclays PLC

100 High Street

Poole

BH15 1BL

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Our Trustees are all volunteers, deemed fit and proper persons for this role and they receive no financial remuneration.

Type of governing document:

The Dorset Children's Foundation is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registered with the Charity Commission on 21st January 2013 and is governed by a constitution which was amended on 19th June 2021.

Summary of the objectives of the charity:

THE RELIEF OF SICKNESS AND THE PRESERVATION OF HEALTH AMONG CHILDREN WITH LONG TERM ILLNESSES AND/OR DISABILITIES BY PROVIDING OR ASSISTING IN THE PROVISION OF MEDICAL EQUIPMENT, TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION NOT NORMALLY PROVIDED BY THE STATUTORY AUTHORITIES AND SUCH OTHER SUPPORT AS THE TRUSTEES MAY DETERMINE.

The overall management and control of The Dorset Children's Foundation is the responsibility of The Trustees who meet regularly to discuss operations and potential beneficiaries.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in The Charity Commissions general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charities aims and objectives.

Our activities and Public Benefit:

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commissions general guidance on public benefit, when reviewing the Foundations Aims and Objectives and in planning future activities and setting the grant making policies for the year.

The trustees believe that the information provided within the report demonstrates the various ways that the activities of the DCF have created public benefit.

Summary of the Foundation's achievements during the period 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023.

In the last year our register has grown by over 200 more families, and we now support more than 600 children living in Dorset.

Public Benefit summary:

At DCF we recognize that there are many costs associated with raising a disabled child. We understand that these are not always covered by statutory services, so we help families find other ways to provide the funds needed.

We support disabled children by funding disability equipment, medical expenses, therapies, and offer accessible for all, which encompasses our outreach services and our wide range of sports and activities. We offer counselling and fund a range of support groups and clubs and run weekly stay and play pre-school sessions. We offer disability education workshops and campaigns for disability rights.

Outreach Services

This year we have two new outreach services, our befriending service, and parent liaison service which is available to all families who register with us. This outreach service provides support and encouragement to families who may need more 1 to 1 support and a personal approach, rather than attending our group activities. And our parent liaison service is working closely with families who need support to access public services and complete assessments, attend school visits, complete EHCP's and grant applications.

We are a parent-led charity and over the past year have recognized the need for more support for our parents/carers. We have met this need by increasing our program of activities that bring parents together. We now provide weekly Yoga, Sewing, Paddle boarding, coffee, and craft activities throughout the year.

Sibling Support:

We've also recognized the need to support the siblings of disabled children registered with us, many of whom are young carers themselves. We've done this by providing several creative writing sessions at Bournemouth University and are hoping to expand on this work and work with other service providers.

Disability Education:

We've continued to fund projects that take disability education into mainstream schools so that all local children grow up with a better understanding of disabilities. This year we have supported 'Awesome Archie', an initiative set up by local Mum Rebecca Clapcott, whose son Archie is autistic. Rebecca has been delivering assemblies and workshops to many local schools to talk about living with Autism.

Equipment

We fund disability equipment that is not provided by Statutory Services, such as off-road wheelchairs, lightweight wheelchairs, rain covers, sleep systems, epilepsy sleep monitors, trikes, hydrotherapy pools, physiotherapy aids, podiatry aids etc. under the guidance of local health care professionals, for use in and out of the home.

Examples of when we may need to provide suitable wheelchairs:

- To children with autism or other neuro-diverse conditions where the child has no concept of danger.
- When a child is mobile but tires easily.
- When a child is mobile but has seizures and needs to rest, often reclined while recovering.
- Statutory Services will not provide wheelchairs in these cases.

Power Packs:

Wheelchair power packs can change lives. They are a small, motorised attachment that can be placed on a manual wheelchair which helps with the movement of it. This is especially helpful for carers of disabled individuals who are adult sized as the motion to physically push a manual wheelchair can be straining on the 'carers' body and back resulting in injury. Sadly, this is extremely common in the carer's community and therefore these simple power packs can change lives completely. Wheelchair power packs can also help the 'carer' to push the wheelchair further & help tackle hills & difficult terrain, making the great outdoors more accessible.

This year DCF have bought 12 of these at a cost of £13,500 and these have now been provided to PMID children who regularly attend our Saturday club.



Power pack in use by Sadie

"As a family we are all so grateful to The DCF for funding the Power Pack. It's truly made an amazing difference straight away to our everyday lives. Previously I was exhausted each day from having to put so much effort into pushing the wheelchair as Sadie is heavy now. My back ached and I started to feel like going out was sometimes just too much effort. The Power Pack has changed all that. We are powering up hills and over rough terrain with little effort. This simple but ingenious device has made our lives so much better." **Kathy Bartlett**

Beach Wheelchair

Our charity partners The Marsham Court Hotel have carried out extensive work this year to improve their facilities for disabled guests. They've installed a changing facility and sensory room and upgraded several hotel rooms with new profile beds and ceiling track hoists. As the hotel is located within walking distance of Bournemouth Beach, we purchased a special beach wheelchair for the hotel that can be used both by the hotel guests, and any of our children who would like to borrow it for the day. This is a great arrangement for us as many of our children benefit from this equipment but it is very large and hard to store so having it available so close to the beach is great for all.

Medical Expenses:

Provided for procedures not covered by the NHS or if the waiting list is so long as to be detrimental to the child's wellbeing.

Therapies:

We fund therapies for children who are referred to us from health care professionals including speech and language, occupational therapy, music therapy, physiotherapy, hydrotherapy etc.

Due to the length of waiting lists since Covid 19 there is a much-extended wait for appointments before treatment even starts. Studies have conclusively demonstrated that the earlier therapies are implemented the better the long-term outcome for the child.

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Counselling:

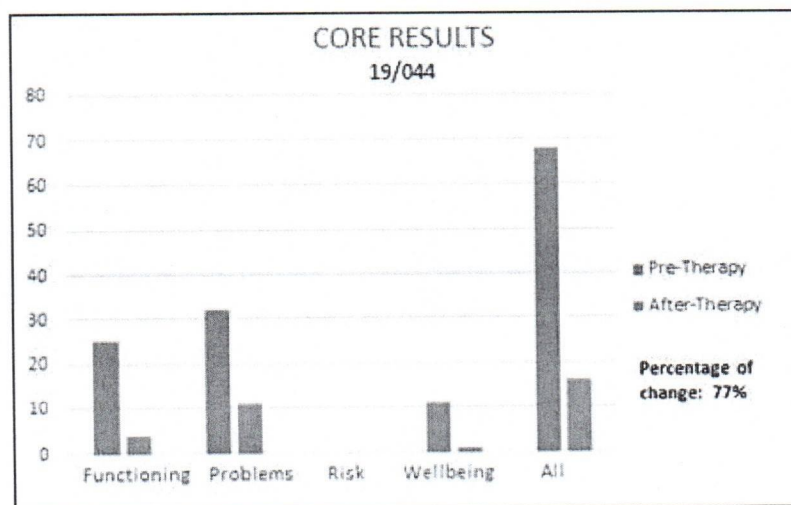
We have previously identified that parent/carers need mental health support, especially post pandemic. And our counselling services have expanded this year.

Families can self-refer through our newsletter, welcome pack, and website. The service offers confidential discussions, support and the appropriate level of coping strategies and long-term support where needed. Each session is tailored to the individual's needs, are low-cost and can be held via phone, zoom and face to face.

We work with local Colleges to provide placement for trainee counsellors and have established links with a local specialist provision (Linwood School who kindly provide rooms for us), currently having a team of three.

We have recently supported families whose child has sadly passed away and now offer bereavement counselling as part of this service.

Our service has also been expanded to include sessions for children over the age of 8 years.



Core results taken from one of the parents who received regular sessions.

Play and Sporting Opportunities:

Accessible for All:

We recognise that children with disabilities miss out on those valuable experiences that should be available to all children of all abilities and sadly there is still a lack of provision for them in the wider community. Although some other service providers are now operating again after covid, the provision for those with complex needs and physical disabilities who need access to changing facilities is still non-existent. We fill this gap by providing activities that everyone from the neurodiverse to the most medically complex child can attend and this year we bought a gazebo and portable changing bench that we can have available at our events where none are provided.

Wherever possible our events and activities are open to both disabled children and their siblings as we understand that other local providers only cater for the child with disabilities. We know how hard it can be for families to find activities to do together so by providing things like private skate park hire, days out in the park (with mobile changing unit) we are filling this gap. It's so important that families can share fun activities and create lasting memories.

We provide regular events such as soft play sessions, pantomimes, drama, crafts days, themed parties, exclusive use of skate parks, water sports, dance etc. with all abilities catered for.

We even have our own award-winning FA registered football club, where we offer inclusivity for the children and encourage parents to get involved wherever possible, so parents and siblings have a chance to join in, as with all our activities.

Children and families can make friends and the isolation felt by so many in our community is massively reduced.



"For us, it means that my daughter who is a wheelchair user gets to experience places that would otherwise be inaccessible, like Giggles soft play and Prevail skate park, we would never visit these places if it wasn't for DCF"

Tilly Green

"We can do activities without being judged and takes a load of stress away because everyone at the events understands!!" **Tan Bunst**

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Give Kids the World: GKTW.org

We are delighted to be only one of 9 UK charities to be accepted as a wish granter for GKTW which is a holiday village in Florida for life limiting children, passing their strict criteria. And, as restrictions were lifted this year we were thrilled to be able to send 3 families who were all able to visit the world-famous attractions and theme parks in Florida, Walt Disney World, Epcot Centre, Sea World etc.

A trip to Give Kids the World Village gives families time together, inspiring a renewed sense of hope and happiness that lasts long after they return home. In a very real sense, this offers the gift of time - time away from the burdens of everyday life and time to rediscover the joy of simply being together, providing lasting memories for the family.

Further Details of some of the support The DCF provides:

Support Groups in the community

Early Years Stay and Play Groups:

We currently fund two separate stay and play groups for pre-school children, Little Stars and Something Special. These groups are in their second year of operation, and we have been overwhelmed by the demand. Both groups have expanded to meet the growing need and have each increased their sessions from 1 to 2 a week with **20+ children regularly attending**.

These sessions encourage children to explore, communicate and create, while parents come together and meet other families going through similar experiences, helping them feel less isolated. Through these groups, with the introduction of our Parent Liaison and Befriending service we can offer new parents' advice on entitlements, education, and general assistance in filling in forms, attending appointments and offering a listening ear. Professionals are also invited to give informative talks and workshops, and these have been very well received.

PMLD Saturday club:

There is no other provision in Dorset specifically for PMLD (Profound and Multiple Learning Disabilities) children and young adults to attend. Our Saturday club provides inclusive activities, tailored to meet the sensory and physical needs of those that attend and meets every fortnight at Montacute Specialist school that has all the appropriate changing facilities and is fully accessible.

The club is regularly attended by local Councilors and others that work in the sector.

The club has a regular attendance of approx. **25 children and their carers**.

SENTurians:

Online membership has increased to over 700 members. Membership is open to parents, carers, and professionals in the local SEND community. Members can seek advice and support both online and at their coffee mornings and play sessions with **20-30 regularly attending**. SENTurians is run entirely by volunteers who are themselves parents of neurodiverse children.

Doors open:

Online membership has increased by 180 with 681 current members. This group is aimed at families of SEN children diagnosed or not. They host weekly meetings and run holiday activities. The intention of this group is to build a community of parents supporting parents to provide a local support base to share experiences and strategies and to help identify external sources of help and support. The group highlights the importance of a positive relationship with schools and pre-school inclusion teams encouraging parent/carers to continue to strive for positive connection and help the children required.

Their weekly coffee mornings **regularly attract 20+ families**.

Doors Open is also run entirely by volunteers.

Parent support and activities:

Sewing group:

Many of our children need to wear adapted clothing, either to give access to feeding tubes or because stiff limbs make dressing difficult. These clothes aren't available on the high street, and specialist providers charge a lot for very little. The parents who attend our weekly sewing club have been taught how to adapt clothing themselves and can offer the service of adapting garments for our families free of charge. They have also made sensory items, wheelchair cozies and other useful items.

This is a wonderful group, not only teaching new skills but providing advice and information in a supportive setting for the **10-15 parents who regularly attend**.

DCF Paddlers:

In the warmer months, **10-15 parents** meet up to go paddle boarding, chat and support each other and make new friends, while experiencing the benefits of nature, improving mental health and physical wellbeing. We have built a relationship with a local company who hire out boards to our families for these sessions at a reduced rate.

Yoga:

Our yoga group has gone from strength to strength this year literally, as our Yoga instructor (who is also one of our Mums) is now able to specialise in pelvic health exercises since completing a course we funded. This is important for parents and carers who are lifting and carrying children over a long period of time. The group meets weekly with **15+ people attending** who all really benefit from taking time out to focus on themselves.

Coffee and craft mornings:

All our parents/carers are invited to join us at various venues for cake, coffee and crafts like wreath making and sensory toy making. These are very popular with **up to 30 people attending monthly**. These great mornings support mental health as parents can share experiences, whilst doing something positive.



THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Month by Month Achievements Performance and Activities

April 2022

Accessible for All

Gemma Cardona was officially taken on as Accessible for All activity coordinator, her first task was to organise activities for the Easter holidays. The two-week break was jam packed with activities available every day. We tried out two new activities for us, inclusive cycling with Pedall New Forest and accessible tennis with Southbourne Tennis Club.

Gemma took a short course in Sensory Story Massage and was able to deliver the first of these sessions.

We were supported at each of our events by The Marsham Court Hotel who gave out gifts and easter eggs to all the people who attended, and they also entertained the children as the Easter Bunny.

Asda did an Easter egg collection for us too.

Rhian took part in adaptive surf training and is now able to assist with adaptive surf therapy sessions which we hope some of our children will be able to access through other local organisations.

Retail:

Work to clear our warehouse took a lot of time as we had to sort through several rooms of stock and equipment. Lots of volunteers and staff put in extra hours to help get this done. We were able to distribute most of our stock amongst our three stores and any clean and appropriate items were donated to other local service providers.

All three shops performed well in April with our new manager Dany in our Southbourne store doubling profits within the first 3 weeks.

Therapies:

We continue to work with Total Children's Therapy Service who have developed a triage session to see what therapy is best suited and when. It has enabled us to have a better understanding of the families we are sending over along with if the help they are requesting is appropriate for the perceived timeframe.

May 2022

Early Years

With the success of our Little Stars Under 5's group, it was agreed that Nicola, who runs the session, would be formally employed on a part-time basis.

Accessible for All

The Accessible for All events were improved with the purchase of a gazebo, hoist and changing platform for those that need it. Permission was granted from the local parks department, so we can now set this up at some of our outdoor events.

National Campaign

With the cost-of-living crisis affecting most of our families, our trustee Dan Mcevoy was interviewed on national TV, and featured in many national newspapers highlighting the struggle for families paying extortionate energy bills that come with having to run essential equipment at home. Letters were also delivered to The Prime Minister.

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Give Kids The World

In May we were delighted to be able to send Pola and her family to Florida with Give Kids the World. Pola is profoundly disabled through meningitis but despite everything this trip bought joy to both her and her loving family.



June 2022

Accessible for All

Half term activities were held at various venues across Dorset and included a Jubilee Themed Craft Day and a day at Slades Park.

Our Saturday club also held a Jubilee Craft Day and made painted bunting that was then displayed in all three of our shops.



Residential Weekend

As part of our Accessible for All program we organised a very special residential stay to Avon Tyrrell, a local outdoor activity centre. Ten families with young people with complex physical and medical needs tried canoeing, high ropes, and the zip wire! We rented a lodge that had space for 7 wheelchair users with their carers to stay (3 more families joined us during the day).

As we wanted this to be a chance for family groups to come together and make lasting memories, we also had our own camping field adjacent to the lodge where the Dads and siblings set up camp. It was so lovely to see the siblings, who are young carers themselves, having fun together, knowing that their brothers and sisters all have similar conditions, they all relaxed and felt completely at ease with each other and formed lasting friendships.



Happy First birthday to The Treehouse

Our dedicated children's shop celebrated its first year of trading. The Treehouse has grown from strength to strength since its opening in June last year and it's helped us really engaged with our local community and parents who use the place to both shop and to meet other parents at our regular story reading and play sessions held there.

Many of the staff and volunteers are the parent/carers of the children we support and are always on hand to befriend and advise parents who come into the shop.

We are delighted to say that The Treehouse has raised over £50,000 (well beyond our expectations) and every single penny of this has been spent directly on the children we support.



THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Incredible Fundraising

First Position School of Dance raised an incredible £10,000 through donating 100% of their ticket sales for their annual show to us.

July 2022

Equipment

We presented the beach wheelchair to our friends at the Marsham Court Hotel and in conjunction with the Steve Bernard Foundation we purchased a custom made, fully adapted surfboard for Wild and Free adapted surfing, at a cost of £2,500 each.

Fundraising

This month there were several successful events including an evening with top D'J's at local venue, Chaplin's, and a golf tournament and charity auction held at Meyrick Park Golf Club. The gold day was attended by valued volunteers Jenny & Malcolm Jeffries of Bournemouth Rotary Club who asked if they would become Patrons of the Foundation and happily, they agreed.

Our former Chair of Trustees Conor Mullen raised an outstanding £6,000 for us as he got together a team of his employees who trekked miles over the Purbecks wearing our Dorsey Bear outfit while also pushing a fully laden wheelchair.

Bourne Free Pride Events

Once again, we were asked to be charity partners for Bourne Free pride festival and were able to attend the two day festival with two sensory tents so that those with disabilities had a quiet space in the shade to retreat to. We also provided free sensory gift bags and ran a fundraising tombola. We worked closely with Bourne Free's trustees and because of our discussions they provided a Mobiloo changing facility for those in our community who cannot use typical toilets.

Accessible for All

On top of organising our regular monthly soft play and skate sessions Gemma worked hard behind the scenes putting together an extensive program for the summer holidays which includes two separate wet wheels events. Programs and booking forms were sent out to all our families.

August 2022

Accessible for All

We had an incredible august with our accessible for all program and were able to provide 12 days of activities, accommodating over 400 children and their parents/carers across the summer. Highlights were our Pirate boat trips where two fully accessible boats sailed side by side around Poole harbour while the children dressed as pirates and battled with water pistols across the water and our inclusive cycling sessions in the New Forest.



Fundraising

We had our largest fundraising event of the year The Dorset Plane Pull and were supported by 3 teams of pullers this year who raised a massive £9,776 which will be used to put on even more accessible for all activities over the year.

One of our ambassadors, boxer Chris Billam-Smith won against a home crowd & donated the sales of all preflight merchandise to us.

Equipment

The last of our 10 We-Go push chairs was delivered to a very happy family.

The beach wheelchair we'd purchased was loaned out to The Marsham Court Hotel with the agreement that our families can access it if they would like to, and 2 Delichon Delta off road wheelchairs were given to two young boys so they could both enjoy the great outdoors.

September 2022

New support for our families

We launched our two new roles and introduced Rhian Wooten as Parent Liaison and Line Grieve as Befriending Coordinator to our early year's groups. Both Rhian and Line have experience as parent carers to their own disabled children and their combined knowledge and professionalism we're sure will make them real assets and great additions to the DCF team.

Counselling Service

September saw a change in our counselling service as Rebecca Leddington took over as the head of our counselling service. Rebecca is well known to the DCF and has volunteered at our little stars group since it started. She has years of experience running her own counselling practice for both adults and children and her personal and professional experience makes her the perfect choice to replace Hayley who has moved on but will be sadly missed.

Fundraising

We were blown away with our child ambassador, Adam Sevenoaks who at just 15 years old and living with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (a severe degenerative muscle wasting disease) decided to challenge himself to complete 1000 taekwondo punches using his new 'Neater' arm supports (part funded by DCF). Adam is an incredible inspiration as he participates in so many sports and has achieved his black belt in taekwondo. Money raised from his outstanding effort was divided between us and the club he attends so they can improve their wheelchair access.



Reggie's Big Adventure (Reggie is Dorsey Bear's little cousin)

Our amazing friends at Grosvenor Carpets spent 2 years planning and training for an incredible physical challenge that saw them cycle over 1000 miles from Bournemouth to Nice, France. Their trip is entirely self-funded so 100% of the £18,081 raised will be spent on the children and young people we support.

October 2022

Happy 1st Birthday Saturday Club

This unique club for children and young people who have profound and multiple learning difficulties has now been operating for one year!

A party was held for all the children attending.

Accessible for All Cinema

We have launched a new offering under our Accessible For All initiative, our very own state of the art cinema, kindly donated by Together For Cinema and Living Home Tech and their partners. This amazing new facility is located in our children's charity shop, The Treehouse. We are now able to host relaxed movie viewings for our children who struggle with the sensory overload that attending a public cinema can cause. This new equipment will be put to good use as we can offer it out to our many community groups for various fun and educational events.

It was half term in October and we were able to provide several activities including 2 Halloween themed parties with over 40 children attending these at Poole and Southbourne venues. These parties were carefully planned to accommodate the sensory needs of our children and included craft activities, games and a magic show with quiet zones available for those who needed it.

Fundraising

A wonderful 15yr old girl, Kitty (who we support) wanted to give something back and decided to have her lovely long hair cut. This was very brave of her but benefited two charities as her hair was sent to The Little Princess Trust and she received £1100 in sponsorship for us.

We were able to hold a winter ball for the first time since covid which our trustee Carlie Palmer organised with support from our charity partner The Marsham Court Hotel. The event was a resounding success and raised £6000.

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

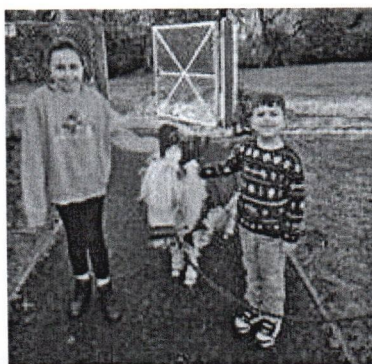
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

December 2022

December was a very difficult month for some of our families as heartbreakingly 2 children passed away, as did one of our parents. We supported all the families affected with offers of financial assistance and practical help like food shopping and cleaning etc. We attended all funerals and will continue to help these families throughout the coming year by offering counselling and access to our family activities.

Accessible for All

Despite the sadness we all felt, we continued with our events. After the success of last year's Christmas events, we tripled our efforts and hosted 3 Christmas parties back-to-back, in one day, at one venue. By doing this we were able to accommodate over 120 children and their parents. We were able to give every child a gift from Santa and provided a sensory room, mobile changing room with hoist and fully inclusive crafts and games that the whole family could get involved with.



All our subgroups (Sat Club, Early years etc.) also held Christmas parties so in total we funded 7 Christmas events.

Parent/Carers activities

A local hotel offered us the use of a function room for free so our trustee Avril Jackson hosted a wreath making workshop for our parent/carers which was attended by over 30 people and a wonderful day was had by all.

Fundraising

The annual Hampshire and Dorset Christmas luncheon chose us as one of their charities this year, donating half of the proceeds from the day. Gemma Cardona attended and gave a short presentation, and we were delighted to receive a massive £20,387.50 from the day which included £5,000 in donations specifically to cover the costs of us repeating our outdoor adventure residential weekend for another 10 children in 2023.

Outreach Support

One of the children we support was sadly moved to a local hospice for end-of-life care at the start of the month. A few of our staff members and trustees visited regularly and were able to offer practical support with things like Christmas shopping. We provided some light relief for the family and took our snow machine to them so they could enjoy a 'snow day' as we knew they wouldn't be able to attend any of our planned Christmas parties.

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

January 2023

January was another difficult month as another of the children we support, sadly passed. We attended three funerals and memorial services and offered practical support to the families that had been so sadly affected by all four recent deaths.

Accessible for All

We hosted an accessible, relaxed pantomime by the incredible Treehouse Theatre who specialise in theatre shows for those with disabilities that include sensory elements and sign language. 60 people attended this special production of The Jack in the Beanstalk.

Retail

We expanded our team in our treehouse store and took on someone who could commit to working on Saturdays and Sundays. This has proven very successful and our takings in the store have risen significantly.

February 2023

10 Years Old!

The DCF is officially 10yrs old and to celebrate the founders paid for a special party for staff, supporters, and volunteers.

Accessible for All

It was half term in February and valentine's day, so we organised a Valentines themed party. Over 40 children were able to attend and we made cards, played games and danced. For those that struggle at parties, we set up a quiet room with sensory toys and equipment so everyone could enjoy themselves.

We also worked with local company 'Get up and Bounce' who set up 7 bouncy castles in a school sports hall and gave us exclusive access. The session was a first for us and was very well received by the 43 children that attended.

Invitations were sent out for our summer Avon Tyrell residential weekend and places were booked up within 24hrs.

March 2023

March has been a month of reconnecting with our charity partners and making plans for the new financial year. We've held lots of meetings with our supporters and now have dates in the diary for a family fun day in the summer, another winter ball and a fundraising comedy night in November.

Fundraising

We were very happy to meet a young 7-year-old girl who came into our Treehouse store with her mother recently. She had been moved by the photos around the shop of the children we support and wanted to help. They presented us with a cheque for £500.

Policies and Procedures

We've spent time this month reviewing our current policies and procedures, making sure they are all still relevant and up to date, adding new safety procedures for our outreach teams that make house visits.

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Retail Outlets

Boscombe

Our main shop celebrated its 10th year of trading this year. Situated in a largely impoverished area of Bournemouth, we are very proud to service the community by providing low-cost clothing, bedding, and household goods.

Southbourne

With the introduction of a dynamic new manager the profits from this shop have doubled.

The Treehouse

Our shop for little people in the centre of the precinct sells a range of affordable children's clothing, equipment, toys and books.

The shop first opened in June 2021 and has been a resounding success with amazing sales figures and footfall. Local families use the store to meet up and we hold regular story telling sessions in both English and Polish languages which are well attended and bring the community together.

The unique store was designed to be multipurpose; our vision was to be able to use the space not just to generate income, but to also bring families together by hosting activities such as story time, music and drama sessions. We received a generous donation of a state-of-the-art home cinema system, from Together For Cinema and can now hold private, relaxed movie screenings for our members.

The majority of staff and volunteers at The Treehouse are the parent/carers of the children we support and are always on hand to befriend and advise parents who come into the shop.

The shop was originally gifted to us rent free, but when we were told recently that a paying tenant had expressed an interest in the unit, the Trustees made the decision that from March 1st 2023, we would take over a 5 year lease and pay to stay.

Disability In the Workplace

We are members of The Disability Committed Employers initiative so by having people with a disability volunteering in our shops this demonstrates to the wider community the abilities of the people the charity supports, promoting our vision for inclusion for everyone.

Mental Health Initiative

The mental health of our parent/carers, staff and volunteers is very important to us and we are delighted to become members of The Mental Health Charter, which means we are a mental health committed employer. We host regular wellness sessions; social activities and all staff and volunteers have access to our counselling services.

Ask for Clive

We are members of the Ask for Clive initiative. Ask for Clive is charity that focuses on inclusivity for the LGBTQ+ community. It asks inclusive establishments to put a sticker with the charity name on their door to signal that the LGBTQ community is welcome there. The charity also provides a brief for staff and volunteers on how to deal with discrimination LGBTQ+ patrons may experience.

Safe Space Scheme

For the last few years, we have signed up to become a Safe Space for people with learning disabilities. Our staff and volunteers are given training on what to do when supporting someone who feels vulnerable. Their logo is prominently displayed in our shops so people know they can ask for help in a safe and secure environment.

The role of our trustees:

As deemed appropriate, new trustees will be appointed by the existing trustees. The induction process will follow the ICSA good practice guide and include meeting with existing trustees. They receive a copy of our accounts, a copy of our governing document and a copy of the Charity Commissions guidance 'The essential trustee, what you need to know, what you need to do' (CC3).

Ongoing good trustee training is also offered through Community Action Network.

Our appointed board of trustees create a welcoming and supportive culture and apply ethical principal to all decisions made. They support inclusion, equality, and diversity.

Their approach supports good governance and delivery of the charity's purpose. Our trustees play an integral and active role within the DCF as they all regularly run or attend our events and activities and thus have direct and frequent access to our families and can see first-hand the needs and wishes of the children we serve.

Policies are renewed on an annual basis and are standard items on our board of trustees meetings. We place emphasis on safeguarding, disability awareness training, data protection and robust financial controls.

Our appointed board of trustees are:

Alex Deutsch (senior Network Manager)

Alex is a long-standing supporter of the charity who also runs our award-winning FA affiliated DCF football club.

Amy Collins (Volunteering Development Head, Community Action Network)

Amy volunteers at many of our Accessible for All events and is a regular helper at our Saturday club.

James Pantling-Skeet (Chartered Legal Executive and Community Care Expert)

James has hosted free workshops, run marathons and is on hand to help with issues such as housing, education, benefits, and entitlement.

Dan McEvoy

Dan is a parent of a child with complex disabilities. He oversees our IT and technical infrastructure and ensures our compliance with relevant regulations. He also represents the DCF on the Disabled Children Partnership steering, communication, and campaign forums. Dan has also campaigned tirelessly on the effect of the cost of living on families with disabled children and has represented these families on GMTV, Panorama, Radio 4 and 5 and in The Guardian and other publications.

Avril Jackson

Avril is our most recently appointed trustee. She was for many years a teacher of children with additional needs and is a long-standing governor of Montacute School (Special needs provision school) for 30 years. Avril has fostered children with complex needs and set up our Saturday club.

Carlie Palmer

Carlie runs an award winning wedding entertainment business with her husband Mark and having been in the business community a long time has a wealth of contacts.

Carlie has headed up our Christmas campaign for several years and this year arranged a Christmas ball to fundraise for this. She is also happy to represent us at a variety of functions and happily pitches in to support where she can attending events and supporting fundraisers to support the charity (she is always happy to make the tea too).

Because of our trustees' very welcome hands-on approach, all have an enhanced DBS check.

Communication:

Social Media:

Our Facebook pages are one of our main tools to provide up to date information to the 8500 who follow us. It is regularly updated with photographs of our events and activities and our fund-raising campaigns.

We also have 2 private Facebook pages for our parents, Accessible for All and The DCF family group, these pages are used for advertising our activities and services and signposting our families to relevant support.

Newsletter:

We appreciate that not all of our families are on social media and therefore send a monthly newsletter to all our families who have requested them via email.

Quarterly E-news:

We also send a quarterly E-news to a wider audience of local businesses and sponsors that have opted to receive it. We have found this to be an extremely cost-effective way of reaching a larger target audience.

Charity Partners:

We are pleased to be partnered with the following companies. Each Charity Partner is expected to hold fundraising events during the year, share our news on their social media and generally support us where they can offer volunteers, attend our events and receive a presentation to staff about the DCF to help raise awareness. We are enormously grateful to our amazing community of local companies who support us.

- Bournemouth Collegiate school
- Grosvenor carpets
- Seafeld Mortgages
- JLD Events
- First Position School of Dance
- Mad 4 Animals
- Think ATM and Airports Consultancy
- Glenigan
- April 6
- Kiss in Light
- LuvWed
- The Shirt Framing service
- Hoburne Holiday Parks
- The Marsham Court. Hotel
- The Marriot Hotel Bournemouth
- Reed Employment: Recruitment Agency
- TWK: Scaffolding Company
- Coastal Comedy: Comedy Club
- Urban Guild: Local restaurant chain
- Holt Recruitment: Recruitment company.

We have continued our close relationship with CMP Print who provided us with free leaflets, flyers headed paper, business cards and other promotional materials, saving us at least £2000 per year.

The role and contribution of our volunteers:

The Foundation is committed to ensuring fairness and recognises the need for diversity and inclusion within our recruitment and management of volunteers.

We currently have 56 volunteers ranging from age 14 (Completing Duke of Edinburgh award scheme) to age 87. All health and safety procedures are followed, and induction and ongoing training is given.

Many of our volunteers are also parent/carers of the children we support. We embrace volunteers of all abilities and currently have 2 volunteers who have multiple learning difficulties and are wheelchair users.

Volunteers are recruited from the following sectors:

- Community Action Network
- Local mental health teams
- Local schools
- Job Centre Plus
- Probation Service
- Local language schools
- Others contact us through the shops and website.

All appropriate paperwork is completed when taking on any new volunteers who all have to complete CRB checks.

We have many long-standing volunteers, and we call ourselves The Dorset Children's Foundation Family

Risk management:

Retail activities:

All procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety and safeguarding regulations and best practice concerning staff, volunteers, clients and customers.

Both staff and volunteer handbooks have been reviewed and updated. All policies are regularly and robustly reviewed by the trustees, founders, and external agencies such as Community Action Network.

Ongoing training is actively supported, and our safeguarding policy has been updated.

All managers and volunteers have successfully completed an online safeguarding course.

We follow best practice in recruitment, support and training, including carrying out appropriate DBS/Enhanced DBS checks.

Volunteer handbooks have been updated and expanded.

Financial\Fundraising

We have a variety of fundraising streams.

- 1) Profits from our 3 charity shops
- 2) Online sales
- 3) Grants from trusts and other charities
- 4) Corporate donations
- 5) Public donations
- 6) Fundraising events
- 7) Fundraising platforms (i.e., PayPal, JustGiving and Facebook)
- 8) Charity partners
- 9) Legacies
- 10) Collections

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

We have a robust financial control policy, financial control procedure policy, a reserves policy and a risk management policy that covers all aspects of our operations.

We do not use any paid fundraising specialist companies. We only publicise our fundraising campaigns in the public domain, we never contact previous donors without their express permission, and we evaluate and monitor this process regularly.

Any family, individual or company who fundraise on our behalf are assessed and sent an information leaflet 'Fundraising Safely' given a letter of authority with the permission of the Foundation with details and contacts and their relationship with the Foundation for clarification. We provide key information from the Institute of Fundraising. Our Foundation monitors fundraising activities through the records of the fundraising platforms monthly reports.

Details of each event or fundraising campaign are required from the Foundation before commencing and are required to adhere to ours and the Fundraising Standards code of practice.

Social media fundraisers are regularly monitored. Facebook funds come directly to the charities bank.

Collection pots are numbered, sealed, and signed in and out, with confirmation of where they will be placed or used. When returned are counted with two members of staff present.

Fundraising platforms.

All funds from fundraising platforms such as JustGiving are paid directly to our bank.

The trustees are responsible for ensuring proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the Foundation at any time to enable the trustees to plan and to prepare financial statements for each financial year. A budgeting review is carried out monthly. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding assets and funds of the Foundation by taking robust steps for the prevention of fraud and other irregularities.

Sources of Income

We do not receive any Government or local council funding. Monies are generated through a variety of funding streams.

Grants

This financial year we were grateful to receive grants from the following:

Disability sport £5000

The Toy Trust £2500

Will Does £5840 (for little stars)

The Grand Charity £ 2500

Douglas Arter £ 500

Total £16,340

Sponsorship

We have received both corporate and private sponsorship for our Christmas parties, Avon Tyrell residential weekend, immersive theatre performances and a percentage for the cost of our Wet Wheels events.

Donations

We receive donations from both the public and corporate sector with the latter holding fundraising events on our behalf.

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Goods In Kind

This year, we gave out goods in kind, included mobility and therapy equipment, arts and craft materials, household items and children's clothing. These items were distributed through our stay and play groups, Saturday club, direct to registered families and through the local community via women's refuge and children's centres.

Wills and Legacies

We have produced a leaflet encouraging people to support us by leaving us something in their will. This has been done in conjunction with The Good Will Partnership and we are currently arranging meetings with local solicitors to highlight our work and to encourage bequests.

Main Fundraising Events

We are thankful to the wonderful support of our local community. These were the highlights of our year.

The Dorset Plane Pull.

We had 3 teams of 20 people pulling a jumbo jet.
We raised £9766.

First Position School of Dance

For the 3rd year they donated a total of £10,000, the entire proceeds of their annual showcase.

Reggie's Big Adventure

Charity Partner Grosvenor Carpets organised a self-funded 1000 mile cycle across France (with a small bear named Reggie). We received £18,081 from this sponsored event,

Hampshire and Dorset Charity Christmas Luncheon

We were one of two local charities that benefited from this ticketed lunch and charity auction. We received half of the proceeds which totalled £20,387.50 plus an additional £5000 which was donated on the day specifically to cover the cost of our planned residential trip in June 2023.

Reserves policy:

Support to beneficiaries is only given when the funds have been raised and so the Foundation doesn't have any ongoing commitments in this regard.

The trustees have identified the need for four months costs to be held in reserve to fulfil its contractual obligations to landlords and staff redundancy if we had to close.
Calculated to be £31,209 with length of service accounted for.

The trustees also determined that four months costs should be held in reserve to cover parent/carers in cancelling or funding activities booked, costs for stay and play groups and costs associated with all the support and parent groups.
Calculated to be £20,478. The

At the end of the year the foundation had free reserves of £67,379 which is £15,692 above the level of reserves required.

Sustainability

Sustainability is about meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. UN Sustainability Development Goals.

In February 2023 we partnered with BPC Councils Carbon Reduction Program to measure and reduce our carbon footprint and to work towards net zero.

We also support the Circular Economic System whereby resources are used, reused and recycled minimising CO2 emissions.

We do not have the expense and overheads of a head office
preferring to work from the shops
Charity shops saved 339,000 tonnes of textiles from landfill in 2018/19.

Our charity shops supports the public benefit of keeping used goods in circulation and expanding the life cycle of products. We resell donated items that would otherwise end up in land fill. We also provide low-cost alternatives to buying new which makes sustainable consumption more accessible to people with a limited income.

We reduce, reuse, recycle and reconnect wherever possible by;
Using an ethical, licensed waste company who recycle textiles and household items. Appropriate clothing from this is sent to the developing world.
Excess books and toys are donated to local schools and Children's Centres.
Regular appropriate donations are made to homeless charities.
In 2022 we changed to environmentally friendly cleaning products.
Our office furniture is pre used as are 70% of our shop fittings.
The Boscombe and Southbourne shops have had energy saving LED lighting fitted by our founder.
The Treehouse shop will follow suit in April 2023
75% of our office supplies are taken from shop donations as are 90% of our branded clothing for events.

Future Action Points:

As part of our continual evaluation process the trustees have identified key action points for 2023/2024:

- To continue to raise funds for medical expenses, mobility equipment and therapies to improve the quality of life of the children and families we support.
- Continue to grow and develop our parent liaison and befriending services.
- Extend our Accessible for All program to those who can't leave their homes. We will work with local play specialists and arrange home visits for those who due to illness aren't able to come to us.
- Continue to work with siblings by providing activities that build resilience and encourage creativity. We will work with other local service providers who offer training in this area.
- Set up an equipment lending library. A lot of the equipment we purchase comes back to us when children outgrow it. We aim to catalogue all equipment as it's returned, clean and service it and make it available for another child in need.
- To continue funding and expanding the range of inclusive events and activities for families with disabled children as part of our Accessible for All program.
- To continue to expand our counselling services by offering a complete family support service, including bereavement counselling to parents/carers and children.
- To increase our program of activities for parent/carers that improve overall physical and mental health. This will include regular wellness walks and sea swimming.
- To work with our community care solicitor and trustee to empower and educate parents to access and receive local authority service provision.
- To actively source local businesses and great corporate sponsorship packages to cover the cost of fundraising events, therapies, and equipment for Dorset's disabled children.

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The Dorset Children Foundation are members of:

The Institute of Fundraising
The National Council for Voluntary Organisations
The Small Charities Coalition
Community Action Network
Charity Retail Organisation
Disability Committed Employers
Mental Health Charter Members

We are fully GDPR compliant, our IOC membership is annually reviewed. No. ZA382325
Personal files are updated with payroll information and all payroll is to be authorised and approved by Co-founder Scott Akam

The website is updated on a regular basis and contains charity information, appeals, event calendar, application process, grant making policy and how the community can help, contacts, news and previous activities and about us in general. www.thedcf.org

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).
There were no complaints against the charity this, or previous years.

We have the following policies and procedures in place.

Child Eligibility and Support Criteria
Safeguarding Children Policy
Compliments and Complaints Procedure
Confidentiality Policy
Home Visit Policy
Menopause Policy
Equality and Diversity Policy
First Aid Policy
Reserves Policy
DCF Data Protection Policy
Grievance Procedure
Privacy Policy
Financial Controls Policy
Social Media Policy
Conflict of Interest Policy

Registered Charity number
1150538

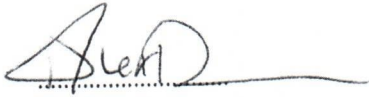
Principal Address
695-697 Christchurch Road
Bournemouth
Dorset BH7 6AF

Independent examiner: Zoe Mowlem at TC Group

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023



Mr. A Deutsch

Trustee

Dated: 31-1-24

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The trustees 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).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that 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 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 sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. 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.

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Dorset Children's Foundation (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of , which is one of the listed bodies.

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

TC Group

TC Group

10 Bridge Street
Christchurch
Dorset
BH23 1EF

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

Dated: 31 January 2024

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<u>Income from:</u>					
Donations and legacies	2	112,296	54,461	166,757	199,104
Other trading activities	3	241,926	-	241,926	163,582
Investments	4	1,159	-	1,159	349
Total income		355,381	54,461	409,842	363,035
<u>Expenditure on:</u>					
Raising funds	5	139,515	-	139,515	156,684
Charitable activities		182,602	108,381	290,983	223,286
Other	9	(3,238)	-	(3,238)	-
Total resources expended		318,879	108,381	427,260	379,970
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers		36,502	(53,920)	(17,418)	(16,935)
Gross transfers between funds		(66,837)	66,837	-	-
Net (expenditure)/income for the year/ Net movement in funds		(30,335)	12,917	(17,418)	(16,935)
Fund balances at 1 April 2022		97,714	50,809	148,523	165,458
Fund balances at 31 March 2023		67,379	63,726	131,105	148,523

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

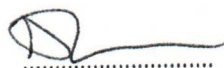
THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

		2023		2022	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	10		61,759		63,456
Current assets					
Debtors	11	3,856		4,459	
Cash at bank and in hand		104,920		126,597	
		<u>108,776</u>		<u>131,056</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(15,992)</u>		<u>(11,967)</u>	
Net current assets			92,784		119,089
Total assets less current liabilities			154,543		182,545
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	14		(23,438)		(34,022)
Net assets			<u>131,105</u>		<u>148,523</u>
Income funds					
Restricted funds	16		63,726		50,809
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>					
Designated funds		-		-	
General unrestricted funds		<u>67,379</u>		<u>97,714</u>	
			67,379		97,714
			<u>131,105</u>		<u>148,523</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 31-1-24



Mr. A Deutsch
Trustee

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The Dorset Children's Foundation is a charitable organisation incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 695-697 Christchurch Road, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH7 6AF.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

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 pound.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. 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 unless the funds have been designated for other purposes.

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 Incoming resources

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.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses, including support costs and governance costs, are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings in the statement of financial liabilities.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, 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:

Plant and equipment	25% straight line
Specialised children's equipment	25% straight line
Computers	33.33% straight line
Motor vehicles	25% reducing balance

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 net income/(expenditure) for the year.

1.7 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.8 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.

1.9 Employee benefits

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

1.10 Donated goods

Stock of donated goods is not provided for as at the year end. This is in line with previous years and impracticable to estimate upon receipt of the donated goods.

1 Accounting policies**(Continued)****1.11 Significant judgements and estimates**

The charity's management do not apply any significant judgements, apart from those involving estimates, in applying the accounting policies.

The only estimates made in applying accounting policies are in assessing the useful life of fixed assets. These do not result in a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities.

2 Donations and grants

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Donations and gifts	112,296	54,461	166,757	165,065
Government grants receivable	-	-	-	34,039
	<u>112,296</u>	<u>54,461</u>	<u>166,757</u>	<u>199,104</u>
For the year ended 31 March 2022	<u>104,712</u>	<u>94,392</u>		<u>199,104</u>

3 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds	Total
	2023	2022
	£	£
Shop income	<u>241,926</u>	<u>163,582</u>

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

4 Investments

	Unrestricted funds	Total
	2023	2022
	£	£
Interest receivable	1,159	349
	<u>1,159</u>	<u>349</u>

5 Raising funds, trading costs and support costs

	Unrestricted funds	Total
	2023	2022
	£	£
<u>Fundraising and publicity</u>		
Depreciation	2,215	2,974
Motor vehicle depreciation	4,564	2,648
Other fundraising costs	4,310	4,959
	<u>11,089</u>	<u>10,581</u>
<u>Staff and support costs</u>		
Staff costs	128,426	146,103
	<u>128,426</u>	<u>146,103</u>
Raising funds, trading and support costs	<u>139,515</u>	<u>156,684</u>

6 Charitable activities

	2023	2022
	£	£
Charitable activities	183,768	223,005
Support costs	33,684	17,932
	<u>217,452</u>	<u>240,937</u>
	<u>290,983</u>	<u>223,286</u>

Included in the above is the Independent Examiners remuneration of £2,000.

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

7 Trustees

None of the trustee's received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

8 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2023	2022
	Number	Number
	17	12
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Employment costs

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	201,956	146,103
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £46,000.

Total key management personnel remuneration totalled £92,000 (2022 - £52,533) during the year.

9 Other

	Unrestricted funds	Total
	2023	2022
		£
Net loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	(3,238)	-

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Plant and equipment	Specialised children's equipment	Computers	Motor vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost					
At 1 April 2022	9,348	52,740	5,835	21,494	89,417
Additions	333	4,341	4,536	14,101	23,311
Disposals	-	-	-	(4,250)	(4,250)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
At 31 March 2023	9,681	57,081	10,371	31,345	108,478
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Depreciation and impairment					
At 1 April 2022	8,177	3,820	4,289	9,654	25,940
Depreciation charged in the year	850	14,089	1,365	4,564	20,868
Eliminated in respect of disposals	-	-	-	(89)	(89)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
At 31 March 2023	9,027	17,909	5,654	14,129	46,719
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Carrying amount					
At 31 March 2023	654	39,172	4,717	17,216	61,759
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
At 31 March 2022	1,171	48,920	1,524	11,841	63,456
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

11 Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Other debtors	3,856	4,459
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

12 Loans and overdrafts

	2023	2022
	£	£
Bank loans	33,349	43,337
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Payable within one year	9,911	9,315
Payable after one year	23,438	34,022
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Bank loans	12	9,911	9,315
Other taxation and social security		3,090	-
Other creditors		936	597
Accruals and deferred income		2,055	2,055
		<u>15,992</u>	<u>11,967</u>

14 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Bank loans	12	23,438	34,022
		<u>23,438</u>	<u>34,022</u>

15 Retirement benefit 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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

16 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				
	Balance at 1 April 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Accessible for All	-	10,517	(66,155)	55,638	-
Specific children donations	22,379	16,538	(19,721)	9,317	28,513
DCF FC Football	3,014	2,000	(5,014)	-	-
Music Therapy	24,153	-	-	-	24,153
Christchurch Children	763	-	-	-	763
Sat Club	500	-	-	-	500
Avon Tyrell	-	5,000	(4,169)	-	831
Arts & Crafts	-	2,000	-	-	2,000
New DCF Mascot	-	4,466	-	-	4,466
Xmas Parties	-	600	(1,241)	641	-
Disability Sport	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Little Stars	-	5,840	(7,081)	1,241	-
Toy Trust	-	2,500	-	-	2,500
	-	-	-	-	-
	50,809	54,461	(108,381)	66,837	63,726

Each restricted fund related to amounts raised through appeals and fundraising to provide assistance equipment and care for the individual child on the fund. Names have not been used as requested by the parents of the children and for the purpose of financial reporting the specific child funds have been grouped however are maintained separately by the charity.

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted 2023 £	Restricted 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Fund balances at 31 March 2023 are represented by:				
Tangible assets	61,759	-	61,759	63,456
Current assets/(liabilities)	29,058	63,726	92,784	119,089
Long term liabilities	(23,438)	-	(23,438)	(34,022)
	67,379	63,726	131,105	148,523

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Incoming resources				
Donations and legacies	112,296	54,461	166,757	165,065
Shop income	241,926	-	241,926	163,582
Investment	1,159	-	1,159	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total income	355,381	54,461	409,842	328,996
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Resources expended				
Raising funds				
Fundraising costs	4,310	-	4,310	4,959
Staff wages	133,236	68,720	201,956	146,103
Plant and machinery depreciation	850	-	850	1,936
Computer equipment depreciation	1,365	-	1,365	1,038
Motor vehicles depreciation	4,564	-	4,564	2,648
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	144,325	68,720	213,045	156,684
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Charitable activities				
Rates and water	4,047	-	4,047	2,288
Light and heat	5,632	-	5,632	4,273
Telephone	2,796	-	2,796	2,265
Postage and stationery	733	-	733	2,615
Advertising and marketing	557	-	557	1,710
Sundries	1,324	-	1,324	1,599
Subscriptions	977	-	977	325
Travel	1,495	-	1,495	967
Motor expenses	7,181	-	7,181	5,123
Entertainment	804	-	804	2,840
IT software and consumables	2,598	-	2,598	2,243
Rent	28,048	-	28,048	28,341
Direct expenses for children	81,913	39,661	121,574	125,343
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	138,105	39,661	177,766	179,932
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

(Continued)

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Support costs				
Insurance	(1,513)	-	(1,513)	1,266
Bank charges	6,469	-	6,469	4,632
Loan interest	982	-	982	1,204
Repairs and renewals	1,703	-	1,703	16,200
Accountancy and legal fees	4,500	-	4,500	4,750
Consultancy	13,457	-	13,457	11,480
	<u>25,598</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25,598</u>	<u>39,532</u>
Total resources expended	<u>308,028</u>	<u>108,381</u>	<u>416,409</u>	<u>376,148</u>
Gross transfers between funds	66,837	(66,837)	-	-
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	<u>(19,484)</u>	<u>12,917</u>	<u>(6,567)</u>	<u>(47,152)</u>