

NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS UNIT

England & Wales · Charity number 1152471

Details

Other names CRU

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [04906893](#)

Registered 2013-06-18

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

Contact

Address Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights
Unit
Ty Margaret Thorne
17-19 Alfred Street
Neath
SA11 1EF

Phone 01639323030

Email info@childrensrightsunit.org.uk

Website www.childrensrightsunit.org.uk

Activities

Objects: (1) TO PROMOTE CHILDRENS RIGHTS (AS SET OUT IN THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD) BY ANY OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:- MONITORING ABUSES OF CHILDREN'S RIGHTS;- RESEARCH INTO CHILDREN'S RIGHTS ISSUES;- PROVIDING TECHNICAL ADVICE TO GOVERNMENT AND OTHERS ON CHILDREN'S RIGHTS MATTERS;- COMMENTING ON PROPOSED CHILDRENS RIGHTS LEGISLATION;- RAISING AWARENESS OF CHILDRENS RIGHTS ISSUES;- PROMOTING PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR CHILDRENS RIGHTS;- PROMOTING RESPECT FOR CHILDRENS RIGHTS AMONG INDIVIDUALS, THE PUBLIC, PRIVATE AND VOLUNTARY SECTOR.(2) TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES, SUPPORT, ADVICE AND ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 0-25 YEARS OLD WHICH DEVELOP THEIR SKILLS, CONFIDENCE, CAPACITIES AND CAPABILITIES TO ENABLE THEM TO PARTICIPATE IN SOCIETY AS MATURE AND RESPONSIBLE INDIVIDUALS.(3) TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC IN CHILDRENS RIGHTS (AS SET OUT IN THE UN CONVENTION OF THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD, RIGHTS OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS (WALES) MEASURE AND OTHER RELEVANT LAW, STATUTORY AND NON-STATUTORY GUIDANCE).

Activities: Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit (CRU) exists to make the UNCRC a reality for children, young people and their families. The CRU provide opportunities and support for Children and Young People aged (0-18 years old) to develop the confidence and skills to understand and exercise their rights and responsibilities and aims to advance the education of the general public in Childrens Rights.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- **What:** Education/training, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity
- **Who:** Children/young People, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies

Geography

- Neath Port Talbot

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£117,661	£96,843	-	-
2024-03-31	£96,204	£81,898	-	-
2023-03-31	£63,674	£59,309	-	-
2022-03-31	£52,103	£53,844	-	-
2021-03-31	£49,033	£53,194	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
MARK DACEY	Chair	2013-04-26
Dr Sophie Brook Watson		2017-03-27
Mari Ann Shufflebotham		2013-04-26
Patricia Helen Dunmore		2019-10-24
Susan Anne Jones		2015-01-15

Accounts

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS UNIT

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE 2025 AGM

13TH NOVEMBER 2025



Working together to make
children's rights a reality

www.childrensrightsunit.org.uk

 @childrightsunit



OUR VISION

Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit (CRU) is a charity that was established to promote and protect the rights of children and young people in Neath Port Talbot and the surrounding areas. The unit aims to make the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), a reality for children, young people and their families.

The CRU was first established in 2003 and is governed by a Board of Trustees who are responsible for overseeing the work of the charity and its long-term direction.

It provides opportunities for children and young people up to the age of 25 to develop the confidence and skills to understand and exercise their rights, thus becoming active citizens in their communities, and aims to advance the education of duty bearers to understand their role in enabling children and young people to access their rights.

OUR VALUES

Board Members and staff believe in:

- a 'Children's Rights Approach' in everything we do
- equal opportunities for all
- becoming the best that you can be
- partnership and holistic working
- empowering and transforming attitudes

OUR STAFF

Jannine Smith | Director/Company Secretary

Victoria Owen | Training and Support Officer

Clare Pritchard | Children's Rights Project Development Officer

OUR BOARD

Mark Dacey | Director/Chair

Pat Dunmore | Director

Susan Anne Jones MBE DL | Director/Treasurer

Sophie Millar | Director

Mari Shufflebotham | Director

Phil Treseder | Director (up to 24.10.24)

FOREWORD

At the Children's Rights Unit we believe that every child and young person deserves to grow up safe, happy, healthy, and empowered to be heard. Our mission is to promote, and protect the rights of children and young people - no matter their background, circumstances, or challenges they face.

It is with great pride that I present this year's Annual Report on behalf of our Board of Trustees and staff for the period April 2024 to March 2025. In this report, we reflect on a year of great progress and powerful partnerships. From our community outreach and education to supporting professionals and organisations to ensure the principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child are prioritised in everyday practice.

From amplifying youth voices to ensuring vulnerable children have a say in the services they need, our team has remained committed to protecting and promoting children's rights. Central to our work lies a simple but powerful belief: that every child and young person has the right to be safe, respected and heard and we remain committed to putting children and young people at the heart of everything we strive to accomplish. Their views, voices and stories are key in shaping what we do, allowing us to advocate for them and challenge barriers and inequalities in our communities.

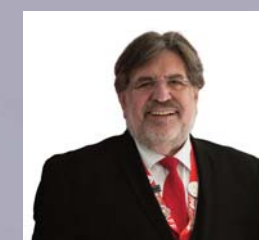
Thank you to our funders, Neath Port Talbot Council, Swansea Bay University Health Board, and Pen Y Cymoedd Wind Farm Community Fund CIC for believing in us. We would also like to note our gratitude to Neath Port Talbot Council for Voluntary Service who continue to provide support and guidance.

This year we bid a fond farewell to long standing trustee Phil Treseder, Phil has been with us from the very beginning of our journey as a loyal, passionate and steadfast advocate for children's rights. Phil's unwavering dedication and tireless efforts to advancing children's rights have made a meaningful difference to the lives of many children and young people. His work as a trustee is not only deeply appreciated - it is truly inspiring.

Together, with the support of our partners, dedication of our trustees and staff, and children and young people themselves, we are striving to build a fairer, more inclusive future where every child's voice counts. To each of you: thank you. Your belief in our mission allows us to keep pushing boundaries and striving for a future where every child's rights are recognised and realised.

With gratitude

Mark Dacey
Chair



Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit | Ty Margaret Thorne | 17-19 Alfred Street | Neath | SA11 1EF

Company No. 04906893 | Registered Charity No: 1152471

MOMENTS THAT MATTERED

Our Annual Report for this year showcases our organisation's support for children and young people's rights, highlighting key achievements, partnerships and the impact of collaboration.



IN THEIR OWN WORDS

"The CRU have worked closely with Children's Services throughout the year to support us to embed children's rights into practice, this has ensured that we are working towards integrating children's rights into every aspect of policy and practice. In addition, the CRU have supported BAYouth to have their voices heard and undertake many activities including exploring paediatric environments through a young person's lens to ensure things are working well from a patient experience perspective. All of this work is helping to ensure that children's rights are embedded at the core of our service planning, empowering children to participate in many initiatives and ensuring we take their views explicitly into account."

Vicki Burrridge, Head of Nursing and Janet Millward, Deputy Head of Nursing, Swansea Bay University Health Board.

"Over 40 professionals including Registered Nurses, Health Care Support Workers and Clinical Nurse Specialists attended the training. staff reported that they enjoyed the training and requested a longer session than was initially timetabled. We accommodated this request. This year the training will focus on putting their ideas into reality."



Rachel Isaac, Practice Development Nurse, Swansea Bay University Health Board.

"NPT Child Services has a close working relationship with Jannine Smith - Director, Children's Rights Unit. The CRU plays a key role in ensuring we champion the voice of the child and embed children's rights into our daily work. The charity works tirelessly to support our care experienced children and young people through weekly groups, social action projects, residential, trips and so much more."

Darren Bartley, Engagement and Participation Officer, Neath Port Talbot Council.

"Jannine from the Children's Rights Unit has been instrumental in helping us focus on our duty-bearing responsibilities as Children's Rights Champions. Thanks to Jannine's unwavering support, we have significantly improved our service delivery by making essential changes to our working practices that address the needs and rights of children under Social Services. We are proud to have a dedicated group of Children's Rights Champions who have developed a set of 'Promises' to our Care Experienced Children and our Care and Support population. Jannine is always available to provide the support we need in relation to Children's Rights, ensuring that we can continue to uphold and advocate for the rights of the children we serve."



Mel Weaver, Performance/Quality and Practice Manager, Neath Port Talbot Council.

"The best thing about Hope is that I can have an impact on the fostering system."

Hope member



"We can talk openly and no one feels left out."

Hope member

"I enjoy having new experiences."

YoVo member



"The group has made me feel comfortable and it feels like home."

YoVo member

"The knowURights project educates us about our rights and helps us to use our voice."

"I think other schools should have Children's Rights workshops because it is an interactive way of learning the importance of Children's Rights."

"The knowURights workshops help us to understand the things young people go through all over the world."

"We now get asked about our views in the youth forum."

"I enjoyed the 15 steps challenge, seeing that children are prioritised in their healthcare even in the ED. Ensuring that they are comfortable and calm even in the most stressful moments."

BAYouth member

"The best part was talking to staff and patients about their experiences in the department."

BAYouth member



"I joined because I wanted to volunteer in my community and understand health services for children and young people. I'm considering a career in health and thought joining BAYouth would give me the opportunity to be part of making a change."

BAYouth member

"I joined BAYouth to help people understand how to make hospitals better for children and young people who need extra help to understand things around them."

BAYouth member

"Something I love about being a part of BAYouth is that I feel part of a community. Despite being a new member, I feel that BAYouth is a very inclusive environment and I feel listened to."

BAYouth member

"Working with Clare and the Children's Rights Unit has proven to be an enlightening and incredibly rewarding experience. The charity's efforts, spearheaded by Clare, have made a significant impact, especially through the range of workshops conducted in school. These sessions have not only raised awareness but also empowered pupils with the knowledge to engage in important social issues."

Louise Morgan-Doyle, School Senedd, Ysgol Cwm Brombil

"The KnowURights project educates us about our rights and helps us to use our voice."

"I think other schools should have Children's Rights workshops because it is an interactive way of learning the importance of Children's Rights"

"I now understand my children's rights."

"We now get asked about our views in the youth forum."

KnowURights



"Our longstanding partnership of over six years with the NPT Children's Rights Unit continues to empower our learners in student voice roles through a rights-based approach."

James Morris, Senior Student Involvement, Wellbeing and Inclusion Officer, NPTC Group of Colleges.



Cyngor Castell-nedd Port Talbot
Neath Port Talbot Council

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNCIL

INTRODUCTION

Neath Port Talbot Council Children's Services are dedicated to upholding and promoting the rights of children and young people. We have supported them to develop Children's Rights Promises and we have built a close collaborative culture through sharing knowledge, resources and skills to support the local authority to realise its strategic commitment to embedding children's rights into practice.

"It is truly satisfying to work with a Local Authority who values the rights of the child to the same extent as the Children's Rights Unit and shares our aim of making the rights of the child a reality for our communities. We look forward to continuing our work in protecting and respecting children's rights in Neath Port Talbot now and in the future."

Mark Dacey, Chair, Children's Rights Unit.

Article 3
EVERYONE WHO
WORKS WITH
CHILDREN SHOULD
DO WHAT IS BEST
FOR EACH CHILD

YOVO - YOUR VOICE MATTERS

Care experienced group YoVo have enjoyed a fun-filled year of wellbeing activities and experiences that supported their growth and development, giving them opportunities to feel empowered to speak up, get involved, and lead positive change.



**Comisiynydd
Plant Cymru**
Children's
Commissioner
for Wales



Comisiynydd
yr Heddlu a
Throseddau
De Cymru
South Wales
Police
and Crime
Commissioner

As Community Ambassadors members of YoVo gave their views on 'Monthly Matter' issues and topics.

Members met the Welsh Youth Parliament Engagement Officer and gained a deeper understanding of democracy by exploring how their voices can shape decisions.

YoVo members made their voices heard on key issues by engaging with the Police and Crime Commissioners office to influence decisions that impact their lives.

Article 24
YOU HAVE THE
RIGHT TO LIFE AND
TO GROW UP TO BE
HEALTHY

Article 12
YOU HAVE THE
RIGHT TO A VOICE
AND TO BE
LISTENED TO



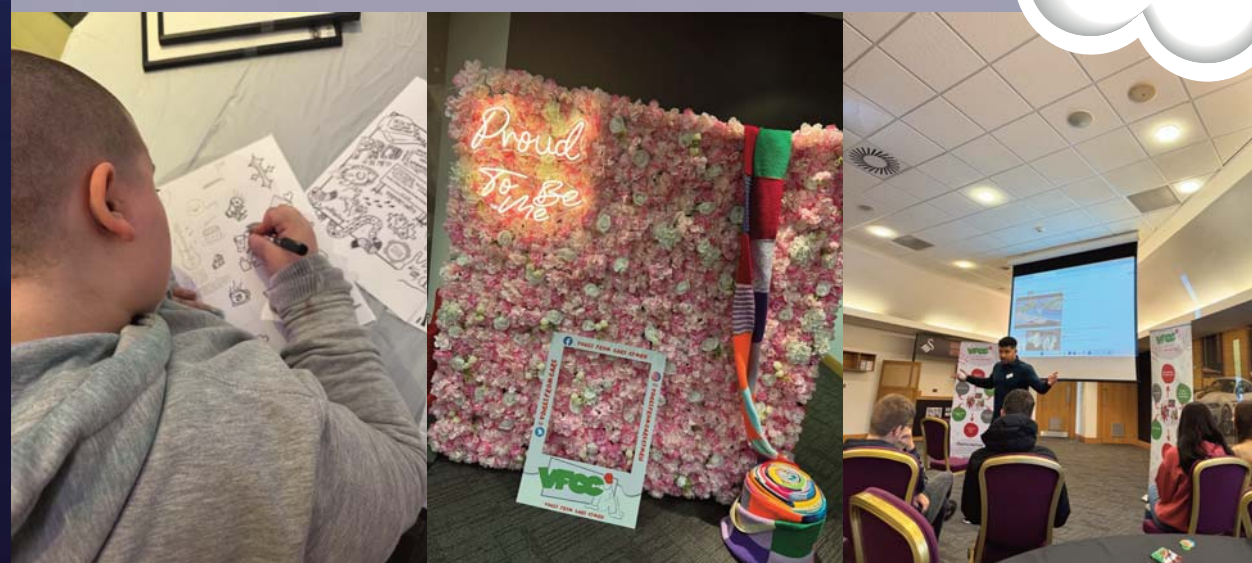
Young people were given the opportunity to be at the heart of the fostering process by posing questions to be asked at foster carer panels.

Article 3
EVERYONE WHO WORKS WITH CHILDREN SHOULD DO WHAT IS BEST FOR EACH CHILD

Article 29

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE

Care-experienced young people took part in a series of creative and empowering workshops delivered by Voices from Care Cymru at their special celebration event. These sessions gave young people the space to connect, share their experiences, and express their voices on the issues that matter most to them.



HOPE - CHAMPIONING GIRL'S RIGHTS



Girls' Rights group 'Hope' is a safe and supportive space for care-experienced girls to connect socially, enjoy themselves, the group gives them a platform to be heard and influence change on issues close to their hearts.



Hope awarded winners of the Children, Young People and Families category for their Safer Spaces sexual harassment project.

Hope members became 'Yoga Junkies' and challenged themselves with yoga positions and aerial yoga as well as exploring meditation and sharing positive affirmations with each other.

"It washed all my worries away"

"I totally switched off"

Article 24
YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO LIFE AND TO GROW UP TO BE HEALTHY



The Fostering Network event provided a platform for young people to express their views and actively contribute to shaping fostering services throughout Wales.

Article 12

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO A VOICE AND TO BE LISTENED TO



Working together to make children's rights a reality



**Comisiynydd
Plant Cymru**
Children's
Commissioner
for Wales

Members collaborated with the Children's Commissioner for Wales office and shared their experiences of being care experienced alongside young people from all over Europe in Slovakia. The young people involved brought their voices back to Wales and supported an interactive exhibition at the Senedd. Sponsored by Sioned Williams MS the 'Lwc' exhibition shared the personal stories of care experienced children and young people through a physical and audio exhibition. The exhibition also travelled to Neath Port Talbot and enabled staff to take a walk in their shoes and learn what care experienced children and young people have to say.



"When in care, don't treat them differently to other kids in the house like they are not worthy of love."

"What made it worse was the moving, seeing all your things in the car and not knowing what was in there."

"It's really frustrating because when you say this is what I need or this is what I want to be more comfortable and they don't help you with it then sometime it can mess with your brain and then when you react in a way they don't like they can get all angry and frustrated with you when it's not your fault."



As part of a creative project with Rewise, young people wrote and produced a song inspired by their community, crafting meaningful lyrics based on their positive experiences and experimenting with different instruments to bring their music to life.

Article 30

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO LEARN ABOUT YOUR CULTURE

Article 2

ALL CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 18 HAVE THESE RIGHTS



Universal Children's Day was marked with a creative arts and crafts sessions where young people explored children's rights and expressed positive messages through their artwork.

Article 20

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE LOOKED AFTER IF YOU CAN'T LIVE WITH YOUR FAMILY

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING ACTIVITIES

Throughout the year children and young people took part in a wide range of fun and engaging activities and events, where they had the opportunity to make new friends, learn valuable skills, and create lasting memories.

A six-week programme connecting to nature with Coed Lleol



Nurturing Alpaca's @Alpacamyboots



Children learning how to take care of therapy dogs



Article 31
YOU HAVE THE
RIGHT TO RELAX
AND PLAY

CHILDREN'S SERVICES STAFF CONFERENCE



Members of Hope took to the stage and shared their experiences with professionals.

Article 3
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DO WHAT IS BEST
FOR EACH CHILD

BIG CHAT

14+ young people gave their views on transitioning between services at the Independent Reviewing Officer Big Chat event.

CALM MINDS

YoVo and Hope joined up on their Calm Minds project – a wellbeing bag of information for care experienced children.



Thank you to MS Dawn Bowden for visiting the group.

Thank you to the NPT Youth Fund for awarding the grant for this project.



CHILDREN'S RIGHTS CHAMPIONS

Children's Services now have over 15 Champions actively advocating for and embedding children's rights within their roles.

PUPIL WORK EXPERIENCE

More than 30 young people learned about their rights through Children's Services work experience programmes.

By integrating children's rights into work experience programs, we are able to empower young people to understand their rights and the rights of all children.

CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL

Members of the Corporate Parenting Panel are dedicated to listening to the voices of children and young people, ensuring their rights are not only heard but upheld in practice.



Article 28
YOU HAVE THE
RIGHT TO AN
EDUCATION

Article 3
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JUNIOR SAFEGUARDING BOARD (JSB)

This year the JSB focussed on the development of a sexual harassment campaign to raise awareness of sexual harassment in schools.



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Bae Abertawe
Swansea Bay University
Health Board

SWANSEA BAY UNIVERSITY HEALTH BOARD

INTRODUCTION

Our partnership with Swansea Bay University Health Board continues to strengthen, driven by effective collaboration and a shared commitment to listening to the voices of children and young people. Together, we are working to enhance paediatric health services. The Health Board remains dedicated to engaging professionals and empowering them to embed children's rights at the heart of their practice.

"We are privileged to now be in the position to be providers for the next 3 years in this essential area of the health board's work. Going forward we are ambitious and eager to continue to support and work closely with all relevant staff across all areas of the health board that children and young people either directly access or indirectly encounter. We look forward to continuing to work in close partnership initiating, planning and delivering new and innovative initiatives and bespoke training to meet the CRU's stated aims and the health board's commitment to meeting children and young peoples' rights in line with the UNCRC."

Susan A Jones MBE DL, Treasurer, Children's Rights Unit.



Article 24
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HEALTHY

BAYOUTH – YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD

Swansea Bay was the first health board in Wales to establish a youth advisory board. BAYouth:

- Are youth led (with the support of CRU and SBUHB staff)
- Are dedicated to improving health services for children and young people
- Represent the voices of children and young people across SBUHB area
- Influence the decision-making process

Eight BAYouth meetings were held this year

We continue to support members by organising meeting agendas, collating papers, preparing minutes and action points, coordinating speakers, and providing in-meeting support to ensure members' voices are heard and valued.



Ten new members joined

BAYouth's priorities are:

- Mental health and well being
- Public Health
- Adolescent Services & Transition

Working together to make children's rights a reality

Article 3
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FOR EACH CHILD

Members Ilhan and Isabel spoke at the health board's Children's Summit, they shared BAYouth's priorities and challenged participants to consider their responsibilities in ensuring children's rights are acknowledged and implemented.



@BAYouthNHS



BAYouth members were offered numerous opportunities to contribute their voices to a range of issues and projects related to children's and young people's health services.

Members shared their thoughts on accident prevention and how to raise awareness to young people.



Article 12

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO A VOICE AND TO BE LISTENED TO

Article 19

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE PROTECTED

Article 13

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO INFORMATION

Hospital Passports provide information for children and young people on their hospital journey. Members appreciated being involved in their development.



New eye-catching Children's Menus designed by members of BAYouth were launched and showcase the many menu options available to children on paediatric wards.



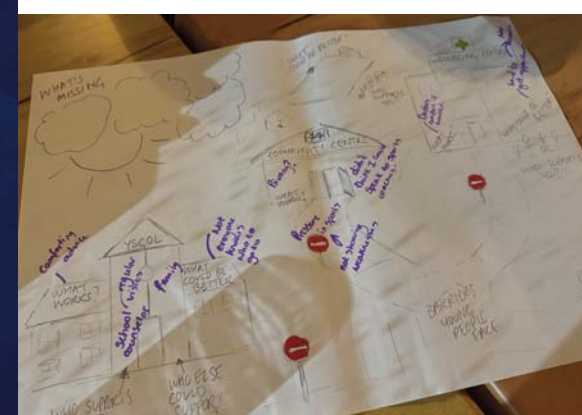
Article 24

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**Comisiynydd
Plant Cymru**
Children's
Commissioner
for Wales

As Community Ambassadors for the Children's Commissioner for Wales, members were given the opportunity to have their voices heard on mental health and well-being.



BAYouth created a School Nurse drop-in poster for the School Nursing Service. The poster has been distributed across Swansea Bay secondary schools.

"Thank you again to yourself for supporting our service to ensure the voices of young people are very much heard and put into use."

Joanne Jones, Operational Team Manager for School Nursing and Looked After Children (NPT), SBUHB.



15 STEPS CHALLENGE

It's been a busy year with many 15 steps completed by BAYouth members who volunteered to explore clinical environments and share their observations and feedback from a young person's perspective.



"I like talking to staff about their experiences and passion for maintaining efficient and effective patient care."

“The atmosphere in the department was welcoming, all staff were friendly.”

Article 19

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE PROTECTED

Article 12
**YOU HAVE THE
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Article 13

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO INFORMATION

Working together to make children's rights a reality

TRAINING

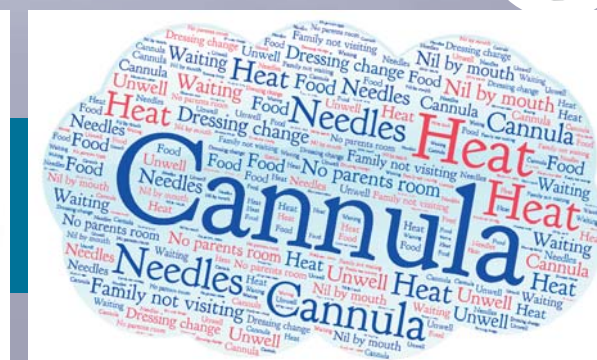
Members were given the opportunity to learn about children's rights and attend an accredited training course.

“Throughout the training experience I thoroughly enjoyed developing my understanding of the core elements and responsibilities of being a board member. Information has been presented in a way that promotes an in depth, genuine understanding of each of the key areas - this proved particularly helpful when covering topics that were new to me, such as content relating to the potential financial aspects of trustees’ responsibilities. Discussion with others, followed by self-reflection, has also been enlightening - I feel more equipped for future team work settings.”

BAYouth member.

TOPS & PANTS

Tops & Pants is a child-friendly feedback mechanism to accurately capture children's perspectives on their healthcare experiences.



CHILDREN'S RIGHTS TRAINING

New starters

Over 40 new starters attended 'Children's Rights in Practice' training as part of their induction programme.



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Article 29
**YOU HAVE THE
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A CHILDREN'S RIGHTS APPROACH

Workshops throughout the year empowered staff to commit to ideas and generate actions to take forward in their roles across the health board.



"Over 40 professionals including Registered Nurses, Health Care Support Workers and Clinical Nurse Specialists attended the training. Staff reported that they enjoyed the training and requested a longer session than was initially timetabled. We accommodated this request. This year the training will focus on putting their ideas into reality."

Rachel Isaac, Practice Development Nurse, Swansea Bay University Health Board.

"Good discussions. Thought provoking."

"Great session, made you think about what more could be done."

CAMHS CHAMPIONS

Staff from the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service were supported to put their ideas into action in 2024.

"We now have a group of informed Children's Rights Champions in our service and a plan that will enable us to embed Children's Rights into our everyday health care practice."

Sarah Griffith, Art Psychotherapist, Swansea Bay Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS).

KNOWURIGHTS PROJECT

The KnowURights project is dedicated to making children's rights real in everyday life by creating meaningful opportunities for young people to:

- Learn about their rights
- Express their views
- Develop their talents
- Connect with others
- Become active participants in their communities

At the heart of this project is the belief that every child and young person has the right to be heard, valued, and supported to reach their full potential.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

We've helped create safe, inclusive spaces where young people can understand, explore and express their rights. Each project was designed to highlight a specific article, ensuring children not only learn about their rights but also experience them in action.

KnowURights



Cronfa Gymunedol Fferm Wynt
PEN Y CYMOEDD
Wind Farm Community Fund CIC

Article 15

YOU HAVE THE
RIGHT TO MEET
FRIENDS AND JOIN
GROUPS.

GWYNFI MINERS CLUB HUB

Our young champs explored Article 15 and shared their ideas for the young person's summer program in the Upper Afan Valley.

Young people crafted fidget toys to celebrate Mental Health Awareness Week.

Celebrating Pride Month in style! Staff and young people had fun creating tie dye socks, proudly wearing pronoun badges and crafting beautiful friendship bracelets.

Article 15
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GROUPS



Carnival games sparked important discussions around voting.

Designing sustainable poppies - young people learnt about our past and remembered those who came before us.

Repurposing old clothes into stylish accessories, showing creativity & care for our planet. We also discussed how everyone's style is unique, just like them!

The launch of the Youth Board at Gwynfi Miners established a platform for youth leadership and collective action gives young people a formal voice in local decision-making and an opportunity to build their confidence, develop skills, and make positive changes in their communities.



GLYNCORRWG YOUTH FORUM - MONTHLY SESSIONS

Young people met monthly in Corrwg Hub to share their views on things that matter to them, including their local environment and community. From creative sessions like nail art to environmental projects like seed bombing and the Big Garden Birdwatch, these gatherings empowered young people to influence decisions affecting their community and learn about protecting the environment.

Article 12
YOU HAVE THE RIGHT
TO A VOICE AND TO
BE LISTENED TO



We had a blast at the Glyncorrwg Youth Forum's nails and natter session!

Designing nail art while brainstorming ideas for summer activities in their community was pure fun!



Young champions made seed bombs and nurtured seeds in bags! Empowering our future generation to be stewards of our planet.



The Young Persons Forum organised a 'litter pick & play' and put children's rights into action by looking after their environment.

Young people got creative and made tie-dye bags to celebrate how we are all different and unique!

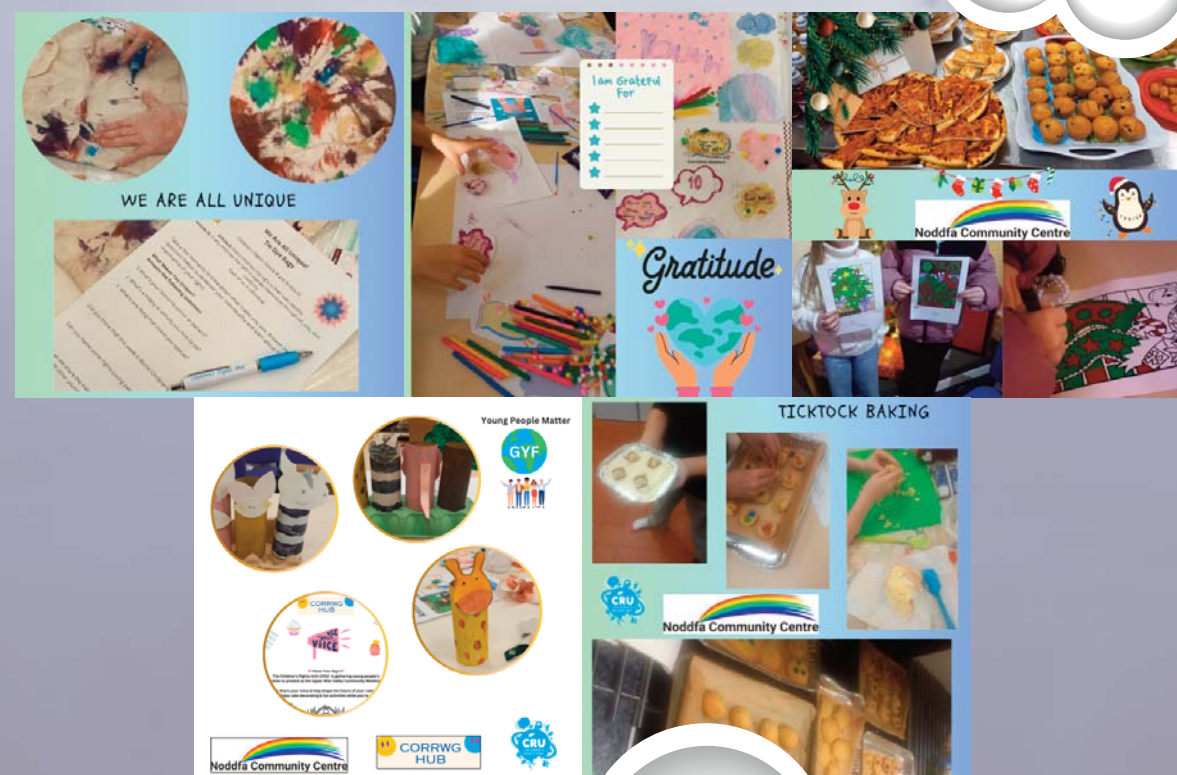
The youth forum celebrated World Gratitude Day by creating cards to thank the trustees and committee members for all their hard work.

The young people at Corrwg Hub finished the year with a Christmas party. Celebrating their right to relax and play.

Using recycled materials, the Youth Forum built amazing creations and learnt about sustainability and the importance of reducing waste.

Tick Tock Baking! Mixing to decorating, the youth club whipped up some delicious creations while building skills and friendships

Article 29
YOU HAVE THE
RIGHT TO BE
THE BEST YOU
CAN BE



Article 8
YOU HAVE THE
RIGHT TO AN
IDENTITY

SCHOOL HOLIDAY EVENTS AND DEDICATED SPACES

The KnowURights project made it a priority to bring free, inclusive events directly into communities in the Upper Afan Valley, ensuring every child and young person had the opportunity to enjoy their right to play, connect with others, and be part of something positive.

We asked young people what they wanted to see throughout the year and created a programme of events shaped by their ideas. These events not only supported their right to relax and play but also promoted the right to meet friends and join groups, by creating accessible spaces to build friendships and reduce isolation.

By helping to remove barriers and prioritising local delivery, children and young people also enjoyed their right to participation and being heard within their own communities.

Article 31
YOU HAVE THE
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AND PLAY



CHILDREN'S RIGHTS ADVENTURE ACTIVITY BOOK FOR YOUNG ADVOCATES

Our 'Children's Rights Adventure Activity Book for Young Advocates' workbooks were given out at local school fairs empowering young minds to understand and advocate for their rights.

LAUNCH OF THE YOUNG PERSONS NEWSLETTER

We proudly launched the Young Persons Newsletter in the Upper Afan Valley, it created opportunities for children and young people to:

- **Share their voices:** contributing stories, ideas, and opinions on issues that matter to them
- **Access information:** learning about local events, workshops, and activities where they can meet friends and join groups
- **Celebrate achievements:** highlighting positive stories from across the Upper Afan Valley, showcasing how young people are making a difference in their communities

Article 13
YOU HAVE THE
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INFORMATION

AFAN VALLEY ROCK

Young people accessed free guitar lessons, celebrating World Music Day and expressing themselves through music.



Article 15
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AFAN HOME EDUCATORS

Home educated children enjoyed a range of creative and educational workshops which provided opportunities to learn life skills, connect with peers, and explore their talents.

Mini medics learnt essential first-aid skills in a fun, interactive way!

Young people took care of animals, met friends, and explored their interests.

The children enjoyed a wonderful celebration of festive Christmas baking.

The Afan Home Educators gathered at Cymmer Library for a fun session of Minecraft Art!



Article 42
EVERYONE SHOULD
KNOW ABOUT
CHILDREN'S
RIGHTS

PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN'S RIGHTS WORKSHOPS

We travelled to the federation of primary schools across the Upper Afan Valley to help children learn about their rights. We used games, crafts, and interactive storytelling to bring rights to life. Pupils developed a strong understanding of how they can enjoy and protect their rights and the rights of others.



Cymer Afan pupils explored different emotions and activities to be more mindful, alongside ways to keep our body and mind healthy.

Article 2
ALL CHILDREN
UNDER THE AGE OF
18 HAVE THESE
RIGHTS



Pupils from Cymer Afan Primary School became official Kindness Ambassadors during Anti Bullying week. They made a plan to take action and spread kindness and positivity.



Exploring article 29 pupils from Croeserw Primary used their map reading skills and explored their talents together.



Celebrating children's right to play highlighted that play is a fundamental right that supports learning, wellbeing, and healthy development.



Primary schools across the Upper Afan Valley celebrated what makes each child unique with our Your Name, Your Identity sessions where children designed their personal shields.

COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL WORKSHOPS - CURIOSITY QUEST: ENGAGE, EXPLORE, LEAD!

Our innovative 'Curiosity Quest' programme empowered secondary school pupils to engage in critical discussions about mental health, inclusion and healthy relationships. Activities included Lego challenges, debates, and creative projects that built leadership skills and promoted empathy and resilience.

Ysgol Cwm Brombil Senior School Senedd had deep conversations about 'Privilege' and how we can build empathy and raise awareness around inequality.

The Junior School Senedd shared their views on screen time, the session raised awareness of the impact that excessive screen time can have on stress levels, and pupils discussed ways to promote healthy digital habits to manage stress effectively.

The Junior and Senior Senedd explored Human Rights Day and Children's Rights, they talked about the importance of having a voice in their communities and the world, and the incredible changes that can happen when those voices are heard. Pupils embraced the concept of being 'Torchbearers of Change', lighting the way for generations to come.

The School Senedd explored navigating Healthy Relationships, working together to discuss respect, communication, and building positive connections.

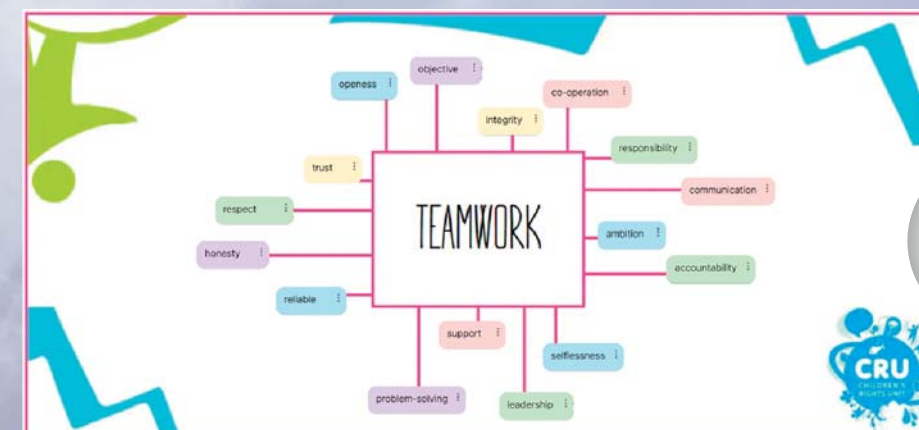
Pupils had a great time playing digital Guess Who, they gained the skills to take control of their digital experiences while understanding their rights & responsibilities.



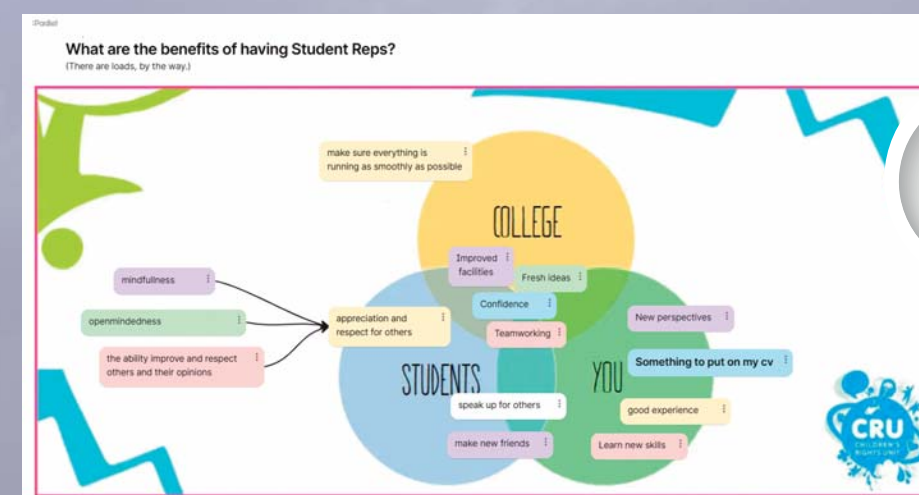
Article 19
YOU HAVE THE
RIGHT TO BE
PROTECTED

GET ON BOARD CYMRU - 'PREPARING TO BE A BOARD MEMBER' TRAINING

The Get on Board Cymru project delivered training to young people, empowering them to speak up, be heard, and become active citizens in their communities.



Article 12
YOU HAVE THE
RIGHT TO A VOICE
AND TO BE
LISTENED TO



Article 29
YOU HAVE THE
RIGHT TO BE
THE BEST YOU
CAN BE

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE AND OFFICER TRAINING FOR NPTC GROUP OF COLLEGES

Over 150 students attended our bespoke Student Representative training.

"Our longstanding partnership of over six years with the NPT Children's Rights Unit continues to empower our learners in student voice roles through a rights-based approach. Students who are new to roles such as class representative, student union member, ambassador, or student governor are supported in building their confidence in meeting settings. They develop essential listening and verbal communication skills, enabling them to actively contribute to discussions and debates. Throughout this process, they are encouraged to apply the Nolan Principles, ensuring they act with integrity, fairness, and in the best interests of their peers."

James Morris, Senior Student Involvement, Wellbeing and Inclusion Officer, NPTC Group of Colleges.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

As we reflect on the progress made over the past year, it is clear that the fight for children's rights is not over. While we have seen meaningful advancements, including increased awareness and education, improved services and greater participation, we are aware that significant challenges and inequalities still persist. Every child has the right to safety, health, education, and a voice in shaping their own future and we'd like to note sincere thanks to all the children and young people who have been part of this journey, your input reminds us of the importance of listening and taking action. Your voices continue to guide our mission and shape our purpose.

As we look ahead, we know that our work is far from over and we remain steadfast in our commitment to advocating for and upholding the rights of every child in our communities. With continued collaboration with our funders, partners, communities and children and young people themselves, we are dedicated to renewing our efforts in the coming year to ensure that we build a future where every child thrives.



Working together to make
children's rights a reality

www.childrensrightsunit.org.uk

 @childrightsunit

Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit , Ty Margaret Thorne, 17-19 Alfred Street, Neath, SA11 1EF

Company No. 04906893 | Registered Charity No: 1152471

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025
FOR
NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

Bevan Buckland LLP
Ground Floor Cardigan House
Castle Court
Swansea Enterprise Park
Swansea
SA7 9LA

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

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**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. 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 2019).

Our Vision

Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit (CRU) is a charity that was established to promote and protect the rights of children and young people in Neath Port Talbot and the surrounding areas. The unit aims to make the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), a reality for children, young people and their families.

The CRU was first established in 2003 and is governed by a Board of Trustees who are responsible for overseeing the work of the charity and its long-term direction.

It provides opportunities for children and young people up to the age of 25 to develop the confidence and skills to understand and exercise their rights, thus becoming active citizens in their communities, and aims to advance the education of duty bearers to understand their role in enabling children and young people to access their rights.

Our Values

Board Members and staff believe in:

- A 'Children's Rights Approach' in everything we do
- Equal opportunities for all
- Becoming the best that you can be
- Partnership and holistic working
- Empowering and transforming attitudes

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Our Annual Report for this year showcases our organisation's support for children and young people's rights, highlighting key achievements, partnerships and the impact of collaboration.

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNCIL

Neath Port Talbot Council Children's Services are dedicated to upholding and promoting the rights of children and young people. We have supported them to develop Children's Rights Promises and we have built a close collaborative culture through sharing knowledge, resources and skills to support the local authority to realise its strategic commitment to embedding children's rights into practice.

YOVO - YOUR VOICE MATTERS

Care experienced group YoVo have enjoyed a fun-filled year of wellbeing activities and experiences that supported their growth and development, giving them opportunities to feel empowered to speak up, get involved, and lead positive change.

As Community Ambassadors members of YoVo gave their views on 'Monthly Matter' issues and topics.

Members met the Welsh Youth Parliament Engagement Officer and gained a deeper understanding of democracy by exploring how their voices can shape decisions. YoVo members made their voices heard on key issues by engaging with the Police and Crime Commissioners office to influence decisions that impact their lives.

Young people were given the opportunity to be at the heart of the fostering process by posing questions to be asked at foster carer panels.

Care-experienced young people took part in a series of creative and empowering workshops delivered by Voices from Care Cymru at their special celebration event. These sessions gave young people the space to connect, share their experiences, and express their voices on the issues that matter most to them.

HOPE - CHAMPIONING GIRL'S RIGHTS

Girls' Rights group 'Hope' is a safe and supportive space for care-experienced girls to connect socially, enjoy themselves, the group gives them a platform to be heard and influence change on issues close to their hearts.

Hope awarded winners of the Children, Young People and Families category for their Safer Spaces sexual harassment project.

Hope members became 'Yoga Junkies' and challenged themselves with yoga positions and aerial yoga as well as exploring meditation and sharing positive affirmations with each other.

The Fostering Network event provided a platform for young people to express their views and actively contribute to shaping fostering services throughout Wales.

As part of a creative project with Rewise, young people wrote and produced a song inspired by their community, crafting meaningful lyrics based on their positive experiences and experimenting with different instruments to bring their music to life.

Universal Children's Day was marked with a creative arts and crafts sessions where young people explored children's rights and expressed positive messages through their artwork.

Members collaborated with the Children's Commissioner for Wales office and shared their experiences of being care experienced alongside young people from all over Europe in Slovakia. The young people involved brought their voices back to Wales and supported an interactive exhibition at the Senedd. Sponsored by Sioned Williams MS the 'Lwc' exhibition shared the personal stories of care experienced children and young people through a physical and audio exhibition. The exhibition also travelled to Neath Port Talbot and enabled staff to take a walk in their shoes and learn what care experienced children and young people have to say.

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING ACTIVITIES

Throughout the year children and young people took part in a wide range of fun and engaging activities and events, where they had the opportunity to make new friends, learn valuable skills, and create lasting memories.

- A six-week programme connecting to nature with Coed Lleol
- Nurturing Alpaca's @Alpacamyboots
- Children learning how to take care of therapy dogs

CHILDREN'S SERVICES STAFF CONFERENCE

Members of Hope took to the stage and shared their experiences with professionals.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

BIG CHAT

14+ young people gave their views on transitioning between services at the Independent Reviewing Officer Big Chat event.

CALM MINDS

YoVo and Hope joined up on their Calm Minds project - a wellbeing bag of information for care experienced children.

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS CHAMPIONS

Children's Services now have over 15 Champions actively advocating for and embedding children's rights within their roles.

PUPIL WORK EXPERIENCE

More than 30 young people learned about their rights through Children's Services work experience programmes.

By integrating children's rights into work experience programs, we are able to empower young people to understand their rights and the rights of all children.

CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL

Members of the Corporate Parenting Panel are dedicated to listening to the voices of children and young people, ensuring their rights are not only heard but upheld in practice.

JUNIOR SAFEGUARDING BOARD (JSB)

This year the JSB focussed on the development of a sexual harassment campaign to raise awareness of sexual harassment in schools.

SWANSEA BAY UNIVERSITY HEALTH BOARD

Our partnership with Swansea Bay University Health Board continues to strengthen, driven by effective collaboration and a shared commitment to listening to the voices of children and young people. Together, we are working to enhance paediatric health services. The Health Board remains dedicated to engaging professionals and empowering them to embed children's rights at the heart of their practice.

BAYOUTH - YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD

Swansea Bay was the first health board in Wales to establish a youth advisory board.

BAYouth:

- Are youth led (with the support of CRU and SBUHB staff)
- Are dedicated to improving health services for children and young people
- Represent the voices of children and young people across SBUHB area
- Influence the decision-making process

We continue to support members by organising meeting agendas, collating papers, preparing minutes and action points, coordinating speakers, and providing in-meeting support to ensure members' voices are heard and valued.

BAYouth's priorities are:

- Mental health and well being
- Public Health
- Adolescent Services & Transition

Members Ilhan and Isabel spoke at the health board's Children's Summit, they shared BAYouth's priorities and challenged participants to consider their responsibilities in ensuring children's rights are acknowledged and implemented.

BAYouth members were offered numerous opportunities to contribute their voices to a range of issues and projects related to children's and young people's health services.

Members shared their thoughts on accident prevention and how to raise awareness to young people.

Hospital Passports provide information for children and young people on their hospital journey. Members appreciated being involved in their development.

BAYouth created a School Nurse drop-in poster for the School Nursing Service. The poster has been distributed across Swansea Bay secondary schools.

New eye-catching Children's Menus designed by members of BAYouth were launched and showcase the many menu options available to children on paediatric wards.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

As Community Ambassadors for the Children's Commissioner for Wales, members were given the opportunity to have their voices heard on mental health and wellbeing.

15 STEPS CHALLENGE

It's been a busy year with many 15 steps completed by BAYouth members who volunteered to explore clinical environments and share their observations and feedback from a young person's perspective.

TRAINING

Members were given the opportunity to learn about children's rights and attend an accredited training course.

TOPS & PANTS

Tops & Pants is a child-friendly feedback mechanism to accurately capture children's perspectives on their healthcare experiences.

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS TRAINING

New starters

Over 40 new starters attended 'Children's Rights in Practice' training as part of their induction programme.

A CHILDREN'S RIGHTS APPROACH

Workshops throughout the year empowered staff to commit to ideas and generate actions to take forward in their roles across the health board.

CAMHS CHAMPIONS

Staff from the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service were supported to put their ideas into action in 2024.

KNOWURIGHTS PROJECT

The KnowURights project is dedicated to making children's rights real in everyday life by creating meaningful opportunities for young people to:

- Learn about their rights
- Express their views
- Develop their talents
- Connect with others
- Become active participants in their communities

At the heart of this project is the belief that every child and young person has the right to be heard, valued, and supported to reach their full potential.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

We've helped create safe, inclusive spaces where young people can understand, explore and express their rights. Each project was designed to highlight a specific article, ensuring children not only learn about their rights but also experience them in action.

GWYNFI MINERS CLUB HUB

Our young champs explored Article 15 and shared their ideas for the young person's summer program in the Upper Afan Valley.

Young people crafted fidget toys to celebrate Mental Health Awareness Week.

Celebrating Pride Month in style! Staff and young people had fun creating tie dye socks, proudly wearing pronoun badges and crafting beautiful friendship bracelets.

Carnival games sparked important discussions around voting.

Designing sustainable poppies - young people learnt about our past and remembered those who came before us.

Repurposing old clothes into stylish accessories, showing creativity & care for our planet. We also discussed how everyone's style is unique, just like them!

The launch of the Youth Board at Gwynfi Miners established a platform for youth leadership and collective action gives young people a formal voice in local decision-making and an opportunity to build their confidence, develop skills, and make positive changes in their communities.

GLYNCORRWG YOUTH FORUM - MONTHLY SESSIONS

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

Young people met monthly in Corrwg Hub to share their views on things that matter to them, including their local environment and community. From creative sessions like nail art to environmental projects like seed bombing and the Big Garden Birdwatch, these gatherings empowered young people to influence decisions affecting their community and learn about protecting the environment

We had a blast at the Glyncornwg Youth Forum's nails and natter session!

Designing nail art while brainstorming ideas for summer activities in their community was pure fun!

Young champions made seed bombs and nurtured seeds in bags! Empowering our future generation to be stewards of our planet.

The Young Persons Forum organised a 'litter pick & play' and put children's rights into action by looking after their environment.

Young people got creative and made tie-dye bags to celebrate how we are all different and unique!

The youth forum celebrated World Gratitude Day by creating cards to thank the trustees and committee members for all their hard work.

The young people at Corrwg Hub finished the year with a Christmas party. Celebrating their right to relax and play.

Using recycled materials, the Youth Forum built amazing creations and learnt about sustainability and the importance of reducing waste.

Tick Tock Baking! Mixing to decorating, the youth club whipped up some delicious creations while building skills and friendships.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY EVENTS AND DEDICATED SPACES

The KnowURights project made it a priority to bring free, inclusive events directly into communities in the Upper Afan Valley, ensuring every child and young person had the opportunity to enjoy their right to play, connect with others, and be part of something positive.

We asked young people what they wanted to see throughout the year and created a programme of events shaped by their ideas. These events not only supported their right to relax and play but also promoted the right to meet friends and join groups, by creating accessible spaces to build friendships and reduce isolation.

By helping to remove barriers and prioritising local delivery, children and young people also enjoyed their right to participation and being heard within their own communities.

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS ADVENTURE ACTIVITY BOOK FOR YOUNG ADVOCATES

Our 'Children's Rights Adventure Activity Book for Young Advocates' workbooks were given out at local school fairs empowering young minds to understand and advocate for their rights.

LAUNCH OF THE YOUNG PERSONS NEWSLETTER

We proudly launched the Young Persons Newsletter in the Upper Afan Valley, it created opportunities for children and young people to:

- Share their voices: contributing stories, ideas, and opinions on issues that matter to them
- Access information: learning about local events, workshops, and activities where they can meet friends and join groups
- Celebrate achievements: highlighting positive stories from across the Upper Afan Valley, showcasing how young people are making a difference in their communities

AFAN VALLEY ROCK

Young people accessed free guitar lessons, celebrating World Music Day and expressing themselves through music.

AFAN HOME EDUCATORS

Home educated children enjoyed a range of creative and educational workshops which provided opportunities to learn life skills, connect with peers, and explore their talents.

Mini medics learnt essential first-aid skills in a fun, interactive way!

Young people took care of animals, met friends, and explored their interests.

The children enjoyed a wonderful celebration of festive Christmas baking.

The Afan Home Educators gathered at Cymmer Library for a fun session of Minecraft Art!

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN'S RIGHTS WORKSHOPS

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STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE AND OFFICER TRAINING FOR NPTC GROUP OF COLLEGES

Over 150 students attended our bespoke Student Representative training.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

As we reflect on the progress made over the past year, it is clear that the fight for children's rights is not over. While we have seen meaningful advancements, including increased awareness and education, improved services and greater participation, we are aware that significant challenges and inequalities still persist. Every child has the right to safety, health, education, and a voice in shaping their own future and we'd like to note sincere thanks to all the children and young people who have been part of this journey, your input reminds us of the importance of listening and taking action. Your voices continue to guide our mission and shape our purpose.

As we look ahead, we know that our work is far from over and we remain steadfast in our commitment to advocating for and upholding the rights of every child in our communities. With continued collaboration with our funders, partners, communities and children and young people themselves, we are dedicated to renewing our efforts in the coming year to ensure that we build a future where every child thrives.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The total income of £117,661 (2024: £96,204) was spent on direct charitable expenditure totalling £96,843 (2024: £81,898) resulting in a net surplus of £20,818 (2024: £14,306).

The Statement of Financial Activities reflects the income and expenditure incurred by Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit in carrying out its role in respect of its objectives. The unrestricted funds at 31 March 2025 were £74,915 (2024: £74,012).

Reserves policy

The board has examined the charity's requirements for reserves in respect of the main risks to the organisation and aims to build up reserves in future years to enable it to continue and expand the services they currently provide. The charity's policy is to maintain a designated reserve for future running costs and critical costs. This will cover twelve months running costs to meet its medium term objectives, and it will cover redundancy payments to employees and other termination costs should the funding of the charity reduce in the future.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

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

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 31/7/2003 and registered as a charity on 21/06/2013. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the company's Articles are known as Trustees. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the members of the Management Committee are elected to serve for a period of three years after which they must be re-elected at the next Annual General Meeting.

All members of the Management Committee give their time voluntarily and received no benefits from the charity.

Mari Shufflebotham and Phil Treseder retire by rotation and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Trustees are appointed through election from the Membership of the Charity and through co-option of individuals with specific skills and experience useful to the Charity. The Children's Rights Unit seeks to maintain a diverse trustee body comprising the skills, knowledge and experience necessary to ensure that the Charity is managed professionally, that its objects are pursued rigorously and that public benefit is maintained in all its activities. To this end, the Children's Rights Unit seeks suitable candidates widely with skills, knowledge and experience to complement the trustee team.

Induction and training of new trustees

All trustees receive induction into the work of the Children's Rights Unit. Regular training is provided for trustees and has included training in governance, roles and responsibilities of trustees and child protection.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number
04906893 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number
1152471

Registered office
Ty Margaret Thorne
17 - 19 Alfred Street
Neath
West Glamorgan
SA11 1EF

NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Trustees

P Treseder
M A Shufflebotham
S A Jones MBE DL
P H Dunmore
S B Watson
M Dacey

Staff

Jannine Smith	Director/Company Secretary
Victoria Owen	Training and Support Officer
Clare Pritchard	Children's Rights Project Development Officer

Company Secretary

J Smith

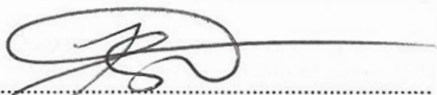
Independent Examiner

Alison Vickers ACA
Bevan Buckland LLP
Ground Floor Cardigan House
Castle Court
Swansea Enterprise Park
Swansea
SA7 9LA

Bankers

The Co - operative Bank
P.O. Box 250
Delf House
Southway
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 13/11/25 and signed on its behalf by:


.....
J Smith - Secretary

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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 accounts to be reached.



Alison Vickers ACA

Bevan Buckland LLP
Ground Floor Cardigan House
Castle Court
Swansea Enterprise Park
Swansea
SA7 9LA

Date: 13 November 2025

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	3	65,669	49,942	115,611	93,181
Other trading activities	4	2,050	-	2,050	3,023
Total		<u>67,719</u>	<u>49,942</u>	<u>117,661</u>	<u>96,204</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Charitable Activities		<u>66,816</u>	<u>30,027</u>	<u>96,843</u>	<u>81,898</u>
NET INCOME		903	19,915	20,818	14,306
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>74,012</u>	<u>4,612</u>	<u>78,624</u>	<u>64,318</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>74,915</u></u>	<u><u>24,527</u></u>	<u><u>99,442</u></u>	<u><u>78,624</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**BALANCE SHEET
31 MARCH 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	9	1,867	897	2,764	4,470
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	2,050	180	2,230	300
Cash at bank and in hand		76,295	36,349	112,644	78,519
		<u>78,345</u>	<u>36,529</u>	<u>114,874</u>	<u>78,819</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(5,297)	(12,899)	(18,196)	(4,665)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>73,048</u>	<u>23,630</u>	<u>96,678</u>	<u>74,154</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>74,915</u>	<u>24,527</u>	<u>99,442</u>	<u>78,624</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>74,915</u>	<u>24,527</u>	<u>99,442</u>	<u>78,624</u>
FUNDS	12				
Unrestricted funds				74,915	74,012
Restricted funds				<u>24,527</u>	<u>4,612</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>99,442</u>	<u>78,624</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 13/11/25 and were signed on its behalf by:

Susan A. Jones
S A Jones MBE DL - Trustee

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

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

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The charity continues to maintain a strong financial position with sufficient cash balances and unrestricted reserves to meet its ongoing obligations. The trustees have designated funds for specific future expenditure, ensuring that resources are appropriately allocated to support the charity's objectives.

Bi-monthly management accounts are prepared and reviewed against budgeted figures and scrutinised by the Board of Trustees. An annual budget and financial forecast are also prepared and approved by the Board, incorporating key assumptions about income streams, expenditure, and designated commitments.

The trustees have reviewed the charity's financial forecasts for a period of at least 12 months from the date of approval of these financial statements. These forecasts take into account the current financial position, expected income, and planned expenditure, including any known risks and uncertainties. Based on this review, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

Income

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

Training income is recognised in the period in which it relates.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, 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 accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

All costs allocated between expenditure categories are on a basis designed to reflect their resource usage. For some costs this means direct allocation to activities, other costs are apportioned, e.g. by staff time spent on the activity, or another equitable usage measure.

The Charity initially identifies the costs of its support functions. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the charities programmes and activities.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 20% on cost
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

Assets costing less than £5,000 are not capitalised and shown as an expense in the statement of financial activities.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

Grants

Grants relating to specific capital expenditure are treated as deferred income which is credited to the profit and loss account over the related asset's life.

Revenue grants are credited to the profit and loss account in the same period as the expenditure to which they relate.

Debtors

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any discount due.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments held within a deposit or similar account.

Creditors and provisions

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

Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

Costs have been allocated as far as possible between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities on a basis designed to reflect the usage of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly. Others have been apportioned based on the estimated usage of the resource.

Financial Instruments

Under FRS 102 financial instruments are classified as either basic or complex, the charity has reviewed its financial instruments and is satisfied that all financial instruments can be classified as basic and are recognised at amortised historical cost.

2. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgments, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgments about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results in the future may differ from these estimates. 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 and in any future periods affected.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

3. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2025 £	2024 £
Grants	<u>115,611</u>	<u>93,181</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
SBUHB	32,374	31,129
NPTCBC	33,295	31,800
Pen Y Cymoedd	49,942	29,452
Other grants	-	800
	<u>115,611</u>	<u>93,181</u>

4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2025 £	2024 £
Training	<u>2,050</u>	<u>3,023</u>

5. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2025 £	2024 £
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>1,706</u>	<u>700</u>

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Trustees' expenses

Safeguarding training costs of £88 (2024: £nil) were paid on behalf of 1 (2024: nil) trustee(s) in the year.

7. STAFF COSTS

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

	2025	2024
Administration & support	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

8. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	62,929	30,252	93,181
Other trading activities	3,023	-	3,023
Total	<u>65,952</u>	<u>30,252</u>	<u>96,204</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activities	56,235	25,663	81,898
NET INCOME	9,717	4,589	14,306
Transfers between funds	(23)	23	-
Net movement in funds	<u>9,694</u>	<u>4,612</u>	<u>14,306</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	64,318	-	64,318
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>74,012</u>	<u>4,612</u>	<u>78,624</u>

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025	863	7,308	8,171
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2024	863	2,838	3,701
Charge for year	-	1,706	1,706
At 31 March 2025	863	4,544	5,407
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2025	-	2,764	2,764
At 31 March 2024	-	4,470	4,470

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	2,050	300
Prepayments	180	-
	<u>2,230</u>	<u>300</u>

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	312	423
Social security and other taxes	1,316	1,272
Other creditors	518	-
Accrued expenses	3,315	2,970
Deferred Grant	12,735	-
	<u>18,196</u>	<u>4,665</u>

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.24 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.25 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	23,012	13,848	(26,945)	9,915
Designated Strategic Fund	45,000	-	10,000	55,000
Get on Board	-	(12,945)	12,945	-
Critical cost fund	6,000	-	4,000	10,000
	<u>74,012</u>	<u>903</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>74,915</u>
Restricted funds				
Pen Y Cymoedd	4,612	19,915	-	24,527
	<u>78,624</u>	<u>20,818</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>99,442</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	67,719	(53,871)	13,848
Get on Board	-	(12,945)	(12,945)
	<u>67,719</u>	<u>(66,816)</u>	<u>903</u>
Restricted funds			
Pen Y Cymoedd	49,942	(30,027)	19,915
	<u>117,661</u>	<u>(96,843)</u>	<u>20,818</u>

NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	13,318	24,479	(14,785)	23,012
Designated Strategic Fund	45,000	-	-	45,000
Get on Board	-	(14,762)	14,762	-
Critical cost fund	6,000	-	-	6,000
	<u>64,318</u>	<u>9,717</u>	<u>(23)</u>	<u>74,012</u>
Restricted funds				
Changemakers fund	-	(23)	23	-
Pen Y Cymoedd	-	4,612	-	4,612
	<u>-</u>	<u>4,589</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>4,612</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>64,318</u>	<u>14,306</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>78,624</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	65,952	(41,473)	24,479
Get on Board	-	(14,762)	(14,762)
	<u>65,952</u>	<u>(56,235)</u>	<u>9,717</u>
Restricted funds			
Changemakers fund	800	(823)	(23)
Pen Y Cymoedd	29,452	(24,840)	4,612
	<u>30,252</u>	<u>(25,663)</u>	<u>4,589</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>96,204</u>	<u>(81,898)</u>	<u>14,306</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.25 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	13,318	38,327	(41,730)	9,915
Designated Strategic Fund	45,000	-	10,000	55,000
Get on Board	-	(27,707)	27,707	-
Critical cost fund	6,000	-	4,000	10,000
	<u>64,318</u>	<u>10,620</u>	<u>(23)</u>	<u>74,915</u>
Restricted funds				
Changemakers fund	-	(23)	23	-
Pen Y Cymoedd	-	24,527	-	24,527
	<u>-</u>	<u>24,504</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>24,527</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>64,318</u>	<u>35,124</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>99,442</u>

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	133,671	(95,344)	38,327
Get on Board	-	(27,707)	(27,707)
	<u>133,671</u>	<u>(123,051)</u>	<u>10,620</u>
Restricted funds			
Changemakers fund	800	(823)	(23)
Pen Y Cymoedd	79,394	(54,867)	24,527
	<u>80,194</u>	<u>(55,690)</u>	<u>24,504</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>213,865</u>	<u>(178,741)</u>	<u>35,124</u>

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Funds

Unrestricted funds

Swansea Bay University Health Board

The Children's Rights Unit works in partnership with SBUHB to deliver Children's Rights projects and embed Children's Rights practice including: recruiting, supporting and developing a Youth Board; developing and delivering Children's Rights training for SBUHB staff; launch and implementation of the Children's Rights Charter.

NPTCBC

Children's Rights Unit support of NPT Children's Services including; training, youth engagement (in a variety of areas), advice and guidance, and the development of a children's rights based approach.

Designated Strategic Fund

The charity has designated some of its unrestricted general reserves to a designated fund for future running costs. This will cover twelve months running costs to meet its medium term objectives.

Critical Cost Fund

The charity has designated some of its unrestricted general reserves to a designated fund for critical costs. This will cover redundancy payments to employees and other termination costs should the funding of the charity reduce in the future.

Get On Board

We realise there is a need for young people to be trained in good governance, decision-making and general board member duties. Although not currently funded, our Get on Board project is devoted to developing and delivering training for young people and organisations - both face to face and online we have been able to continue delivering the project by way of our dedicated 'Training and Support Officer'. Our project secured a number of contracts for delivery of services and has continued to work in partnership with organisations to provide training opportunities for young people to exercise their right to have a voice, be listened to, and become active citizens in their communities.

Restricted Funds

The Changemakers

We were successful in being awarded a grant to support YoVo (care experienced group) to enjoy various activities to improve their health and wellbeing. Members of YoVo made a list of the activities they wanted to take part in throughout 2023. This included boxing classes with Bulldogs Boxing, Jungle Escape at Plantasia and Art Therapy. The sessions empowered and challenged the young people to take part in something new to improve their fitness, build their confidence and improve their health and wellbeing.

Pen Y Cymoedd

The KnowURights project has been funded for 3 years by Pen Y Cymoedd Community Vision Fund for delivery in the Upper Afan Valley. The KnowURights' project aims to empower children and young people to understand and realize their rights, have their voices heard, and actively participate in their communities. Through this initiative, children and young people are gaining knowledge about their rights and are being empowered to have their voices heard. Adults are learning about children's rights and supporting children and young people in accessing these rights by fostering an environment where children and young people can express themselves and participate actively.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Funds - continued

Community Foundation Wales

The funding will pay towards a part-time member of CRU staff to develop and deliver a programme of workshops for secondary schools across Neath Port Talbot. The member of staff will deliver awareness raising and training opportunities to pupils at secondary schools across Neath Port Talbot who are in Years 7 to 9, aged 11 to 14. The workshops/training will focus on:

- o Understanding of rights (in particular Article 12 of the UNCRC - the right to be heard)
- o Building confidence and skills e.g. teamwork; communication; public speaking etc.
- o Meaningful participation - that participation is not an event; it is a process of listening to young people and encouraging them to contribute their thoughts
- o Pupil voice - concerning specific school issues where learners are invited to engage with school staff and decision-makers
- o How to influence decision making
- o Active citizenship

13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2025.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

	2025 £	2024 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Grants	115,611	93,181
Other trading activities		
Training	2,050	3,023
Total incoming resources	117,661	96,204
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	70,531	59,021
Pensions	3,484	2,752
Telephone	673	10
Postage and stationery	2,894	2,079
Accreditation costs	83	399
Travelling	1,621	2,209
Staff Training	328	307
Project Activities	1,297	1,739
Subscriptions	70	45
Insurance	670	635
Marketing & Publicity	113	327
Room Hire	342	235
Recruitment	-	715
Computer Expenses	2,117	1,631
Depreciation	1,706	700
Events	3,274	1,960
	89,203	74,764
Support costs		
Support costs		
Accountancy fees	3,890	3,142
Legal fees	151	393
Support from NPTCVS	3,599	3,599
	7,640	7,134
Total resources expended	96,843	81,898
Net income	20,818	14,306

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025
FOR
NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

Bevan Buckland LLP
Ground Floor Cardigan House
Castle Court
Swansea Enterprise Park
Swansea
SA7 9LA

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

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**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. 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 2019).

Our Vision

Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit (CRU) is a charity that was established to promote and protect the rights of children and young people in Neath Port Talbot and the surrounding areas. The unit aims to make the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), a reality for children, young people and their families.

The CRU was first established in 2003 and is governed by a Board of Trustees who are responsible for overseeing the work of the charity and its long-term direction.

It provides opportunities for children and young people up to the age of 25 to develop the confidence and skills to understand and exercise their rights, thus becoming active citizens in their communities, and aims to advance the education of duty bearers to understand their role in enabling children and young people to access their rights.

Our Values

Board Members and staff believe in:

- A 'Children's Rights Approach' in everything we do
- Equal opportunities for all
- Becoming the best that you can be
- Partnership and holistic working
- Empowering and transforming attitudes

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Our Annual Report for this year showcases our organisation's support for children and young people's rights, highlighting key achievements, partnerships and the impact of collaboration.

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNCIL

Neath Port Talbot Council Children's Services are dedicated to upholding and promoting the rights of children and young people. We have supported them to develop Children's Rights Promises and we have built a close collaborative culture through sharing knowledge, resources and skills to support the local authority to realise its strategic commitment to embedding children's rights into practice.

YOVO - YOUR VOICE MATTERS

Care experienced group YoVo have enjoyed a fun-filled year of wellbeing activities and experiences that supported their growth and development, giving them opportunities to feel empowered to speak up, get involved, and lead positive change.

As Community Ambassadors members of YoVo gave their views on 'Monthly Matter' issues and topics.

Members met the Welsh Youth Parliament Engagement Officer and gained a deeper understanding of democracy by exploring how their voices can shape decisions. YoVo members made their voices heard on key issues by engaging with the Police and Crime Commissioners office to influence decisions that impact their lives.

Young people were given the opportunity to be at the heart of the fostering process by posing questions to be asked at foster carer panels.

Care-experienced young people took part in a series of creative and empowering workshops delivered by Voices from Care Cymru at their special celebration event. These sessions gave young people the space to connect, share their experiences, and express their voices on the issues that matter most to them.

HOPE - CHAMPIONING GIRL'S RIGHTS

Girls' Rights group 'Hope' is a safe and supportive space for care-experienced girls to connect socially, enjoy themselves, the group gives them a platform to be heard and influence change on issues close to their hearts.

Hope awarded winners of the Children, Young People and Families category for their Safer Spaces sexual harassment project.

Hope members became 'Yoga Junkies' and challenged themselves with yoga positions and aerial yoga as well as exploring meditation and sharing positive affirmations with each other.

The Fostering Network event provided a platform for young people to express their views and actively contribute to shaping fostering services throughout Wales.

As part of a creative project with Rewise, young people wrote and produced a song inspired by their community, crafting meaningful lyrics based on their positive experiences and experimenting with different instruments to bring their music to life.

Universal Children's Day was marked with a creative arts and crafts sessions where young people explored children's rights and expressed positive messages through their artwork.

Members collaborated with the Children's Commissioner for Wales office and shared their experiences of being care experienced alongside young people from all over Europe in Slovakia. The young people involved brought their voices back to Wales and supported an interactive exhibition at the Senedd. Sponsored by Sioned Williams MS the 'Lwc' exhibition shared the personal stories of care experienced children and young people through a physical and audio exhibition. The exhibition also travelled to Neath Port Talbot and enabled staff to take a walk in their shoes and learn what care experienced children and young people have to say.

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING ACTIVITIES

Throughout the year children and young people took part in a wide range of fun and engaging activities and events, where they had the opportunity to make new friends, learn valuable skills, and create lasting memories.

- A six-week programme connecting to nature with Coed Lleol
- Nurturing Alpaca's @Alpacamyboots
- Children learning how to take care of therapy dogs

CHILDREN'S SERVICES STAFF CONFERENCE

Members of Hope took to the stage and shared their experiences with professionals.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

BIG CHAT

14+ young people gave their views on transitioning between services at the Independent Reviewing Officer Big Chat event.

CALM MINDS

YoVo and Hope joined up on their Calm Minds project - a wellbeing bag of information for care experienced children.

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS CHAMPIONS

Children's Services now have over 15 Champions actively advocating for and embedding children's rights within their roles.

PUPIL WORK EXPERIENCE

More than 30 young people learned about their rights through Children's Services work experience programmes.

By integrating children's rights into work experience programs, we are able to empower young people to understand their rights and the rights of all children.

CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL

Members of the Corporate Parenting Panel are dedicated to listening to the voices of children and young people, ensuring their rights are not only heard but upheld in practice.

JUNIOR SAFEGUARDING BOARD (JSB)

This year the JSB focussed on the development of a sexual harassment campaign to raise awareness of sexual harassment in schools.

SWANSEA BAY UNIVERSITY HEALTH BOARD

Our partnership with Swansea Bay University Health Board continues to strengthen, driven by effective collaboration and a shared commitment to listening to the voices of children and young people. Together, we are working to enhance paediatric health services. The Health Board remains dedicated to engaging professionals and empowering them to embed children's rights at the heart of their practice.

BAYOUTH - YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD

Swansea Bay was the first health board in Wales to establish a youth advisory board.

BAYouth:

- Are youth led (with the support of CRU and SBUHB staff)
- Are dedicated to improving health services for children and young people
- Represent the voices of children and young people across SBUHB area
- Influence the decision-making process

We continue to support members by organising meeting agendas, collating papers, preparing minutes and action points, coordinating speakers, and providing in-meeting support to ensure members' voices are heard and valued.

BAYouth's priorities are:

- Mental health and well being
- Public Health
- Adolescent Services & Transition

Members Ilhan and Isabel spoke at the health board's Children's Summit, they shared BAYouth's priorities and challenged participants to consider their responsibilities in ensuring children's rights are acknowledged and implemented.

BAYouth members were offered numerous opportunities to contribute their voices to a range of issues and projects related to children's and young people's health services.

Members shared their thoughts on accident prevention and how to raise awareness to young people.

Hospital Passports provide information for children and young people on their hospital journey. Members appreciated being involved in their development.

BAYouth created a School Nurse drop-in poster for the School Nursing Service. The poster has been distributed across Swansea Bay secondary schools.

New eye-catching Children's Menus designed by members of BAYouth were launched and showcase the many menu options available to children on paediatric wards.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

As Community Ambassadors for the Children's Commissioner for Wales, members were given the opportunity to have their voices heard on mental health and wellbeing.

15 STEPS CHALLENGE

It's been a busy year with many 15 steps completed by BAYouth members who volunteered to explore clinical environments and share their observations and feedback from a young person's perspective.

TRAINING

Members were given the opportunity to learn about children's rights and attend an accredited training course.

TOPS & PANTS

Tops & Pants is a child-friendly feedback mechanism to accurately capture children's perspectives on their healthcare experiences.

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS TRAINING

New starters

Over 40 new starters attended 'Children's Rights in Practice' training as part of their induction programme.

A CHILDREN'S RIGHTS APPROACH

Workshops throughout the year empowered staff to commit to ideas and generate actions to take forward in their roles across the health board.

CAMHS CHAMPIONS

Staff from the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service were supported to put their ideas into action in 2024.

KNOWURIGHTS PROJECT

The KnowURights project is dedicated to making children's rights real in everyday life by creating meaningful opportunities for young people to:

- Learn about their rights
- Express their views
- Develop their talents
- Connect with others
- Become active participants in their communities

At the heart of this project is the belief that every child and young person has the right to be heard, valued, and supported to reach their full potential.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

We've helped create safe, inclusive spaces where young people can understand, explore and express their rights. Each project was designed to highlight a specific article, ensuring children not only learn about their rights but also experience them in action.

GWYNFI MINERS CLUB HUB

Our young champs explored Article 15 and shared their ideas for the young person's summer program in the Upper Afan Valley.

Young people crafted fidget toys to celebrate Mental Health Awareness Week.

Celebrating Pride Month in style! Staff and young people had fun creating tie dye socks, proudly wearing pronoun badges and crafting beautiful friendship bracelets.

Carnival games sparked important discussions around voting.

Designing sustainable poppies - young people learnt about our past and remembered those who came before us.

Repurposing old clothes into stylish accessories, showing creativity & care for our planet. We also discussed how everyone's style is unique, just like them!

The launch of the Youth Board at Gwynfi Miners established a platform for youth leadership and collective action gives young people a formal voice in local decision-making and an opportunity to build their confidence, develop skills, and make positive changes in their communities.

GLYNCORRWG YOUTH FORUM - MONTHLY SESSIONS

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
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**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

Young people met monthly in Corrwg Hub to share their views on things that matter to them, including their local environment and community. From creative sessions like nail art to environmental projects like seed bombing and the Big Garden Birdwatch, these gatherings empowered young people to influence decisions affecting their community and learn about protecting the environment

We had a blast at the Glynccorwg Youth Forum's nails and natter session!

Designing nail art while brainstorming ideas for summer activities in their community was pure fun!

Young champions made seed bombs and nurtured seeds in bags! Empowering our future generation to be stewards of our planet.

The Young Persons Forum organised a 'litter pick & play' and put children's rights into action by looking after their environment.

Young people got creative and made tie-dye bags to celebrate how we are all different and unique!

The youth forum celebrated World Gratitude Day by creating cards to thank the trustees and committee members for all their hard work.

The young people at Corrwg Hub finished the year with a Christmas party. Celebrating their right to relax and play.

Using recycled materials, the Youth Forum built amazing creations and learnt about sustainability and the importance of reducing waste.

Tick Tock Baking! Mixing to decorating, the youth club whipped up some delicious creations while building skills and friendships.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY EVENTS AND DEDICATED SPACES

The KnowURights project made it a priority to bring free, inclusive events directly into communities in the Upper Afan Valley, ensuring every child and young person had the opportunity to enjoy their right to play, connect with others, and be part of something positive.

We asked young people what they wanted to see throughout the year and created a programme of events shaped by their ideas. These events not only supported their right to relax and play but also promoted the right to meet friends and join groups, by creating accessible spaces to build friendships and reduce isolation.

By helping to remove barriers and prioritising local delivery, children and young people also enjoyed their right to participation and being heard within their own communities.

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS ADVENTURE ACTIVITY BOOK FOR YOUNG ADVOCATES

Our 'Children's Rights Adventure Activity Book for Young Advocates' workbooks were given out at local school fairs empowering young minds to understand and advocate for their rights.

LAUNCH OF THE YOUNG PERSONS NEWSLETTER

We proudly launched the Young Persons Newsletter in the Upper Afan Valley, it created opportunities for children and young people to:

- Share their voices: contributing stories, ideas, and opinions on issues that matter to them
- Access information: learning about local events, workshops, and activities where they can meet friends and join groups
- Celebrate achievements: highlighting positive stories from across the Upper Afan Valley, showcasing how young people are making a difference in their communities

AFAN VALLEY ROCK

Young people accessed free guitar lessons, celebrating World Music Day and expressing themselves through music.

AFAN HOME EDUCATORS

Home educated children enjoyed a range of creative and educational workshops which provided opportunities to learn life skills, connect with peers, and explore their talents.

Mini medics learnt essential first-aid skills in a fun, interactive way!

Young people took care of animals, met friends, and explored their interests.

The children enjoyed a wonderful celebration of festive Christmas baking.

The Afan Home Educators gathered at Cymmer Library for a fun session of Minecraft Art!

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN'S RIGHTS WORKSHOPS

We travelled to the federation of primary schools across the Upper Afan Valley to help children learn about their rights. We used games, crafts, and interactive storytelling to bring rights to life. Pupils developed a strong understanding of how they can enjoy and protect their rights and the rights of others.

Cymer Afan pupils explored different emotions and activities to be more mindful, alongside ways to keep our body and mind healthy.

Pupils from Cymer Afan Primary School became official Kindness Ambassadors during Anti Bullying week. They made a plan to take action and spread kindness and positivity.

Exploring article 29 pupils from Croeserw Primary used their map reading skills and explored their talents together.

Celebrating children's right to play highlighted that play is a fundamental right that supports learning, wellbeing, and healthy development.

Primary schools across the Upper Afan Valley celebrated what makes each child unique with our Your Name, Your Identity sessions where children designed their personal shields.

COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL WORKSHOPS – CURIOSITY QUEST: ENGAGE, EXPLORE, LEAD!

Our innovative 'Curiosity Quest' programme empowered secondary school pupils to engage in critical discussions about mental health, inclusion and healthy relationships. Activities included Lego challenges, debates, and creative projects that built leadership skills and promoted empathy and resilience.

Ysgol Cwm Brombil Senior School Senedd had deep conversations about 'Privilege' and how we can build empathy and raise awareness around inequality.

The Junior School Senedd shared their views on screen time, the session raised awareness of the impact that excessive screen time can have on stress levels, and pupils discussed ways to promote healthy digital habits to manage stress effectively.

The Junior and Senior Senedd explored Human Rights Day and Children's Rights, they talked about the importance of having a voice in their communities and the world, and the incredible changes that can happen when those voices are heard. Pupils embraced the concept of being 'Torchbearers of Change', lighting the way for generations to come.

The School Senedd explored navigating Healthy Relationships, working together to discuss respect, communication, and building positive connections.

Pupils had a great time playing digital Guess Who, they gained the skills to take control of their digital experiences while understanding their rights & responsibilities.

GET ON BOARD CYMRU - 'PREPARING TO BE A BOARD MEMBER' TRAINING

The Get on Board Cymru project delivered training to young people, empowering them to speak up, be heard, and become active citizens in their communities.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE AND OFFICER TRAINING FOR NPTC GROUP OF COLLEGES

Over 150 students attended our bespoke Student Representative training.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

As we reflect on the progress made over the past year, it is clear that the fight for children's rights is not over. While we have seen meaningful advancements, including increased awareness and education, improved services and greater participation, we are aware that significant challenges and inequalities still persist. Every child has the right to safety, health, education, and a voice in shaping their own future and we'd like to note sincere thanks to all the children and young people who have been part of this journey, your input reminds us of the importance of listening and taking action. Your voices continue to guide our mission and shape our purpose.

As we look ahead, we know that our work is far from over and we remain steadfast in our commitment to advocating for and upholding the rights of every child in our communities. With continued collaboration with our funders, partners, communities and children and young people themselves, we are dedicated to renewing our efforts in the coming year to ensure that we build a future where every child thrives.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The total income of £117,661 (2024: £96,204) was spent on direct charitable expenditure totalling £96,843 (2024: £81,898) resulting in a net surplus of £20,818 (2024: £14,306).

The Statement of Financial Activities reflects the income and expenditure incurred by Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit in carrying out its role in respect of its objectives. The unrestricted funds at 31 March 2025 were £74,915 (2024: £74,012).

Reserves policy

The board has examined the charity's requirements for reserves in respect of the main risks to the organisation and aims to build up reserves in future years to enable it to continue and expand the services they currently provide. The charity's policy is to maintain a designated reserve for future running costs and critical costs. This will cover twelve months running costs to meet its medium term objectives, and it will cover redundancy payments to employees and other termination costs should the funding of the charity reduce in the future.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

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

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 31/7/2003 and registered as a charity on 21/06/2013. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the company's Articles are known as Trustees. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the members of the Management Committee are elected to serve for a period of three years after which they must be re-elected at the next Annual General Meeting.

All members of the Management Committee give their time voluntarily and received no benefits from the charity.

Mari Shufflebotham and Phil Treseder retire by rotation and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Trustees are appointed through election from the Membership of the Charity and through co-option of individuals with specific skills and experience useful to the Charity. The Children's Rights Unit seeks to maintain a diverse trustee body comprising the skills, knowledge and experience necessary to ensure that the Charity is managed professionally, that its objects are pursued rigorously and that public benefit is maintained in all its activities. To this end, the Children's Rights Unit seeks suitable candidates widely with skills, knowledge and experience to complement the trustee team.

Induction and training of new trustees

All trustees receive induction into the work of the Children's Rights Unit. Regular training is provided for trustees and has included training in governance, roles and responsibilities of trustees and child protection.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number
04906893 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number
1152471

Registered office
Ty Margaret Thorne
17 - 19 Alfred Street
Neath
West Glamorgan
SA11 1EF

NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Trustees

P Treseder
M A Shufflebotham
S A Jones MBE DL
P H Dunmore
S B Watson
M Dacey

Staff

Jannine Smith	Director/Company Secretary
Victoria Owen	Training and Support Officer
Clare Pritchard	Children's Rights Project Development Officer

Company Secretary

J Smith

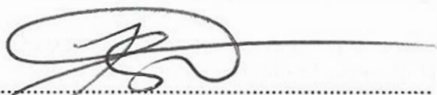
Independent Examiner

Alison Vickers ACA
Bevan Buckland LLP
Ground Floor Cardigan House
Castle Court
Swansea Enterprise Park
Swansea
SA7 9LA

Bankers

The Co - operative Bank
P.O. Box 250
Delf House
Southway
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 13/11/25 and signed on its behalf by:


.....
J Smith - Secretary

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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 accounts to be reached.



Alison Vickers ACA

Bevan Buckland LLP
Ground Floor Cardigan House
Castle Court
Swansea Enterprise Park
Swansea
SA7 9LA

Date: 13 November 2025

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	3	65,669	49,942	115,611	93,181
Other trading activities	4	2,050	-	2,050	3,023
Total		<u>67,719</u>	<u>49,942</u>	<u>117,661</u>	<u>96,204</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Charitable Activities		<u>66,816</u>	<u>30,027</u>	<u>96,843</u>	<u>81,898</u>
NET INCOME		903	19,915	20,818	14,306
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>74,012</u>	<u>4,612</u>	<u>78,624</u>	<u>64,318</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>74,915</u></u>	<u><u>24,527</u></u>	<u><u>99,442</u></u>	<u><u>78,624</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**BALANCE SHEET
31 MARCH 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	9	1,867	897	2,764	4,470
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	2,050	180	2,230	300
Cash at bank and in hand		76,295	36,349	112,644	78,519
		<u>78,345</u>	<u>36,529</u>	<u>114,874</u>	<u>78,819</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(5,297)	(12,899)	(18,196)	(4,665)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>73,048</u>	<u>23,630</u>	<u>96,678</u>	<u>74,154</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>74,915</u>	<u>24,527</u>	<u>99,442</u>	<u>78,624</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>74,915</u>	<u>24,527</u>	<u>99,442</u>	<u>78,624</u>
FUNDS	12				
Unrestricted funds				74,915	74,012
Restricted funds				<u>24,527</u>	<u>4,612</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>99,442</u>	<u>78,624</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 13/11/25 and were signed on its behalf by:

Susan A. Jones
S A Jones MBE DL - Trustee

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

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

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The charity continues to maintain a strong financial position with sufficient cash balances and unrestricted reserves to meet its ongoing obligations. The trustees have designated funds for specific future expenditure, ensuring that resources are appropriately allocated to support the charity's objectives.

Bi-monthly management accounts are prepared and reviewed against budgeted figures and scrutinised by the Board of Trustees. An annual budget and financial forecast are also prepared and approved by the Board, incorporating key assumptions about income streams, expenditure, and designated commitments.

The trustees have reviewed the charity's financial forecasts for a period of at least 12 months from the date of approval of these financial statements. These forecasts take into account the current financial position, expected income, and planned expenditure, including any known risks and uncertainties. Based on this review, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

Income

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

Training income is recognised in the period in which it relates.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, 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 accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

All costs allocated between expenditure categories are on a basis designed to reflect their resource usage. For some costs this means direct allocation to activities, other costs are apportioned, e.g. by staff time spent on the activity, or another equitable usage measure.

The Charity initially identifies the costs of its support functions. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the charities programmes and activities.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 20% on cost
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

Assets costing less than £5,000 are not capitalised and shown as an expense in the statement of financial activities.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

Grants

Grants relating to specific capital expenditure are treated as deferred income which is credited to the profit and loss account over the related asset's life.

Revenue grants are credited to the profit and loss account in the same period as the expenditure to which they relate.

Debtors

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any discount due.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments held within a deposit or similar account.

Creditors and provisions

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

Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

Costs have been allocated as far as possible between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities on a basis designed to reflect the usage of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly. Others have been apportioned based on the estimated usage of the resource.

Financial Instruments

Under FRS 102 financial instruments are classified as either basic or complex, the charity has reviewed its financial instruments and is satisfied that all financial instruments can be classified as basic and are recognised at amortised historical cost.

2. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgments, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgments about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results in the future may differ from these estimates. 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 and in any future periods affected.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

3. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Grants	<u>115,611</u>	<u>93,181</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
SBUHB	32,374	31,129
NPTCBC	33,295	31,800
Pen Y Cymoedd	49,942	29,452
Other grants	-	800
	<u>115,611</u>	<u>93,181</u>

4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Training	<u>2,050</u>	<u>3,023</u>

5. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2025	2024
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>1,706</u>	<u>700</u>

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Trustees' expenses

Safeguarding training costs of £88 (2024: £nil) were paid on behalf of 1 (2024: nil) trustee(s) in the year.

7. STAFF COSTS

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

	2025	2024
	3	3
Administration & support	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

8. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	62,929	30,252	93,181
Other trading activities	3,023	-	3,023
Total	<u>65,952</u>	<u>30,252</u>	<u>96,204</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activities	56,235	25,663	81,898
NET INCOME	9,717	4,589	14,306
Transfers between funds	(23)	23	-
Net movement in funds	<u>9,694</u>	<u>4,612</u>	<u>14,306</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	64,318	-	64,318
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>74,012</u>	<u>4,612</u>	<u>78,624</u>

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025	863	7,308	8,171
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2024	863	2,838	3,701
Charge for year	-	1,706	1,706
At 31 March 2025	863	4,544	5,407
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2025	-	2,764	2,764
At 31 March 2024	-	4,470	4,470

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	2,050	300
Prepayments	180	-
	<u>2,230</u>	<u>300</u>

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	312	423
Social security and other taxes	1,316	1,272
Other creditors	518	-
Accrued expenses	3,315	2,970
Deferred Grant	12,735	-
	<u>18,196</u>	<u>4,665</u>

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.24 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.25 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	23,012	13,848	(26,945)	9,915
Designated Strategic Fund	45,000	-	10,000	55,000
Get on Board	-	(12,945)	12,945	-
Critical cost fund	6,000	-	4,000	10,000
	<u>74,012</u>	<u>903</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>74,915</u>
Restricted funds				
Pen Y Cymoedd	4,612	19,915	-	24,527
	<u>78,624</u>	<u>20,818</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>99,442</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	67,719	(53,871)	13,848
Get on Board	-	(12,945)	(12,945)
	<u>67,719</u>	<u>(66,816)</u>	<u>903</u>
Restricted funds			
Pen Y Cymoedd	49,942	(30,027)	19,915
	<u>117,661</u>	<u>(96,843)</u>	<u>20,818</u>

NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	13,318	24,479	(14,785)	23,012
Designated Strategic Fund	45,000	-	-	45,000
Get on Board	-	(14,762)	14,762	-
Critical cost fund	6,000	-	-	6,000
	<u>64,318</u>	<u>9,717</u>	<u>(23)</u>	<u>74,012</u>
Restricted funds				
Changemakers fund	-	(23)	23	-
Pen Y Cymoedd	-	4,612	-	4,612
	<u>-</u>	<u>4,589</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>4,612</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>64,318</u>	<u>14,306</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>78,624</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	65,952	(41,473)	24,479
Get on Board	-	(14,762)	(14,762)
	<u>65,952</u>	<u>(56,235)</u>	<u>9,717</u>
Restricted funds			
Changemakers fund	800	(823)	(23)
Pen Y Cymoedd	29,452	(24,840)	4,612
	<u>30,252</u>	<u>(25,663)</u>	<u>4,589</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>96,204</u>	<u>(81,898)</u>	<u>14,306</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.25 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	13,318	38,327	(41,730)	9,915
Designated Strategic Fund	45,000	-	10,000	55,000
Get on Board	-	(27,707)	27,707	-
Critical cost fund	6,000	-	4,000	10,000
	<u>64,318</u>	<u>10,620</u>	<u>(23)</u>	<u>74,915</u>
Restricted funds				
Changemakers fund	-	(23)	23	-
Pen Y Cymoedd	-	24,527	-	24,527
	<u>-</u>	<u>24,504</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>24,527</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>64,318</u>	<u>35,124</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>99,442</u>

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	133,671	(95,344)	38,327
Get on Board	-	(27,707)	(27,707)
	<u>133,671</u>	<u>(123,051)</u>	<u>10,620</u>
Restricted funds			
Changemakers fund	800	(823)	(23)
Pen Y Cymoedd	79,394	(54,867)	24,527
	<u>80,194</u>	<u>(55,690)</u>	<u>24,504</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>213,865</u>	<u>(178,741)</u>	<u>35,124</u>

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Funds

Unrestricted funds

Swansea Bay University Health Board

The Children's Rights Unit works in partnership with SBUHB to deliver Children's Rights projects and embed Children's Rights practice including: recruiting, supporting and developing a Youth Board; developing and delivering Children's Rights training for SBUHB staff; launch and implementation of the Children's Rights Charter.

NPTCBC

Children's Rights Unit support of NPT Children's Services including; training, youth engagement (in a variety of areas), advice and guidance, and the development of a children's rights based approach.

Designated Strategic Fund

The charity has designated some of its unrestricted general reserves to a designated fund for future running costs. This will cover twelve months running costs to meet its medium term objectives.

Critical Cost Fund

The charity has designated some of its unrestricted general reserves to a designated fund for critical costs. This will cover redundancy payments to employees and other termination costs should the funding of the charity reduce in the future.

Get On Board

We realise there is a need for young people to be trained in good governance, decision-making and general board member duties. Although not currently funded, our Get on Board project is devoted to developing and delivering training for young people and organisations - both face to face and online we have been able to continue delivering the project by way of our dedicated 'Training and Support Officer'. Our project secured a number of contracts for delivery of services and has continued to work in partnership with organisations to provide training opportunities for young people to exercise their right to have a voice, be listened to, and become active citizens in their communities.

Restricted Funds

The Changemakers

We were successful in being awarded a grant to support YoVo (care experienced group) to enjoy various activities to improve their health and wellbeing. Members of YoVo made a list of the activities they wanted to take part in throughout 2023. This included boxing classes with Bulldogs Boxing, Jungle Escape at Plantasia and Art Therapy. The sessions empowered and challenged the young people to take part in something new to improve their fitness, build their confidence and improve their health and wellbeing.

Pen Y Cymoedd

The KnowURights project has been funded for 3 years by Pen Y Cymoedd Community Vision Fund for delivery in the Upper Afan Valley. The KnowURights' project aims to empower children and young people to understand and realize their rights, have their voices heard, and actively participate in their communities. Through this initiative, children and young people are gaining knowledge about their rights and are being empowered to have their voices heard. Adults are learning about children's rights and supporting children and young people in accessing these rights by fostering an environment where children and young people can express themselves and participate actively.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Funds - continued

Community Foundation Wales

The funding will pay towards a part-time member of CRU staff to develop and deliver a programme of workshops for secondary schools across Neath Port Talbot. The member of staff will deliver awareness raising and training opportunities to pupils at secondary schools across Neath Port Talbot who are in Years 7 to 9, aged 11 to 14. The workshops/training will focus on:

- o Understanding of rights (in particular Article 12 of the UNCRC - the right to be heard)
- o Building confidence and skills e.g. teamwork; communication; public speaking etc.
- o Meaningful participation - that participation is not an event; it is a process of listening to young people and encouraging them to contribute their thoughts
- o Pupil voice - concerning specific school issues where learners are invited to engage with school staff and decision-makers
- o How to influence decision making
- o Active citizenship

13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2025.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

	2025 £	2024 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Grants	115,611	93,181
Other trading activities		
Training	2,050	3,023
Total incoming resources	117,661	96,204
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	70,531	59,021
Pensions	3,484	2,752
Telephone	673	10
Postage and stationery	2,894	2,079
Accreditation costs	83	399
Travelling	1,621	2,209
Staff Training	328	307
Project Activities	1,297	1,739
Subscriptions	70	45
Insurance	670	635
Marketing & Publicity	113	327
Room Hire	342	235
Recruitment	-	715
Computer Expenses	2,117	1,631
Depreciation	1,706	700
Events	3,274	1,960
	89,203	74,764
Support costs		
Support costs		
Accountancy fees	3,890	3,142
Legal fees	151	393
Support from NPTCVS	3,599	3,599
	7,640	7,134
Total resources expended	96,843	81,898
Net income	20,818	14,306

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04906893 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1152471

**UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 MARCH 2024**

FOR

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

Bevan Buckland LLP
Ground Floor Cardigan House
Castle Court
Swansea Enterprise Park
Swansea
SA7 9LA

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

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**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. 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 2019).

Our Vision

Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit (CRU) is a charity that was established to promote and protect the rights of children and young people in Neath Port Talbot and the surrounding areas. The unit aims to make the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), a reality for children, young people and their families.

The CRU was first established in 2003 and is governed by a Board of Trustees that are responsible for overseeing the work of the charity and its long-term direction.

It provides opportunities for children and young people up to the age of 25 to develop the confidence and skills to understand and exercise their rights, thus becoming active citizens in their communities, and aims to advance the education of duty bearers to understand their role in enabling children and young people to access their rights.

Our Values

Board Members and staff believe in:

- A 'Children's Rights Approach' in everything we do
- Equal opportunities for all
- Becoming the best that you can be
- Partnership and holistic working
- Empowering and transforming attitudes

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Our impact in 2023-24

Our Annual Report for this year showcases our organisation's support for children and young people's rights, highlighting key achievements, partnerships and the impact of collaboration.

Neath Port Talbot Council

Neath Port Talbot Council Children's Services are dedicated to upholding and promoting the rights of children and young people. Through a service level agreement with us, we have been able to foster a collaborative culture with colleagues to share knowledge, resources and skills to support the local authority to realise its strategic commitment to embedding children's rights into practice.

VOVO - Your Voice Matters

It's been a great year for care experienced group YoVo, who have been meeting regularly and enjoying socialising, playing games, taking part in activities, and making food in a safe, social setting. We have supported the Engagement & Participation Officer a range of events and projects, these are highlighted below.

BEACHES2BEACONS

Beaches2Beacons is a collaboration between NPT Children's Services and the Bannau Brycheiniog National Park, the project encouraged children and young people to appreciate the outdoors and their local environment with the aim to improve wellbeing.

This year's B2B included a visit to the Bannau Brycheiniog National Park visitor centre near Libanus. We accompanied colleagues in Children's Services and a group of around 12 young people on a fine spring day. Members of YoVo spent the day building a natural fence, making insect hotels, den building and decorating wildlife mats.

The summer holidays also included a few meets, the first was a visit to Craig-Y-Nos Country Park where the young people learnt about rivers and wildlife, they also enjoyed pond dipping. As well the educational element to the day, members of YoVo took part in a water game and took some time out to relax and enjoy the beautiful surroundings.

The second event was a walk up to Pen-Y-Fan. It was a wet and foggy August day, but members of YoVo faced the challenge with positivity and enthusiasm and made it to the summit. Wet and tired they worked as a team and sheltered under a pop-up weather shield and enjoyed lunch protected from the elements. We are grateful to be able to get involved in this initiative and support the young people to enjoy the outdoors, learn about the environment and improve their health and wellbeing.

COMMUNITY CHANGEMAKERS GRANT

We were successful in being awarded a grant to support YoVo to enjoy various activities to improve their health and wellbeing. Members of YoVo made a list of the activities they wanted to take part in throughout 2023. This included boxing classes with Bulldogs Boxing, the sessions challenged the young people to take part in something new to improve their fitness and build their confidence.

Members of YoVo also took part in a 'Jungle Escape' at Swansea's Plantasia Tropical Zoo. As well as putting their problem solving and team work skills to the test, the children were joined by a spoken word artist who involved them in a creative workshop to consider the renaming of the Looked After Children's team.

The remainder of the community changemakers grant was used to fund art therapy workshops with a local artist. Members of YoVo enjoyed a few sessions learning creative techniques whilst relaxing and listening to music. They created mini masterpieces, including acrylic canvasses and Christmas cards.

ACTION FOR CHILDREN - SKILLS PLUS+ WORKSHOP

Skills Plus+ is a psychosocial-skills building intervention for young people leaving care aged between 14 and 24. Action for Children ran a few one-hour workshops to help members of YoVo understand thoughts, feelings and behaviours and learn some tools to handle daily obstacles.

JOY OF THE JOURNEY

Members of YoVo were invited by South West Wales Connected and Transport for Wales to take part in their 'Joy of the Journey' initiative. The project is about arranging hosted train journeys that show how wonderful rail transport can be; bringing people together, tackling isolation and loneliness, along with promoting sustainable, healthy and accessible travel and tourism.

We accompanied colleagues and the young people from Neath to Burry Port and were joined by Transport for Wales staff and British Transport Police on what turned out to be an extremely rainy day. The wet weather did not dampen their spirits, however.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

GIRLS' RIGHTS - HOPE

Girls' Rights group 'Hope' continues to provide opportunities for care experienced girls to get together, have fun and have their views heard on issues that are important to them. Alongside the Engagement & Participation Officer, we have supported the girls at regular get togethers throughout 2023-24. It's been a very busy year with lots of exciting projects and fun activities going on.

PLAN UK

Hope's 'Safer Spaces' campaign continued to develop throughout 2023-24. We accompanied colleagues and a group of five Hope members to a jam-packed day in London in April. The girls met funders and other 'Young Changemakers' at the event and were able to share their experiences and enjoyed a trip on the London Eye. The sexual harassment workshop developed with members of Hope, was delivered to two further groups of boys in schools in Q1. Feedback from pupils and school staff has been very positive and resources have been made available to all schools throughout NPT. More than 100 boys in five schools across NPT attended the sexual harassment workshop.

The 'Safer Spaces' social action project came to fruition at a launch event at Base 15 in May. Various stakeholders, family members and foster carers were invited to the event which showcased the photography the girls had undertaken and raised awareness of the issues they face.

We attended a Plan UK conference at the Village Hotel, Cardiff in November. The conference showcased gender roles and raised awareness of violence against women. Guest speakers were Matt and Sarah Brown who established the movement 'She Is Not Your Rehab'. Whilst no members of Hope were able to attend, their projects were on display for all participants to see - a wonderful opportunity to raise the profile of the amazing work they are doing.

FASHION PROJECT

To challenge the language and terminology used in children's services, members of Hope were involved in a fashion project throughout the summer. The project aimed to raise awareness of the language used by professionals, foster carers and others when referring to care experienced children and young people by making the language used more child and young person friendly. The goal is to encourage everyone to use different language and to ensure all information, documents, questionnaires etc are easy to understand and free from acronyms and corporate jargon. We attended a number of sessions throughout the summer and supported members of Hope to develop their ideas and create fashion items. The project was launched at the Consultant Social Workers Conference in November.

CONSULTANT SOCIAL WORKERS CONFERENCE

In November, we accompanied and supported members of Hope to the Consultant Social Workers Conference at The Towers Hotel. Some of the girls spoke at the conference and gave participants an update on their work, in particular the fashion project which highlighted 'labelling' and the need for language to change in relation to children and young people who are care experienced.

GIRLS' RIGHTS COLLECTIVE CYMRU

Members of Hope were invited to a 'Girls' Rights Collective Cymru' event at the Senedd in May. Speakers included representatives from other 'Young Changemakers' across Wales as well as academics and the Minister for Special Justice, Jane Hutt MS. It was a great platform for Hope to share their projects and the difference they are making to the lives of care experienced girls and young women in Neath Port Talbot.

ACTION FOR CHILDREN - SKILLS PLUS+ WORKSHOP

Skills Plus+ is a psychosocial-skills building intervention for young people leaving care aged between 14 and 24. Action for Children kindly offered to run a few sessions with Hope. The sessions aimed to support young people in developing skills in the following key areas: Mindfulness skills; Emotional regulation skills; Distress tolerance; Interpersonal effectiveness skills.

HOPE RESIDENTIAL

In July we set off for three jam packed days with fifteen girls and colleagues to Call of The Wild in the Bannau Brycheiniog National Park.

Day One

We met for breakfast before being transported to the facility. We were welcomed by staff and settled into our accommodation. In the afternoon we took a long walk to the Cribath 'Sleeping Giant', had some chill time before enjoying a hearty evening meal and settled in to some team building activities and games. Our lovely home cooked tea was followed by an inspiring evening talk from an army veteran who served in Iraq and Afghanistan. She shared personal stories of bravery and determination and was a great role model for the girls. A birthday celebration for one of the girls, some chill time, another team challenge and an early night were in order after a hectic day.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

Day Two

After breakfast we were transported across to Dinas Rock for rock climbing. The girls challenged themselves and conquered their fears. After a packed lunch we got changed for gorge walking and spent a few hours of exhilarating adventure in the fast-flowing gorges. Hope were full of enthusiasm and showed great team spirit in helping their peers and staff to give everything a go, including gorge jumping!

Day Three

The girls gave their feedback, had time for another team challenge and a quick lunch before heading home. Time to pack up and get ready to go! But before we left, we had the privilege of an intimate gig with Welsh singer/songwriter Bronwen Lewis. Bronwen shared her 'rise to fame' stories and all the barriers she had overcome to get to where she is today. The girls all joined in with the singing and one of our team had the opportunity to play guitar while Bronwen sung.

What an amazing morning!

The residential gave the girls the opportunity to try out new things, learn new skills and challenge themselves. They formed new bonds and strengthened existing friendships, it was a pleasure to be part of their experience and witness their growth.

GIRL'S RIGHTS - LET ME SPEAK

Members of Hope were asked to take part in a two-day creative research project with international charity Plan UK to look at issues that are important to girls and young women. The girls had the opportunity to get creative and produce photography and short films with the support of professionals. Their work will be used to highlight the issues they raised to politicians and decision-makers later in 2024.

CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL MEET HOPE AND YOVO

Care experienced young people had the opportunity to meet members of the Corporate Parenting Panel and took part in a drumming workshop and K'Nex challenges. The purpose of the event was for the young people and adults to meet each other and start to build relationships to work together for common goals.

LANGUAGE WE USE

From discussions with young people, it was evident that the language used by professionals has an impact on care experienced children and young people and those receiving support.

The 'Language We Use' project spanned most of 2023 and included a number of strands of work. Several events and projects were organised to give children and young people the opportunity to highlight language they found confusing and alternatives to make them more child friendly and understandable.

Consultation One - Documents

Children and young people shared their confusion and frustrations over the forms they must complete and expressed a wish for all forms and documents to be completed in friendly and understandable language. We supported colleagues to undertake a review of information booklets, forms and reports with children and young people and language and terminology that was not clear and understandable to children and young people was highlighted for change.

Consultation Two - Fashion Project

Care experienced children and young people often get labelled which has a negative impact on their lives. To highlight this, Hope turned their attention to fashion labels. Working alongside a local fashion designer, Hope started to label clothes with the very words they are trying to change. They created tie-dye T-shirts, bleached corporate jargon on to jeans, decorated accessories such as bags, and designed and created a dress from scratch. All the clothing and accessories highlighted language children and young people are working towards changing.

Consultation Three - LAC team rename

The fashion project led by Hope highlighted the need for the label 'LAC' to be changed when referring to care experienced children and young people. To reflect the change in language being used, the 'LAC' team requested the help of children and young people in developing a new name for their team. Children and young people took part in a creative workshop and event at Plantasia to encourage them to put their problem solving and teamwork skills to the test and work with staff to escape the jungle. They were asked to share their thoughts on what the 'LAC' team means to them and come up with some alternative names to reflect this. Participants voted for their favourite.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

JUNIOR SAFEGUARDING BOARD (JSB)

The Junior Safeguarding Board (JSB) comprises of representatives from secondary schools across Neath Port Talbot and Swansea. The purpose of the JSB is for children and young people to have the opportunity to participate and have their voices heard regarding safety at school, at home, online and in their communities. Throughout the year we have seen some developments with projects that young people have chosen to champion.

COLLABORATIVE WORKING

We continue to support updates to the West Glamorgan Safeguarding Board via presentations and reports on the work of the JSB. We also meet up with officers from Neath Port Talbot Council and Swansea Council to discuss projects and collaborative working.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

It's been a busy and productive year with a number of JSB meetings being held at schools throughout Neath Port Talbot. Pupils attended workshops where they discussed ideas for raising awareness of sexual harassment and what they could do in their schools to address the issue. Pupils came up with lots of ideas including: podcasts; posters; assemblies; surveys; social media, etc. Following up from the planning meeting, we ran a creative workshop to help pupils develop their ideas into key messages and ideas for an awareness campaign.

Pupils from each school are working behind the scenes to develop their actions further. We are looking forward to supporting pupils to take forward individual actions in each of the schools throughout 2024.

ACCREDITED 'PREPARING TO BE A BOARD MEMBER' TRAINING

Congratulations to all pupils representing the JSB who attended the accredited training held at Cefn Saeson Comprehensive over two days in July and who were awarded with a Level One CQFW qualification accredited by Agored Cymru.

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS PROMISES

Everyone working with children and young people should be aware of, and consider children's rights in their practice and should consider themselves as 'duty-bearers', ensuring that they support children to access their rights.

In 2023 we led on the development and design for a Children's Rights Charter which was shared with professionals, foster carers and children and young people which was launched in the Autumn.

The purpose of the NPT Children's Services Children's Rights Promises is to:

- o Raise awareness and inform children and young people of their rights
- o Ensure children and young people feel supported and empowered
- o Outline the help and support children and young people can expect
- o Emphasise NPT's commitment to protect and respect children and young people's rights
- o Ensure NPT Children's Services take their responsibilities seriously
- o Improve service delivery through listening to children and young people

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS PROMISES

We continue to deliver children's rights training to staff in Children's Services and this year we held the training for new staff at induction training days. The session covered an awareness of children's rights and the UNCRC, real life examples and case studies, and aimed to inspire staff to think about rights in their roles.

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS CHAMPIONS

Children's Rights are everyone's responsibility and in order to embed children's rights into practice the local authority committed to the concept of 'Children's Rights Champions'. In 2021 'Champions' were recruited and committed to a list of actions they set to embed children's rights into practice in their specific roles.

Implementation of actions is overseen by the Quality Practice Group and the Practice Improvement Group, and we meet 'Champions' every six months to review progress and support with future plans.

THE RIGHT WAY - PUTTING CHILDREN'S RIGHTS INTO PRACTICE

We were invited to run a workshop at the Children's Commissioner for Wales event in March. The event brought together professionals from health, children's services, education and emergency services as well as third sector. We developed and delivered a workshop showcasing how we have supported the organisations we are funded by on how to take 'A Children's Rights Approach' and put children's rights into practice. This included a number of examples of what Children's Services are doing in Neath Port Talbot.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

EMERGENCY SERVICE COMMUNICATION BOARD

The emergency service communication board was launched at Ysgol Maes Y Coed in November 2023. The launch was a culmination of 18 months of collaboration between the school, NPT Council, Mid & West Wales Fire, South Wales Police, Welsh Ambulance Service Trust and ourselves. We are very proud to have been part of an amazing project which will ensure that the rights of the Children are met when they need help and support.

SWANSEA BAY UNIVERSITY HEALTH BOARD

Our relationship with Swansea Bay University Health Board continues to grow with effective partnership working and a commitment from colleagues to listen to the voices of children and young people and develop paediatric health services. The health board is steadfast in its promise to continue its journey to engage professionals and empower them to embed children's rights into practice.

BAYOUTH - YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD

Swansea Bay was the first health board in Wales to establish a youth advisory board.

BAYouth:

- o Are youth led (with the support of CRU and SBUHB staff)
- o Are dedicated to improving health services for children and young people
- o Represent the voices of children and young people across SBUHB area
- o Influence the decision-making process

We continue to support members through arranging agendas and collating papers for meetings, we prepare minutes/actions, coordinate speakers and support members at the meetings to ensure they have their voices heard and are listened to. Members continue to rotate the role of Chair at each meeting, and all volunteers are empowered to undertake the role. Eight new members joined in 2023-2024

PROJECTS

The CRU shares project opportunities with all members so that the young people have all the information they need to make an informed choice on what they would like to get involved in. Members attend face-to-face and online meetings and have been given many opportunities to take part and have their voices heard on different issues and projects in relation to health services for children and young people.

BAYouth's Priorities for 2022-24 are: Emotional Health and Well being, Clinical Environment and Healthy Lifestyle.

STATEMENT FROM SWANSEA UNIVERSITY HEALTH BOARD

Swansea Bay is committed to continue to work with children and young people to ensure that the child and young people's voice is present and valued in all service developments and improvements.

The service group are very fortunate to reap the benefits that BAYouth bring to the service being involved with projects throughout the year, gaining the insight of young people from their perspective and creating new and exciting ideas.

BAYouth have undertaken many activities such as the 15 steps programme on all acute children wards and Children's Outpatient Departments and children centres where children and young people with complex needs and learning difficulties attend, using a toolkit to explore the children's environment through the 'lens of children' to ensure things are working well from children and young people's experience aspect. Action plans have been developed from these visits on key improvements, which are reported through to the health boards Quality and Safety Group, sharing of excellent practice.

All this work has ensured that Children Rights are embedded at the core of our service planning, empowering children to participate in many initiatives and ensuring we are taking their views explicitly into account.

The Health Board is very thankful for the commitment the young people give to the group and values their input and continued enthusiasm to ensure that we deliver a quality service which is progressive to meet the needs of today's children and young people.

YOUNG INTERVIEWERS

Over the past few years, BAYouth members have taken part in the recruitment of a number of key paediatric positions. This year volunteers were sought to look at the job description and person specification for the role of 'Deputy Head of Nursing' and prepare questions for the young person's interview panel. The visual Job Description was created and members of BAYouth were supported to draft interview questions and a presentation title for candidates 'The health board has a children's rights charter, tell us how you would make this a reality for children and young people with complex needs.'

- o In this job role, leadership and good communication are required skills, how will you ensure you are a good leader while also being a good colleague to those around you?
- o How would you prioritise the child's needs through person centred care, whilst also ensuring family input is balanced?
- o Why are you passionate about working with children and young people and improving their health?

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

PAEDIATRIC PSYCHOLOGY SERVICE

Members collaborated with staff from the paediatric psychology service to understand the service which provides psychological support for children and young people with health conditions (eg epilepsy; chronic pain; chronic constipation), and how the service is taking a 'Whole School Approach'. Health conditions can impact on children and young people's health and well-being and the service is there to support children and young people in a school setting.

Members gave their views on information and resources, their feedback included:

- o providing training through various channels
- o providing training to all staff and for children and young people
- o raising awareness to all children and young people so they could support
- o information in schools
- o providing information to parents
- o introducing a peer mentoring/ambassador scheme
- o producing accessible information

Members also gave their views on draft logos for the service.

Make it child and young person friendly An informal font is better

Keep the design simple

The service listened to their views and adapted the logo which is now in use.

WELSH AMBULANCE SERVICE TRUST

Members invited Patient Experience & Community Involvement Manager from Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust to a BAYouth meeting to help with the review and development of their 'Promises'. They were also asked to suggest the best channels of communication for communicating with children and young people.

Their comments included:

- o Too much text - make the promises less 'wordy'
- o Ensure the promises are accessible for all children and young people
- o Use images/icons/widget symbols
- o Consider producing two versions for different ages

NICU VISIT AND SIBLING RESOURCE

BAYouth members were taken for a tour of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at Singleton Hospital, they had a look around the unit and were able to ask questions about the unit. Further to the visit, they were asked to work with staff on the development of a sibling resource. The sibling resource will be given to brothers and sisters of babies on the unit to make them feel more involved in their care. They have given initial feedback on the draft resource and are looking forward to working on this further in 2024.

SCHOOL NURSING

Representatives from Swansea University attended the May meeting and consulted with BAYouth on the development of the new school nursing education programme as new standards have been set.

BAYouth were asked for their views on: 'What knowledge, skills and attitudes do School Nurses of the future need?'

Approachable, Calm, Good interpersonal skills, Sensitive, Sense of humour, Non-judgemental, Discreet, and Trustworthy.

BAYouth also met colleagues from the school nursing service in Swansea Bay and were asked for their views on what children and young people may want from the service and what issues school nurses should cover in their roles in the future. BAYouth's ideas included:

- o Your school nurse - school nurses need to be more visible; publicise in schools who your school nurse is and when they are visiting
- o Information on - sexual health, healthy relationships, vaping, nutrition; how to access services
- o Age - they felt this needed to start younger than year 9
- o Information - we need a booklet/resource - on 'how to be healthy' 'how to access services' etc

15 STEPS CHALLENGE

It's been a busy year of undertaking 15 steps challenges across wards and departments in Swansea Bay. BAYouth members are asked to volunteer for the challenge and are given a toolkit and are briefed prior to the challenge so that they understand what the challenge entails.

Volunteers are encouraged and supported to look around the clinical environment and make notes on what is working well for children and young people who are patients, and what can be improved. This information is fed back to the department or ward team so that they can do more of what builds patient's confidence and change things that could be done better.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

15 STEPS CHALLENGE - OAKWOOD WARD

A sub group of BAYouth members took part in the 15 steps challenge on Oakwood Ward in June. After the challenge, members were supported to produce a report which was shared with the Matron. Health board staff have embraced BAYouth undertaking the 15 steps and have responded with a list of actions to address any gaps.

15 STEPS CHALLENGE - SINGLETON CHILDREN'S OUTPATIENTS DEPARTMENT

In October half term a sub group of four BAYouth members took part in the 15 steps challenge at Singleton Children's Outpatients Department. Members were briefed before the challenge and were supported afterwards to produce a report which was shared with the department.

15 STEPS CHALLENGE - MORRISTON CHILDREN'S OUTPATIENTS DEPARTMENT

Four members of BAYouth took part in the 15 steps challenge at the children's outpatients department at Morriston Hospital. The challenge took place in February half term so the department was quiet as there were only a few clinics running. Members really enjoyed looking around the department and had lots of positive feedback on the area and staff. A report was collated from members notes and provided to the department for their information and action.

15 STEPS CHALLENGE - CHILDREN'S CENTRE NPT HOSPITAL

Four members of BAYouth undertook 15 steps at the Children's Centre at Neath Port Talbot Hospital. After a briefing, members were shown around the centre by health board staff who were very helpful and thorough in explaining the therapies that used the centre for various clinics and outpatient appointments, members also visited the CAHMS area. BAYouth members really enjoyed the experience and provided a report to the centre for their information and action.

'PREPARING TO BE A BOARD MEMBER' TRAINING

Four members of BAYouth attend a full day of training in August. Our accredited 'Preparing to be a board member' training provides the knowledge and skills to understand their role on an advisory panel and equip them with the confidence to voice their opinions and views on services.

All four members completed the course, submitted their workbooks for internal and external verification and were awarded with a CQFW Level One qualification accredited by Agored Cymru.

TOPS & PANTS FEEDBACK

Each month play team staff in the health board provide 'Tops & Pants' feedback to the CRU for analysis. Based on the children and young people's feedback on paediatric wards, word clouds are created and shared with the 'Patient and Parent feedback' group. Below are some of the 'Tops' and 'Pants' word clouds from early 2024. 'Tops & Pants' word clouds highlight the most frequent feedback from children and young people.

PATIENT FEEDBACK MATTERS

We delivered 'Patient Feedback Matters' training to health board staff attending mandatory training throughout 2023 and early 2024.

The session aimed to encourage staff to be empowered to gain more feedback from children and young people. Feedback on the session was very positive with health board staff being open and responding enthusiastically.

An extra session was delivered to the Community Team at their 'Lunch & Learn' session in February 2024. The session was very well received by participants and discussion was had on how to develop feedback mechanisms in the community team.

'CHAMPIONING CHILDREN'S RIGHTS IN PRACTICE' TRAINING

Our 'Children's Rights in Practice' training has been very successful over the years and continued into mandatory training days in 2023. Feedback from participants was very positive with staff providing lots of great ideas on how to take 'A Children's Rights Approach' in practice. Ideas from the training were presented into themes for the health board consideration, we look forward to working with the health board to take the ideas forward.

'CHAMPOINING CHILDREN'S RIGHTS IN PRACTICE' TRAINING CAHMS

We were asked to develop our children's rights in practice workshop for the CAMHS team for their bi-annual away day. The aim of the session was:

- o To raise awareness and develop knowledge/understanding of Children's Rights and the UNCRC
- o To look at real life case studies in relation to Children's Rights
- o To support colleagues to generate ideas on taking a 'Children's Rights Approach'
- o To consider what tools/resources are needed
- o To consider the challenges to implementing Children's Rights in practice

Feedback from participants was very positive with staff providing lots of ideas on where children's rights could be embedded in their roles. Participants feedback was collated into themes and shared with CAMHS colleagues for action.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

THE RIGHT WAY - PUTTING CHILDREN'S RIGHTS INTO PRACTICE

We were privileged to be invited to run a workshop at the Children's Commissioner for Wales event in March. The event brought together professionals from health, children's services, education and emergency services as well as the third sector. We developed and delivered a workshop showcasing how we have supported the organisations who fund us on how to take 'A Children's Rights Approach' and put children's rights into practice. This included a number of examples of what the health board are doing.

CHAMPIONING RIGHTS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE - A WHOLE COMMUNITY APPROACH

The KnowURights project has been funded for 3 years by Pen Y Cymoedd Community Vision Fund. The KnowURights project aims to empower children and young people to understand and realize their rights, have their voices heard, and actively participate in their communities. Through this initiative, children and young people are gaining knowledge about their rights and are being empowered to have their voices heard.

Adults are learning about children's rights and supporting children and young people in accessing these rights by fostering an environment where children and young people can express themselves and participate actively.

AFAN VALLEY WINTER FESTIVAL OF FUN

Afan Valley Winter Festival of Fun was launched in the Upper Afan Valley. Free activities were available for children and young people aged 8-18 to participate in during the winter months.

These events were held at: Gwynfi Miners Hall, Croeserw Community Hub, Noddfa Community Centre Glynccorwg & Cymmer Afan Community Library. They included: Art Sessions; Community Drumming Sessions; Coding Sessions; Mindfulness Sessions; Fitness Sessions.

The Afan Valley Winter Festival of Fun is a collaboration brought to you by Croeserw Primary School, Cymmer Afan Community Library, Noddfa Community Centre Glynccorwg, NPT PASS Team, Gwynfi Miners Hall, Croeserw Community Hub and the Children's Rights Unit.

WINTER WISHES COLLECTED

The hopes and dreams of the young people living in the Upper Afan Valley were collected. We asked "What they would like to see from their community in 2024" ensuring that their voices are included in decision-making processes.

EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS

Throughout the year, we conducted a series of educational workshops in schools that young people attended from the Upper Afan Valley. These workshops aimed to teach children about their rights as outlined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

SAFEGUARDING WORKSHOPS AT CROESERW PRIMARY SCHOOL

Our workshops for pupils in Years 2 to 6 at Croeserw Primary School focused on promoting children's well-being, safety, and development through discussions on safeguarding and children's rights. The activities aimed to help children understand their rights to safety, self-expression, and protection from harm. This included educating them about their right to safety in all environments, empowering them to express their opinions freely, and encouraging them to seek support from trusted adults.

SETTING UP OR JOINING GROUPS WORKSHOP

Students at Croeserw Primary School participated in activities to understand UNCRC Article 15. They discussed the importance of having clubs or community spaces for young people and presented their ideas to the PTA. Our KnowURights workshops empower children by promoting their right to form associations and encouraging them to join or set up groups, fostering community, enhancing social skills, and providing self-expression opportunities.

3 MILES IN MY SHOES

Pupils from Ysgol Cwm Brombil School Council participated in a workshop on school transport poverty. Students simulated walking nearly 3 miles to school each day and discussed the impact on children's rights. They also brainstormed solutions to address the issue at both the school and broader levels in Wales. The workshop empowered students to become advocates for change.

WORLD CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATION

During the KnowURights workshop, we discussed ways of sharing information on Children's Rights. Pupils from the Senedd at Ysgol Cwm Brombil celebrated World Children's Day by reading a Children's Rights Story during the primary school assembly. This aimed to raise awareness of children's rights and empower the Senedd pupils as advocates and role models within their school community.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

CELEBRATING CHILDREN'S RIGHTS ACROSS THE UPPER AFAN VALLEY

Children and young people have 42 rights under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). These 42 rights give children and young people what they need to grow up happily, healthily and safely. Young people have been celebrating Children's Rights across the Upper Afan Valley by participating in number of fun activities.

The Youth Forum was launched in Glynccorrwg Youth Club in February.

The young people created a name and logo - "Young People Matter"

What did we discuss?

- o Things that are important to us

- o What we would like to see more of in the Upper Afan Valley

- o Way in how we can connect with our community

YOUTH FORUM AT GLYNCCORRWG CELEBRATED ARTICLE 8

The Youth Forum at Glynccorrwg recently gathered together to celebrate Article 8 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which ensures the right to preserve identity. As part of this celebration, the members designed biscuits that displayed their families' national flags, celebrating their own and others' nationality and heritage. Article 8 states that every child or young person has a right to an identity made up of many different parts, including their name, nationality, race, culture, religion and language.

GET ON BOARD CYMRU - 'PREPARING TO BE A BOARD MEMBER' TRAINING

Our 'Get on Board Cymru' project secured a number of contracts for delivery of services and has continued to work in partnership with organisations to provide training opportunities for young people to exercise their right to have a voice, be listened to, and become active citizens in their communities.

Although not currently funded, we have been able to continue delivering the project by way of our dedicated 'Training and Support Officer'.

16 participants completed the accredited (by Agored Cymru) course in the summer of 2023 and all were successful in obtaining a Level 1 CQFW qualification. Four of these were members of BAYouth and 12 were members of Junior Safeguarding Board (JSB) who attended an event hosted by Cefn Saeson Comprehensive School in July.

Established in January 2019, the Junior Safeguarding Board (JSB) comprises of representatives from secondary schools across the West Glamorgan region. The purpose of the JSB is for children and young people to have the opportunity to participate and have their voices heard regarding the safety at school, at home, online and in their communities.

Established in 2017 with our support, BAYouth is the 'Youth Advisory Panel' of Swansea Bay University Health Board - the first of its kind in Wales.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE AND OFFICER TRAINING FOR NPTC GROUP OF COLLEGES

We continue to be commissioned to develop and deliver annual 'Student Representative' training online for NPTC Group of Colleges. This year, ten sessions were run throughout October and November 2023, attended by an estimated 200 students.

The course covered the benefits of student representation, Equality and Diversity and meeting skills. We also delivered induction training for the newly-elected Student Union officers in January 2024.

BESPOKE TRAINING FOR THE EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT SERVICE (EAS)

We developed a custom course for the Educational Achievement Service (EAS), the regional school improvement consortia for South East Wales, and delivered two virtual induction events for their new youth board or 'engagement forum' in November and December 2023, one for pupils of primary age and one for secondary age. The course covered: the benefits of youth participation, the importance of teamwork and how to respectfully express an opinion.

NEW WEBSITE

Our new website was launched in November 2023. It is frequently updated to show what we have been doing recently with a blog/news archive, as well as listing our services, testimonials and making other items of interest available to visitors.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

As we conclude this annual report, we reflect on a busy year filled with progress, challenges, and remarkable achievements. Our journey would not have been possible without the dedication of our exceptional staff whose passion and commitment drives our mission forward every day.

A heartfelt thanks to the children and young people who have taken part in the many activities and projects, your stories are at the heart of our organisation and remind us of the importance of listening.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

To our funders, your generous contributions have been instrumental in enabling us to continue our vital work, creating lasting impacts in the lives of those we serve.

As we look ahead, we are filled with a continued commitment and optimism to bring new opportunities for growth, innovation and engagement within our communities.

Together we look forward to another successful year.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The total income of £96,204 (2023: £63,674) was spent on direct charitable expenditure totalling £81,748 (2023: £59,309) resulting in a net surplus of £14,306 (2023: surplus of £4,365).

The Statement of Financial Activities reflects the income and expenditure incurred by Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit in carrying out its role in respect of its objectives. The unrestricted funds at 31 March 2024 were £78,624 (2023: £64,318).

Reserves policy

The board has examined the charity's requirements for reserves in respect of the main risks to the organisation and aims to build up reserves in future years to enable it to continue and expand the services they currently provide. The charity's policy is to maintain a designated reserve for future running costs and critical costs. This will cover twelve months running costs to meet its medium term objectives and to look to absorb any impact of Covid 19, and it will cover redundancy payments to employees and other termination costs should the funding of the charity reduce in the future.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

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

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 31/7/2003 and registered as a charity on 21/06/2013. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the company's Articles are known as Trustees. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the members of the Management Committee are elected to serve for a period of three years after which they must be re-elected at the next Annual General Meeting.

All members of the Management Committee give their time voluntarily and received no benefits from the charity.

Mari Shufflebotham and Phil Treseder retire by rotation and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Trustees are appointed through election from the Membership of the Charity and through co-option of individuals with specific skills and experience useful to the Charity. The Children's Rights Unit seeks to maintain a diverse trustee body comprising the skills, knowledge and experience necessary to ensure that the Charity is managed professionally, that its objects are pursued rigorously and that public benefit is maintained in all its activities. To this end, the Children's Rights Unit seeks suitable candidates widely with skills, knowledge and experience to complement the trustee team.

Induction and training of new trustees

All trustees receive induction into the work of the Children's Rights Unit. Regular training is provided for trustees and has included training in governance, roles and responsibilities of trustees and child protection.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

04906893 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1152471

NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Registered office

Ty Margaret Thorne
17 - 19 Alfred Street
Neath
West Glamorgan
SA11 1EF

Trustees

P Treseder
M A Shufflebotham
S A Jones MBE DL
P H Dunmore
S B Watson
M Dacey

Staff

Jannine Smith
Victoria Owen
Clare Pritchard

Director/Company Secretary
Training and Support Officer
Children's Rights Project Development Officer

Company Secretary

J Smith

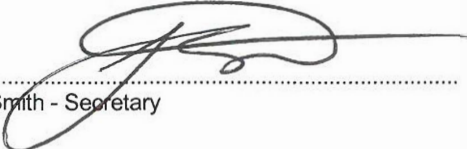
Independent Examiner

Alison Vickers ACA
Bevan Buckland LLP
Ground Floor Cardigan House
Castle Court
Swansea Enterprise Park
Swansea
SA7 9LA

Bankers

The Co - operative Bank
P.O. Box 250
Delf House
Southway
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 24/10/24 and signed on its behalf by:


.....
J Smith - Secretary

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

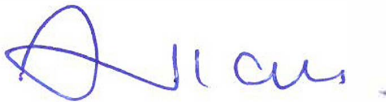
Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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 accounts to be reached.



Alison Vickers ACA

Bevan Buckland LLP
Ground Floor Cardigan House
Castle Court
Swansea Enterprise Park
Swansea
SA7 9LA

Date: 24/10/2024

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	3	62,929	30,252	93,181	60,531
Other trading activities	4	3,023	-	3,023	3,143
Total		<u>65,952</u>	<u>30,252</u>	<u>96,204</u>	<u>63,674</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Charitable Activities		<u>56,235</u>	<u>25,663</u>	<u>81,898</u>	<u>59,309</u>
NET INCOME					
Transfers between funds	12	<u>9,717</u> <u>(23)</u>	<u>4,589</u> <u>23</u>	<u>14,306</u> <u>-</u>	<u>4,365</u> <u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		<u>9,694</u>	<u>4,612</u>	<u>14,306</u>	<u>4,365</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>64,318</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>64,318</u>	<u>59,953</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>74,012</u></u>	<u><u>4,612</u></u>	<u><u>78,624</u></u>	<u><u>64,318</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT

BALANCE SHEET
31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	9	2,916	1,554	4,470	-
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	300	-	300	-
Cash at bank and in hand		75,028	3,491	78,519	68,612
		<u>75,328</u>	<u>3,491</u>	<u>78,819</u>	<u>68,612</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(4,232)	(433)	(4,665)	(4,294)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>71,096</u>	<u>3,058</u>	<u>74,154</u>	<u>64,318</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>74,012</u>	<u>4,612</u>	<u>78,624</u>	<u>64,318</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>74,012</u>	<u>4,612</u>	<u>78,624</u>	<u>64,318</u>
FUNDS	12				
Unrestricted funds				74,012	64,318
Restricted funds				4,612	-
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>78,624</u>	<u>64,318</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 24/10/2024 and were signed on its behalf by:


P Treseder - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

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

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern.

Income

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

Training income is recognised in the period in which it relates.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, 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 accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

All costs allocated between expenditure categories are on a basis designed to reflect their resource usage. For some costs this means direct allocation to activities, other costs are apportioned, e.g. by staff time spent on the activity, or another equitable usage measure.

The Charity initially identifies the costs of its support functions. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the charities programmes and activities.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 20% on cost
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

Assets costing less than £1,000 are not capitalised and shown as an expense in the statement of financial activities.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

Grants

Grants relating to specific capital expenditure are treated as deferred income which is credited to the profit and loss account over the related asset's life.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Grants

Revenue grants are credited to the profit and loss account in the same period as the expenditure to which they relate.

Debtors

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any discount due.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments held within a deposit or similar account.

Creditors and provisions

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

Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

Costs have been allocated as far as possible between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities on a basis designed to reflect the usage of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly. Others have been apportioned based on the estimated usage of the resource.

Financial Instruments

Under FRS 102 financial instruments are classified as either basic or complex, the charity has reviewed its financial instruments and is satisfied that all financial instruments can be classified as basic and are recognised at amortised historical cost.

2. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgments, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgments about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results in the future may differ from these estimates. 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 and in any future periods affected.

3. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Grants	93,181	60,531
	<u>93,181</u>	<u>60,531</u>
Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:		
	2024	2023
	£	£
SBUHB	31,129	29,931
NPTCBC	31,800	30,000
Changemakers fund	-	600
Pen Y Cymoedd	29,452	-
Other grants	800	-
	<u>93,181</u>	<u>60,531</u>

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Training	3,023	3,143
	<u>3,023</u>	<u>3,143</u>

5. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2024	2023
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	700	456
	<u>700</u>	<u>456</u>

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2023.

7. STAFF COSTS

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

	2024	2023
Administration & support	3	2
	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

8. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	59,931	600	60,531
Other trading activities	3,143	-	3,143
Total	<u>63,074</u>	<u>600</u>	<u>63,674</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activities	58,709	600	59,309
NET INCOME	4,365	-	4,365
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	59,953	-	59,953
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>64,318</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>64,318</u>

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2023	863	2,138	3,001
Additions	-	5,170	5,170
At 31 March 2024	863	7,308	8,171
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2023	863	2,138	3,001
Charge for year	-	700	700
At 31 March 2024	863	2,838	3,701
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2024	-	4,470	4,470
At 31 March 2023	-	-	-

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	300	-

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	423	102
Social security and other taxes	1,272	937
Accrued expenses	2,970	3,255
	4,665	4,294

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	13,318	24,479	(14,785)	23,012
Designated Strategic Fund	45,000	-	-	45,000
Get on Board	-	(14,762)	14,762	-
Critical cost fund	6,000	-	-	6,000
	64,318	9,717	(23)	74,012
Restricted funds				
Changemakers fund	-	(23)	23	-
Pen Y Cymoedd	-	4,612	-	4,612
	-	4,589	23	4,612
TOTAL FUNDS	64,318	14,306	-	78,624

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	65,952	(41,473)	24,479
Get on Board	-	(14,762)	(14,762)
	<u>65,952</u>	<u>(56,235)</u>	<u>9,717</u>
Restricted funds			
Changemakers fund	800	(823)	(23)
Pen Y Cymoedd	29,452	(24,840)	4,612
	<u>30,252</u>	<u>(25,663)</u>	<u>4,589</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>96,204</u>	<u>(81,898)</u>	<u>14,306</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.23 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	8,953	16,282	(11,917)	13,318
Designated Strategic Fund	45,000	-	-	45,000
Get on Board	-	(11,917)	11,917	-
Critical cost fund	6,000	-	-	6,000
	<u>59,953</u>	<u>4,365</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>64,318</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>59,953</u>	<u>4,365</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>64,318</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	63,074	(46,792)	16,282
Get on Board	-	(11,917)	(11,917)
	<u>63,074</u>	<u>(58,709)</u>	<u>4,365</u>
Restricted funds			
Changemakers fund	600	(600)	-
	<u>63,674</u>	<u>(59,309)</u>	<u>4,365</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>63,674</u>	<u>(59,309)</u>	<u>4,365</u>

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	8,953	40,761	(26,702)	23,012
Designated Strategic Fund	45,000	-	-	45,000
Get on Board	-	(26,679)	26,679	-
Critical cost fund	6,000	-	-	6,000
	<u>59,953</u>	<u>14,082</u>	<u>(23)</u>	<u>74,012</u>
Restricted funds				
Changemakers fund	-	(23)	23	-
Pen Y Cymoedd	-	4,612	-	4,612
	<u>-</u>	<u>4,589</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>4,612</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>59,953</u>	<u>18,671</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>78,624</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	129,026	(88,265)	40,761
Get on Board	-	(26,679)	(26,679)
	<u>129,026</u>	<u>(114,944)</u>	<u>14,082</u>
Restricted funds			
Changemakers fund	1,400	(1,423)	(23)
Pen Y Cymoedd	29,452	(24,840)	4,612
	<u>30,852</u>	<u>(26,263)</u>	<u>4,589</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>159,878</u>	<u>(141,207)</u>	<u>18,671</u>

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Funds

Unrestricted funds

Swansea Bay University Health Board

The Children's Rights Unit works in partnership with SBUHB to deliver Children's Rights projects and embed Children's Rights practice including: recruiting, supporting and developing a Youth Board; developing and delivering Children's Rights training for SBUHB staff; launch and implementation of the Children's Rights Charter.

NPTCBC

Children's Rights Unit support of NPT Children's Services including: training, youth engagement (in a variety of areas), advice and guidance, and the development of a children's rights based approach.

Designated Strategic Fund

The charity has designated some of its unrestricted general reserves to a designated fund for future running costs. This will cover twelve months running costs to meet its medium term objectives and to look to absorb any impact of Covid 19.

Critical Cost Fund

The charity has designated some of its unrestricted general reserves to a designated fund for critical costs. This will cover redundancy payments to employees and other termination costs should the funding of the charity reduce in the future.

Get On Board

We realise there is a need for young people to be trained in good governance, decision-making and general board member duties. Although not currently funded, our Get on Board project is devoted to developing and delivering training for young people and organisations - both face to face and online we have been able to continue delivering the project by way of our dedicated 'Training and Support Officer'. Our project secured a number of contracts for delivery of services and has continued to work in partnership with organisations to provide training opportunities for young people to exercise their right to have a voice, be listened to, and become active citizens in their communities.

Restricted Funds

The Changemakers

We were successful in being awarded a grant to support YoVo (care experienced group) to enjoy various activities to improve their health and wellbeing. Members of YoVo made a list of the activities they wanted to take part in throughout 2023. This included boxing classes with Bulldogs Boxing, Jungle Escape at Plantasia and Art Therapy. The sessions empowered and challenged the young people to take part in something new to improve their fitness, build their confidence and improve their health and wellbeing.

Pen Y Cymoedd

The KnowURights project has been funded for 3 years by Pen Y Cymoedd Community Vision Fund for delivery in the Upper Afan Valley. The KnowURights' project aims to empower children and young people to understand and realize their rights, have their voices heard, and actively participate in their communities. Through this initiative, children and young people are gaining knowledge about their rights and are being empowered to have their voices heard. Adults are learning about children's rights and supporting children and young people in accessing these rights by fostering an environment where children and young people can express themselves and participate actively.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2024.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

	2024 £	2023 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Grants	93,181	60,531
Other trading activities		
Training	3,023	3,143
Total incoming resources	96,204	63,674
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	59,021	43,792
Pensions	2,752	2,321
Telephone	10	949
Postage and stationery	2,079	508
Accreditation costs	399	-
Travelling	2,209	486
Staff Training	307	449
Project Activities	1,739	1,241
Subscriptions	45	110
Insurance	635	637
Marketing & Publicity	327	-
Room Hire	235	-
Recruitment	715	-
Computer Expenses	1,631	873
Depreciation	700	456
Website development costs	-	960
Events	1,960	-
	74,764	52,782
Support costs		
Support costs		
Accountancy fees	3,142	3,257
Legal fees	393	171
Support from NPTCVS	3,599	3,099
	7,134	6,527
Total resources expended	81,898	59,309
Net income	14,306	4,365

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04906893 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1152471

**UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 MARCH 2023**

**FOR
NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

Bevan Buckland LLP
Ground Floor Cardigan House
Castle Court
Swansea Enterprise Park
Swansea
SA7 9LA

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, 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 2019).

Our Vision

Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit (CRU) is a charity that was established to promote and protect the rights of children and young people in Neath Port Talbot and the surrounding areas. The unit aims to make the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), a reality for children, young people and their families.

The CRU was first established in 2003 and is governed by a Board of Trustees that are responsible for overseeing the work of the charity and its long-term direction

It provides opportunities for children and young people up to the age of 25 to develop the confidence and skills to understand and exercise their rights, thus becoming active citizens in their communities, and aims to advance the education of duty bearers to understand their role in enabling children and young people to access their rights.

Our Values

Board Members and staff believe in:

- A Children's Rights based approach in everything we do
- Equal opportunities for all
- Becoming the best that you can be
- Partnership and holistic working
- Empowering and transforming attitudes

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Our impact in 2022-23

This Annual Report highlights the progress we have made from April 2022 to March 2023 in supporting children and young people to know about and access their rights, and showcases the impact of the key projects and initiatives we have lead and collaborated on with our partner organisations.

Swansea Bay University Health Board

We started our relationship with Swansea Bay University Health Board in around 2015 when we supported the health board with the development of ad hoc projects. This partnership has grown and flourished and we now have an established Service Level Agreement with the health board. We are very proud to share a summary of the key achievements in relation to ensuring the health board's strategic commitment to children's rights is made a reality for children and young people accessing health services in the Swansea Bay area.

BAYouth - Youth Advisory Panel

The youth advisory panel has been established for around five years and continues to provide opportunities for young people to get involved in the development of health services across Swansea Bay, BAYouth::

- Are youth led (with the support of CRU and SBUHB staff)
- Are dedicated to improving health services for children and young people
- Represents the voices of children and young people across SBUHB area
- Influence decision-making process

Throughout 2022-23, regular BAYouth meetings were held, both online and face to face. We have continued to provide support and assistance to members and to health board colleagues to ensure that young people are able to have their voices heard on health services for children and young people in their community and that adults listen.

BAYouth's priorities are:

- Emotional Health and Wellbeing
- Healthy Lifestyles
- Clinical Environments

Projects

BAYouth have been given opportunities to consult on and get involved in developing services for children and young people that fit with their priorities, some of these are highlighted below.

Young Interviewers

BAYouth members have taken part in the recruitment process of a number of key paediatric throughout the year. Each young person who has taken part in recruitment or interviewing for health board positions is required to attend our bespoke 'Young Interviewers' training session and visual Job Descriptions/Person Specifications are created.

Members reviewed the Job Description and prepared questions for the position of 'Therapy Assistant Practitioner - Youth Focus' for the new Weight Management Service.

- How would you ensure that the health board's children's rights charter is made a reality for children and young people?
- Can you provide an example of when you have made a difference to a child or young person's life?

Members also provided questions to the interview panel for the role of 'Consultant Lead Practitioner Psychologist'.

BAYouth members were also invited to get involved in interviews for the Deputy Head of Nursing position. They were supported to prepare a presentation title for candidates, received interview training, drafted questions and a BAYouth interview panel was set up.

- The health board has a children's rights charter, tell us how you would make this a reality for children and young people with complex needs.
- In this job role, leadership and good communication are required skills, how will you ensure you are a good leader while also being a good colleague to those around you?
- Why are you passionate about working with children and young people and improving their health?

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

Weight Management Service

In 2022 the health board established a new Weight Management Service for children and young people with obesity. BAYouth were approached to give their views on a proposed logo/brand and later on information leaflets for the service.

BAYouth members feedback was welcomed and their views were taken on board by the service.

Anxiety management group - Mighty Minds

BAYouth welcomed psychology colleagues to one of their meetings to talk about new anxiety management workshops that were being set up to teach young people the skills to enable them to deal with anxiety. Members gave lots of great ideas on the best way to communicate with young people.

Play team logo

The play team within the health board play an invaluable role in ensuring children and young people have the right to play as well as helping patients deal with anxiety whilst receiving care in hospital. The play team were developing their own identity/logo and approached BAYouth for their views.

Outdoor spaces

Children and young people have the right to good health, and when accessing health services they also have the right to relax and play (UNCRC article 31), and as set out in the Children's Rights Charter and Promises (theme 2). BAYouth were asked to work with the health board to look at outdoor spaces at various sites across Swansea Bay. Initial ideas were shared in 2022 and members will continue supporting this project throughout 2023.

15 Steps challenge - MIU

BAYouth were invited to undertake a '15 steps challenge' at the minor injury unit (MIU) at Neath Port Talbot hospital. A sub group of three volunteers were supported prior to the challenge to understand what 15 steps entails and to ensure they were fully prepared. After an hour in the MIU, members debriefed and their feedback was collated which was presented in a report to staff. BAYouth's views have been welcomed and their points addressed.

15 Steps challenge - paediatric wards

In February 2023, four BAYouth members undertook a 15 steps challenge at the Paediatric Assessment Unit (PAU) and Ward M. Participants were briefed on how to undertake the challenge and gave feedback afterwards. A report was compiled for the ward sister and this will be followed up to see if BAYouth's feedback has been acted upon.

Adolescent area

Currently there is no adolescent area for young people who are staying in hospital. Adolescents are mixed in with small children and toddlers and there is no available relaxation space for them, privacy is also an issue. The health board have written a report to assess the situation and suggestions have been made for short and longer term solutions. As 'Clinical Environments' is one of BAYouth's priorities, colleagues were invited to a BAYouth meeting to provide an update via a brief presentation. Some of BAYouth's feedback is below:

- We want to be treated differently to younger children
- The children's ward is a nicer environment than an adult's ward
- We'd like a grown up area to relax
- We'd like to be involved in our care

Members are looking forward to being involved in the future development of this service.

Community Ambassadors

BAYouth are 'Community Ambassadors' for the Children's Commissioner for Wales (CCfW). Three members had the opportunity to provide an update on BAYouth's work to the new Children's Commissioner at an event in June 2022. Members enjoyed a buffet and also got the opportunity to ask the new Commissioner any questions and give their views on what they feel are the important issues facing children and young people.

Thank you to Carys, Zoe and Sawdah!

RCPCH Annual Conference 2022

The CRU was approached by the CCfW office to see if members of BAYouth were interested in co-presenting at the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH) annual conference in June 2022. The theme of the conference was "children's rights and paediatrics" and aimed to inspire and inform the audience of paediatricians/allied health professionals about what matters to children and young people about their physical and mental health, the health services they access and to reinforce children's rights as part of these discussions, work and support.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

Two members of BAYouth were identified and were supported to develop a presentation highlighting some of the work they were doing to ensure that all children and young people have access to their rights in health.

NPTCVS Volunteers Award

For their commitment to the group and for championing the rights of children and young people in health, we nominated 'BAYouth' for a volunteers' award. They were recognised for their commitment to volunteering with an 'Unsung Hero' award certificate.

@BAYouthNHS

The BAYouth twitter account is currently managed by the CRU. Give their page a follow to see what they get up to.

Children's Rights Promises Launch

We supported colleagues in Children's Services with planning the launch of the Children's Rights 'Promises'. A programme of speakers and presentations was put together and a list of names compiled for invitees. The virtual launch of the Children's Rights Promises took place in April 2022. The CRU developed and presented a talk on children's rights in Wales and the work that the health board are doing and the 'Promises' launch video was shown to attendees.

The CRU also supported BAYouth members to develop a presentation on their work and one member of BAYouth presented to the audience of health professionals - Sawdah did a brilliant job.

'Championing Children's Rights in Practice' Training

The health board are committed to embedding children's rights into practice and continue to work hard to ensure that this is sustainable, a key part in achieving this is to engage with colleagues in various paediatric services across the health board. The CRU was asked to develop a two-hour children's rights workshop for Children's Services staff for delivery over ten sessions throughout the year.

The training helps to ensure that staff are aware of the commitment the health board has made to children's rights and raise awareness to staff on their role and responsibilities in making this a reality for all children and young people.

'Introduction to Children's Rights' Training

An 'Introduction to Children's Rights' training session was developed and delivered twice in 2022-23, to Burns and Plastics nurses and to the Psychology Team. The training provides a basic introduction to children's rights and the UNCRC, shares good practice examples of children's rights in practice and allows participants to start to consider how they can embed children's rights into their specific roles.

Your Feedback Matters

In early 2023, we supported the health board with the development of a 'Patient Feedback Matters' session in readiness for delivery in 2023-24.

The training will raise awareness of the importance of feedback and how to empower children and young people to express their views and give feedback on their personal experiences of health services.

Accessible immunisation information/resources

It was recognised that school nurses did not have the resources or information available to them to communicate with children and young people when administering essential vaccinations, including: HPV; Covid and Fluenz. All children and young people have the right to good health care, they also have the right to access information and children and young people with additional learning needs may need special assistance to access these rights to ensure that they are not discriminated against.

Working in partnership with colleagues from Ysgol Maes Y Coed School and the School Nursing Service, accessible immunisation information in the form of 'social stories' and 'steps' were developed. These are useful for school nurses to use as prompts and visual aids, to explain to children and young people with additional learning needs the procedure for administering immunisation injections and the Fluenz Nasal Spray. The resources use plain English and widgeit symbols to communicate clearly with children and young people. These resources (see example below) will support and empower school nursing staff to administer vaccinations quickly and safely, and ensure that children and young people better understand what is happening to them so they too are protected. This project was provided as a case study for 'The Right Way - ALN' to the Children's Commissioner for Wales office.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

Feedback mechanisms for children and young people

The health board are committed to listening to the voices of children and young people on their experiences of health care on paediatric wards. We have helped the health board with this by designing a 'Tops & Pants' postcard and collating feedback supplied by the health board into word clouds. This feedback is displayed on wards so that children and young people are aware of the positive and negative comments others have made. These comments will also be shared with BAYouth members who will pick up on any themes, and then these will also be shared with health board staff who can make a difference to the experiences of children and young people in their care.

Neath Port Talbot Council

Our partnership with Children's Services has developed through a commissioning arrangement where we support the service to develop and deliver various children's rights projects and initiatives, including mechanisms for children and young people to have their voices heard.

We are pleased that our relationship with colleagues in Children's Services is strong and we continue to work together to ensure that the service continues to realise its strategic commitment to children's rights and are delighted to share some of this work below.

Junior Safeguarding Board (JSB)

Established in January 2019, the purpose of the JSB is for children and young people to have the opportunity to participate and have their voices heard regarding safety at school, at home, online and in their communities. The CRU works closely with the Engagement & Participation Officer to ensure that the issues that are deemed important by children and young people in Neath Port Talbot are listened to and are shared with colleagues on the West Glamorgan Safeguarding Board.

Our first JSB meeting of 2022-23 was held at Cefn Saeson Comprehensive School in November and representatives from seven secondary schools across NPT were in attendance. Young people were given an introduction to the JSB and took part in an ice breaker activity and workshops. Lots of issues were raised and the two that the young people agreed upon to champion in 2023-24 were sexual harassment and vaping.

Peer on peer sexual harassment

An Estyn report entitled "We don't tell our teachers" documents the experiences of young people in secondary schools throughout Wales in relation to peer-on-peer sexual harassment. Members of Cefn Saeson well-being Senedd were engaged to review the report, compile an anonymous survey and share their views/findings at the Education Safeguarding Conference in March 2023.

Equali-Tea with the JSB

The Equali-Tea project has been running since 2021 when young people raised the issue of equality and diversity and the LGBTQIA+ community. The Equali-Tea resource was shared with all secondary schools and feedback on issues raised by young people was collated and presented to the West Glamorgan Safeguarding Board for response.

We also supported the Engagement & Participation Officer to deliver four workshops at Llangatwg Community School health and well-being day in December.

National Safeguarding Week

The 'Equali-Tea' training session was delivered to around 15 professionals during National Safeguarding Week 2022. The aim of the 'train the trainer' style workshop was to introduce the Equali-Tea resource and provide professionals with information on how to deliver it with young people they support and engage with.

YoVo - Your Voice Matters

It's been a busy year of activities, fun and consultation with YoVo, the group of care experienced children and young people from Neath Port Talbot. We supported the Engagement & Participation at regular meet ups in Base 15 and activities have included: football; walking; picnics; games; paddle boarding; go karting.

Beaches2Beacons

'Beaches2Beacon' is an initiative that was established between NPT Children's Services and the Brecon Beacons National Park. The project encourages children and young people to appreciate the outdoors and their local environment with the aim to improve wellbeing. Participants who joined up had the opportunity to explore the local environment in Neath Port Talbot and link up with Brecon Beacons National park staff to explore further afield into the Beacons. Participants enjoyed fun activities, learnt new skills, and undertook tasks such as tree planting to look after the environment. Participants were congratulated with a John Muir award.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

Green Spaces Dark Skies

YoVo were invited to be 'Lumenators' and take part in 'Green Space Dark Skies' which enables people from all walks of life to forge new connections with the countryside by supporting people from different backgrounds to celebrate nature and enjoy our National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Members of YoVo helped to compose music and voice overs for the event and became 'Lumenators' at Craig Y Nos Country Park.

NPTCVS Volunteers Award

For their commitment to the group and for championing the rights of care experienced children and young people, 'YoVo' were recognised with a volunteers award in 2022.

Consultation

Members have also been helping with the design and development of information and gave their views on the Complaints leaflet/postcard and the Children's Rights Charter.

Social Action project 2023-24

Members of YoVo talked about issues that affected them at home; school; online and in their communities. From the discussions, members decided that they would like to champion discrimination and being different, they would also like to celebrate that there is more to them than being care experienced.

They also agreed that everything they take part in throughout 2023-24 should be underpinned by emotional health and wellbeing. They have some ideas of how to do this, these include:

- Self-development - learning new skills; building confidence; improving HWB
- Changing perception of care experienced children and young people
- Celebration of being different

Congratulations to YoVo who were successful in being awarded with a Community Changemakers Grant for 2023.

Girls' Rights - Hope

The Girls' Rights group 'Hope' continues to provide opportunities for care experienced girls to get together, have fun and have their views heard on issues that are important to them. Alongside the Engagement & Participation Officer, we have supported the girls at regular get togethers throughout the year. It's been a very busy year with lots of exciting projects and fun activities.

Safe Spaces

Girls' Rights group 'Hope' were successful in their application to the Plan UK 'Young Changemakers Grant' and attended a few inspire days to develop their 'Safe Spaces' idea.

Throughout the year we have supported the 'Young Changemakers' to put their ideas into an action plan. This included:

- Developing a sexual harassment workshop - this was delivered to more than 120 boys
- Campaign - creating a hard hitting campaign with their own photography/video message
- Attendance at self-defence classes

Period Dignity

The group are passionate about ensuring all girls coming into care receive a pack of basic toiletries. Earlier in 2022 they developed a postcard with a message from the group for girls going to a new foster placement, these were distributed to all foster carers in NPT. The group worked throughout the summer of 2022 on the production and editing of an animated training video that will be used to raise awareness of the issue with professionals and foster carers. We were involved in helping to support the girls to develop the animation on a few Fridays throughout the summer holidays. The animation launched in the Autumn and is being used in foster carers basic training.

WELL DONE - For their commitment to this project, we nominated 'Hope' for a High Sheriff's Award, which they were successful in gaining.

Community Changemakers Fund

Some of the girls raised the issue of not having safe spaces to exercise and Hope were awarded a grant to pay for activities throughout 2022. Members of Hope chose the activities they wanted to take part in, these included: yoga; self-defence; climbing; kayaking.

Thank you to South West Wales Connected for funding this project.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

Action for Children - Skills Plus + Workshop

Skills Plus+ is a psychosocial-skills building intervention for young people leaving care aged between 14 and 24. We invited Action for Children to run a bespoke session for 'Hope' and they very kindly offered to help. The session aimed to support young people in developing skills such as: mindfulness; emotional regulations; distress tolerance.

Hope residential - August 2022

We accompanied colleagues and girls' rights group 'Hope' on their residential trip to the YHA in Llanddeusant. The three days were jam packed with activities, many of the group overcame challenges, including fear of heights and water. The residential was a great experience for the girls to form strong friendships, try new things, learn new skills and challenge themselves. It was a pleasure to be part of the girls' experience and to see them grow and make lifelong memories.

Community Ambassadors

The new Children's Commissioner for Wales (CCfW) visited the group in April 2022 and had fun making smoothies on the smoothie bike. They also talked about children's rights and what they liked about themselves and other members of 'Hope'.

A few weeks later 'Hope' were invited, alongside other community ambassadors, to the CCfW office in Port Talbot to give an update on their project work.

Beaches2Beacons

Some members of 'Hope' also took part in the Beaches2Beacons project - see page XX.

Consultation

Members have also been helping us with giving their views on the development of the Complaints leaflet/postcard and the Children's Rights Charter.

NPTCVS Volunteers Award

For their commitment to the group and for championing the rights of care experienced girls, we nominated 'Hope' for a volunteers award. 'Hope' was recognised for their commitment to volunteering with a certificate.

Children and Young People's Services Staff Conference

Alongside the Engagement & Participation Officer and care experienced young people, we took part in a presentation on children and young people's rights at the Children's Services Conference in October 2022. We are very grateful to have been given this platform to raise awareness of the importance of children's rights, to inspire all staff to take responsibility, and to be able to support young people from 'Hope' to share their stories.

Comment? Compliment? Complaint?

Care experienced children and young people have the right to share their views and make complaints, comments or compliments about services. Throughout 2022 we supported Children's Services to develop their Comments, Compliments and Complaints information for children and young people. This will ensure that all children and young people accessing services are aware of their right to give feedback.

Children's Rights Champions

In 2021 the local authority began its journey in taking a 'Children's Rights Approach' as developed by the Children's Commissioner for Wales Office. Children's Rights are everyone's responsibility and in order to embed children's rights into practice the local authority committed to the concept of 'Children's Rights Champions'.

'Champions' recruited in 2021 continue to report every six months on their progress in relation to actions they have set to embed children's rights into practice in their specific roles. All 'Champions' attended our bespoke 'Children's Rights in Practice' training, and in 2022-23 five new Champions were recruited, all Champions reported biannually on the Children's Rights Action Plan that includes over 60 actions in relation to embedding children's rights into practice.

Emergency Services - training video and communication board

Led by NPT Council, we have been working very closely with colleagues in the local authority as well as Ysgol Maes y Coed and other partners (Mid and West Wales Fire; South Wales Police; Welsh Ambulance Service Trust), to coordinate and produce a training video to enable professionals to communicate with children and young people with complex needs in an emergency situation. The video was shared cross sector with front line professionals and includes children, young people and professionals teaching BSL through phrases that are accompanied by plain English/Welsh and subtitles.

Well done to all the pupils who took part from Ysgol Maes Y Coed.

NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS UNIT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Children's Rights Charter

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) is the world's most widely ratified international human rights treaty and was adopted by the UN in 1989 and the UK ratified it in 1991. It outlines the rights that all children and young people, up to the age of 18 have.

Everyone working with children and young people should be aware of, and consider children's rights in their practice and should consider themselves as 'duty-bearers', ensuring that they support children to access their rights. As the UNCRC states, children have many different rights, children should be aware of every one of them, and be able to understand and access them.

Throughout 2022 we supported Children's Services with the development of content for the Charter, this included desk research and consultation with various stakeholders. The draft content for the charter was signed off and draft designs began in early 2023.

The purpose of the NPT Children's Services Children's Rights Charter will be to:

- Raise awareness and inform children and young people of their rights
- Ensure children and young people feel supported and empowered
- Outline the help and support children and young people can expect
- Emphasise NPT's commitment to protect and respect children and young people's rights
- Ensure NPT Children's Services take their responsibilities seriously
- Improve service delivery through listening to children and young people

Get on Board Cymru project

Our 'Get on Board Cymru' project is not currently funded, but we have been able to continue developing and delivering the project with the commitment and support of our dedicated 'Get on Board Training and Support Officer', working in partnership with organisations to provide training opportunities for young people to exercise their right to have a voice, be listened to, and become active citizens in their communities.

'Preparing to be a board member' training - ONLINE

Our unique 'Preparing to be a board member' training, developed specifically for young people aged 14-25 and accredited by Agored Cymru, continues to be offered for either online or face-to-face delivery.

In April and May 2022, 15 members of Children in Wales attended the 'Preparing to be a board member' training, which was delivered online over five, two-hour interactive sessions. After completion and external verification of their workbooks, eight participants were successful in passing the course and have achieved a Level 1 CQFW qualification. The qualification provides young people with the skills and knowledge to undertake their roles; it empowers them to develop a sense of ownership; enables them to realise their potential to participate in decision-making; and gives them the confidence to speak up.

Short course/Taster

Acknowledging the commitment involved in completing the accredited 'Preparing to be a board member' training, we have developed a short course as a general introduction to trusteeship, designed for online delivery, and look forward to making this available to organisations as a taster so that they may consider the accredited training.

Training for NPTC Group of Colleges

For the past few years, we have been commissioned to develop and deliver 'Student Representative' training for NPTC Group of Colleges. This successful partnership continues: we ran eight sessions throughout November 2022 and approximately 100 students attended the training, which was all delivered online and again proved popular. The course content included: benefits of student representatives; equality and diversity; conflict of interest.

We also delivered induction training for the newly-elected Student Union officers in February 2023, focussing on meeting skills, confidence building and active listening.

Website: www.getonboard.cymru

Twitter: [@getonboardcymru](https://twitter.com/getonboardcymru)

Conclusion

We would like to thank all the children and young people who have participated in projects and engaged with activities throughout the year. Our staff have thoroughly enjoyed being able to attend more face to face events with children and young people as well as provide in person training for professionals.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

Our board of trustees and staff would also like to thank our statutory funders for their ongoing commitment to children's rights, for their faith in us, and for the continued funding the unit receives, without which we would not exist.

We are looking forward to another year of successful partnership and creating many opportunities for children and young people to know about and access their rights in our communities.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The total income of £63,674 (2022: £52,103) was spent on direct charitable expenditure totalling £59,309 (2022: £53,844) resulting in a net deficit of £4,365 (2022: deficit of £1,741).

The Statement of Financial Activities reflects the income and expenditure incurred by Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit in carrying out its role in respect of its objectives. The unrestricted funds at 31 March 2023 were £64,318 (2022: £59,935).

Reserves policy

The board has examined the charity's requirements for reserves in respect of the main risks to the organisation and aims to build up reserves in future years to enable it to continue and expand the services they currently provide. The charity's policy is to maintain a designated reserve for future running costs and critical costs. This will cover twelve months running costs to meet its medium term objectives and to look to absorb any impact of Covid 19, and it will cover redundancy payments to employees and other termination costs should the funding of the charity reduce in the future.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

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

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 31/7/2003 and registered as a charity on 21/06/2013. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the company's Articles are known as Trustees. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the members of the Management Committee are elected to serve for a period of three years after which they must be re-elected at the next Annual General Meeting.

All members of the Management Committee give their time voluntarily and received no benefits from the charity.

Mari Shufflebotham and Phil Treseder retire by rotation and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Trustees are appointed through election from the Membership of the Charity and through co-option of individuals with specific skills and experience useful to the Charity. The Children's Rights Unit seeks to maintain a diverse trustee body comprising the skills, knowledge and experience necessary to ensure that the Charity is managed professionally, that its objects are pursued rigorously and that public benefit is maintained in all its activities. To this end, the Children's Rights Unit seeks suitable candidates widely with skills, knowledge and experience to complement the trustee team.

Induction and training of new trustees

All trustees receive induction into the work of the Children's Rights Unit. Regular training is provided for trustees and has included training in governance, roles and responsibilities of trustees and child protection.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

04906893 (England and Wales)

NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Registered Charity number
1152471

Registered office
Ty Margaret Thorne
17 - 19 Alfred Street
Neath
West Glamorgan
SA11 1EF

Trustees
P Treseder
M A Shufflebotham
S A Jones MBE
P H Dunmore
S B Watson
M Dacey

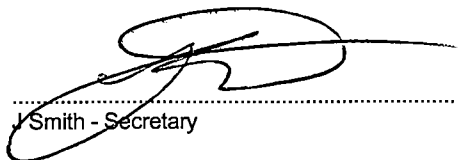
Staff
Jannine Smith Director/Company Secretary
Victoria Owen Training and Support Officer

Company Secretary
J Smith

Independent Examiner
Alison Vickers ACA
Bevan Buckland LLP
Ground Floor Cardigan House
Castle Court
Swansea Enterprise Park
Swansea
SA7 9LA

Bankers
The Co - operative Bank
P.O. Box 250
Delf House
Southway
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 26 October 2023 and signed on its behalf by:


.....
J Smith - Secretary

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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 accounts to be reached.



Alison Vickers ACA

Bevan Buckland LLP
Ground Floor Cardigan House
Castle Court
Swansea Enterprise Park
Swansea
SA7 9LA

Date: 26/10/2023.....

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	3	59,931	600	60,531	46,733
Other trading activities	4	3,143	-	3,143	4,497
Other income		-	-	-	873
Total		<u>63,074</u>	<u>600</u>	<u>63,674</u>	<u>52,103</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Charitable Activities		<u>58,709</u>	<u>600</u>	<u>59,309</u>	<u>53,844</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		4,365	-	4,365	(1,741)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		59,953	-	59,953	61,694
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>64,318</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>64,318</u>	<u>59,953</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**BALANCE SHEET
31 MARCH 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	9	-	-	-	456
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank and in hand		68,612	-	68,612	64,158
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	10	(4,294)	-	(4,294)	(4,661)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>64,318</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>64,318</u>	<u>59,497</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>64,318</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>64,318</u>	<u>59,953</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>64,318</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>64,318</u>	<u>59,953</u>
FUNDS	11				
Unrestricted funds				64,318	59,953
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>64,318</u>	<u>59,953</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 26th October 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:


P Treseder - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern.

Income

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

Training income is recognised in the period in which it relates.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, 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 accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

All costs allocated between expenditure categories are on a basis designed to reflect their resource usage. For some costs this means direct allocation to activities, other costs are apportioned, e.g. by staff time spent on the activity, or another equitable usage measure.

The Charity initially identifies the costs of its support functions. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the charities programmes and activities.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 20% on cost
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

Assets costing less than £1,000 are not capitalised and shown as an expense in the statement of financial activities.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Grants

Grants relating to specific capital expenditure are treated as deferred income which is credited to the profit and loss account over the related asset's life.

Revenue grants are credited to the profit and loss account in the same period as the expenditure to which they relate.

Debtors

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any discount due.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments held within a deposit or similar account.

Creditors and provisions

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

Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

Costs have been allocated as far as possible between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities on a basis designed to reflect the usage of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly. Others have been apportioned based on the estimated usage of the resource.

Financial Instruments

Under FRS 102 financial instruments are classified as either basic or complex, the charity has reviewed its financial instruments and is satisfied that all financial instruments can be classified as basic and are recognised at amortised historical cost.

2. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgments, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgments about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results in the future may differ from these estimates. 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 and in any future periods affected.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

3. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2023	2022
	£	£
Grants	60,531	46,733
	<u>60,531</u>	<u>46,733</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
SBUHB	29,931	29,933
NPTCBC	30,000	16,800
Changemakers fund	600	-
	<u>60,531</u>	<u>46,733</u>

4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2023	2022
	£	£
Training	3,143	4,497
	<u>3,143</u>	<u>4,497</u>

5. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2023	2022
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	456	546
	<u>456</u>	<u>546</u>

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor for the year ended 31 March 2022.

7. STAFF COSTS

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

	2023	2022
	2	2
Administration & support	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

8. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	46,733	-	46,733
Other trading activities	4,497	-	4,497
Other income	873	-	873
Total	52,103	-	52,103
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activities	53,844	-	53,844
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(1,741)	-	(1,741)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	61,694	-	61,694
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	59,953	-	59,953

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023	863	2,138	3,001
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2022	863	1,682	2,545
Charge for year	-	456	456
At 31 March 2023	863	2,138	3,001
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2023	-	-	-
At 31 March 2022	-	456	456

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

10. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	102	381
Social security and other taxes	937	936
Deferred income	-	600
Accrued expenses	3,255	2,744
	<u>4,294</u>	<u>4,661</u>

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.23 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	8,953	16,282	(11,917)	13,318
Designated Strategic Fund	45,000	-	-	45,000
Get on Board	-	(11,917)	11,917	-
Critical cost fund	6,000	-	-	6,000
	<u>59,953</u>	<u>4,365</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>64,318</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>59,953</u>	<u>4,365</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>64,318</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	63,074	(46,792)	16,282
Get on Board	-	(11,917)	(11,917)
	<u>63,074</u>	<u>(58,709)</u>	<u>4,365</u>
Restricted funds			
Changemakers fund	600	(600)	-
	<u>600</u>	<u>(600)</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>63,674</u>	<u>(59,309)</u>	<u>4,365</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.22 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	10,694	4,488	(6,229)	8,953
Designated Strategic Fund	45,000	-	-	45,000
Get on Board	-	(6,229)	6,229	-
Critical cost fund	6,000	-	-	6,000
	<u>61,694</u>	<u>(1,741)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>59,953</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>61,694</u>	<u>(1,741)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>59,953</u>

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	47,606	(43,118)	4,488
Get on Board	4,497	(10,726)	(6,229)
	<u>52,103</u>	<u>(53,844)</u>	<u>(1,741)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>52,103</u>	<u>(53,844)</u>	<u>(1,741)</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.23 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	10,694	20,770	(18,146)	13,318
Designated Strategic Fund	45,000	-	-	45,000
Get on Board	-	(18,146)	18,146	-
Critical cost fund	6,000	-	-	6,000
	<u>61,694</u>	<u>2,624</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>64,318</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>61,694</u>	<u>2,624</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>64,318</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	110,680	(89,910)	20,770
Get on Board	4,497	(22,643)	(18,146)
	<u>115,177</u>	<u>(112,553)</u>	<u>2,624</u>
Restricted funds			
Changemakers fund	600	(600)	-
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>115,777</u>	<u>(113,153)</u>	<u>2,624</u>

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Funds

Unrestricted funds

Swansea Bay University Health Board	The Children's Rights Unit works in partnership with SBUHB to deliver Children's Rights projects and embed Children's Rights practice including: recruiting, supporting and developing a Youth Board; developing and delivering Children's Rights training for SBUHB staff; launch and implementation of the Children's Rights Charter.
NPTCBC	Children's Rights Unit support of NPT Children's Services including; training, youth engagement (in a variety of areas), advice and guidance, and the development of a children's rights based approach.
Designated Strategic Fund	The charity has designated some of its unrestricted general reserves to a designated fund for future running costs. This will cover twelve months running costs to meet its medium term objectives and to look to absorb any impact of Covid 19.
Critical Cost Fund	The charity has designated some of its unrestricted general reserves to a designated fund for critical costs. This will cover redundancy payments to employees and other termination costs should the funding of the charity reduce in the future.

12. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2023.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	2023 £	2022 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Grants	60,531	46,733
Other trading activities		
Training	3,143	4,497
Other income		
Sundry Income	-	873
Total incoming resources	<u>63,674</u>	<u>52,103</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	43,792	41,723
Pensions	2,321	2,317
Telephone	949	267
Postage and stationery	508	718
Travelling	486	169
Staff Training	449	86
Project Activities	1,241	639
Subscriptions	110	30
Insurance	637	639
Computer Expenses	873	651
Depreciation	456	546
Website development costs	960	-
	<u>52,782</u>	<u>47,785</u>
Support costs		
Support costs		
Accountancy fees	3,257	2,446
Legal fees	171	514
Support from NPTCVS	3,099	3,099
	<u>6,527</u>	<u>6,059</u>
Total resources expended	<u>59,309</u>	<u>53,844</u>
Net income/(expenditure)	<u><u>4,365</u></u>	<u><u>(1,741)</u></u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04906893 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1152471

**UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 MARCH 2022**

FOR

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

Bevan Buckland LLP
Ground Floor
Cardigan House
Castle Court
Swansea Enterprise Park
Swansea
SA7 9LA

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

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**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022. 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 2019).

Our Vision

Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit (CRU) is a charity that was established to promote and protect the rights of children and young people in Neath Port Talbot and the surrounding areas. The unit aims to make the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), a reality for children, young people and their families.

The CRU was first established in 2003 and is governed by a Board of Trustees that are responsible for overseeing the work of the charity and its long-term direction

It provides opportunities for children and young people up to the age of 25 to develop the confidence and skills to understand and exercise their rights, thus becoming active citizens in their communities, and aims to advance the education of duty bearers to understand their role in enabling children and young people to access their rights.

Our Values

Board Members and staff believe in:

- A Children's Rights based approach in everything we do
- Equal opportunities for all
- Becoming the best that you can be
- Partnership and holistic working
- Empowering and transforming attitudes

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Our impact in 2021 - 2022

Our Annual Report showcases the key achievements in relation to the work we have undertaken between 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022, it highlights the impact we are having on the lives of children and young people in the Neath Port Talbot and Swansea areas.

Swansea Bay University Health Board - working together to make children's rights a reality

Our relationship with Swansea Bay University Health Board has developed over a number of years, and we have supported them to develop various strategic initiatives and practical projects to embed children's rights in practice. We are very proud to share a summary of the key achievements for 2021-22.

BAYouth - Youth Advisory Panel

In 2017, with our support, Swansea Bay University Health Board established its 'Youth Advisory Panel'. The first of its kind in Wales, BAYouth:

- Are youth led (with the support of CRU and SBUHB staff)
- Are dedicated to improving health services for children and young people
- Represents the voices of children and young people across SBUHB area
- Influence decision-making process in health

Throughout 2021-22, nine BAYouth meetings were held and the CRU provided assistance to members through a variety of means including: arranging the agenda; collating papers for the meetings; supporting members with minutes/actions; coordinating speakers; setting up sub-groups; and supporting young people at the meetings to ensure they have their voices heard and are listened to.

We'd like to note a very grateful thanks to Catrin and Amy who were Chair and Vice-Chair of BAYouth before they stepped down in 2021. Catrin and Amy were both instrumental in the establishment of BAYouth and showed true leadership, commitment and passion to children's rights in health. We sincerely thank you both for your dedication and for working tirelessly as volunteers to ensure that the voice of children and young people was heard in health services.

Priorities for 2021-23

Every two years BAYouth set three priorities which they are passionate about and want to champion but that also align with health board priorities. Members confirmed their priorities for 2021-23 as:

- Emotional Health and Wellbeing
- Healthy Lifestyles
- Clinical Environments

Projects

Being a member of BAYouth is voluntary, and members are given a choice of projects that they can get involved in. The CRU ensures that members are aware of the projects that are available, commitment required and any associated timescales and deadlines. It is also important that members of BAYouth are aware of the impact of their involvement, we follow up with speakers and organisations for feedback to ensure they are accountable to members and that they are aware of the difference they are making.

In 2021-22 members were given many opportunities to get involved and have their voices heard, some of these are highlighted below.

Consultations

It is important that BAYouth members not only get listened to at a regional level but at a national level too, their involvement in consultation exercises is a vital mechanism in ensuring that young people have the opportunity to be part of decision-making and the development of services that directly affect them.

Members commented on the health board's consultation on the location of acute mental health assessment beds in Swansea Bay.

Members were also asked to complete a survey from Welsh Government on their experiences of health services during the pandemic.

BAYouth members had previously given their views on the Welsh Government 'Transition & Handover Plan' for children moving from paediatric to adult services. In November BAYouth were approached for a second time to provide feedback on the plan before it was signed off for implementation.

Every child and young person with healthcare or additional needs has a 'School Healthcare Plan', these plans are used to communicate with schools on the child or young person's health condition, and they provide details on how the child/young person can be supported. Members gave their views on a new version of the plan and these will be

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

rolled out across Swansea Bay.

Mental health and well-being website

BAYouth members worked closely with colleagues in SBUHB throughout 2020-21 to give their views on where they would go for help and support on mental health and well-being. Further to the initial consultation with BAYouth members, a draft website was developed in 2021 for the Swansea Bay area to which members provided further comments on the design, name and branding, they also volunteered to be 'validators' and tested out its functionality before it was launched in June 2021.

Get on Board Cymru - Online 'Preparing to be a board member' training

In the summer of 2021, four members of BAYouth attended the CRU's accredited 'Preparing to be a board member' training. All four participants were successful in passing the course and have obtained a Level 1 CQFW qualification (Accredited by Agored Cymru).

'Young Interviewers' online training

Each young person who has the opportunity to take part in interviewing for health board positions is required to attend our bespoke 'Young Interviewers' training. The online training was delivered twice in 2021-22 to support and prepare members to get involved in interviewing. A panel of four young people took part in the 'Young Interviewers Panel' for the position of Head of Nursing in 2021 and one young person took part in the main interview panel for the position of Matron Children's Services in March 2022.

Children's Commissioner for Wales Annual Child Health Seminar

The CRU has been accompanying colleagues in the health board to the annual Child Health Seminar organised by the CCfW for four years. The seminar is an opportunity for Swansea Bay University Health Board to update the Children's Commissioner for Wales and health board colleagues across Wales on the progress it has made in taking a Children's Rights Approach.

This year the CRU prepared a presentation for the health board to give an update on where the health board is in relation to the principle of 'Embedding Children's Rights in Practice'.

Community Ambassadors

Members of BAYouth are Community Ambassadors for the Children's Commissioner for Wales (CCfW) office. As Community Ambassadors, members highlight health issues that are important to them to the CCfW.

The CRU and one member of BAYouth attended the CCfW Community Ambassadors workshop in June to update Sally Holland on the work BAYouth had been doing, it also gave members an opportunity to pose questions on behalf of the whole group.

Careersville

Health Education and Improvement Wales were developing an online platform to showcase careers in the NHS in Wales. BAYouth provided lots of feedback on the types of information young people would want from 'Careersville', including:

- Top Tips on how to apply
- Entry requirements for roles
- Job Descriptions
- Work experience opportunities
- Career pathways
- Competition and demand for roles
- Funding for training/education

www.careersville.heiw.wales

School Nursing Service

The role of the school nursing service is to keep healthy school aged children in good health for the future, and ensure that children and young people with on-going health needs are being supported. The vast majority of children and young people access health services in their community and SBUHB are committed to ensuring that all staff working with children and young people are aware of children's rights and the commitment made by the health board through the Children's Rights Charter.

The CRU has worked closely with the school nursing service to support them to continue to embed children's rights into practice. This year saw further commitment with the identification and development of additional actions including the recruitment of Children's Rights Champions.

National Participation Standards Kitemark

In February 2020, Swansea Bay University Health Board signed up to the National Participation Standards Charter. In doing so, the health board committed to measure and improve the quality of children and young people's participation. In Wales there are seven standards which help organisations make sure the process, quality and

NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS UNIT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

experience of involving children and young people's participation are followed, these are:

- Information
- It's your choice
- No discrimination
- Respect
- You get something out of it
- Feedback
- Working better for you

In the summer of 2021, we coordinated the self-assessment with valuable input from a sub-group of BAYouth members. The health board were subsequently awarded the Kitemark in November 2021. This is a great achievement for the health board and demonstrates their commitment to participation.

A Children's Rights Approach

Developed by the Children's Commissioner for Wales office, a 'Children's Rights Approach' is a principled and practical framework for working with children, grounded in the UNCRC. It is about placing the UNCRC at the core of planning and service delivery and integrating children's rights into every aspect of decision-making, policy and practice. The principles of a Children's Rights Approach are:

- Embedding children's rights
- Equality & non-discrimination
- Empowering children
- Participation
- Accountability

In 2021-22 we developed an online 'Championing Children's Rights in Practice' training and this was delivered over two sessions to acute Children's Services staff. Participants fully embraced the training and came up with some great ideas on how to embed children's rights into their roles.

Around fifteen paediatric Health Care Support Workers also attended similar training at four face to face study days during the autumn/winter. It was a great opportunity to engage with health professionals on the rights of the child.

Children's Rights Promises Launch

Prior to the pandemic, the CRU was working closely with SBUHB to develop an updated version of the Children's Rights Charter that is accessible to all children and young people. Consultations were undertaken with children and young people and this resulted in the creation of the 'Children's Rights Promises'.

In 2021, the CRU led the coordination of filming for a video which included various speakers including the Children's Commissioner for Wales, Sally Holland, we also supported the health board in the planning of the launch in April 2022. The 'Promises' will ensure that children and young people are made aware of their rights in health and health board staff will understand their responsibility in upholding the rights of children and young people in their roles.

We'd like to note a special thank you to all the children and young people who were involved in the development of the 'Promises' and took part in the launch video.

Children's Complaints

When a parent or carer makes a formal complaint to the health board regarding the care/service their child has received, the child does not receive any correspondence.

Developed by the CRU and based on feedback from BAYouth members, the child and young person friendly postcards are now sent out by the health board to children and young people.

Feedback mechanisms for children and young people

The health board are committed to listening to the voices of children and young people on their experiences of health care on paediatric wards. We have helped the health board with this by designing 'Tops & Pants' and 'Thumbs up/Thumbs down' postcards. Feedback is collated and displayed on wards so that children and young people are aware of the positive and negative comments others have made. Themes were shared with health board staff who are able to make a difference to the experiences of children and young people in their care.

Neath Port Talbot Council - working together to make children's rights a reality

We have established a strong relationship with Neath Port Talbot Council Children's Services over the last few years. This section of our Annual Report provides a summary of the main support and service we have provided to the local authority in 2021-22.

Junior Safeguarding Board (JSB)

NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS UNIT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Established in January 2019, the Junior Safeguarding Board (JSB) comprises of representatives from secondary schools across the West Glamorgan region. The purpose of the JSB is for children and young people to have the opportunity to participate and have their voices heard regarding safety at school, at home, online and in their communities.

Equali-Tea with the JSB

Members told us that they wanted to raise awareness and champion LGBTQIA+. In partnership with young people, a resource was developed that young people could use in various settings to raise issues. The 'Equali-Tea' pack consists of: a fun quiz to break the ice; some conversation starters; a scribble pad to jot down views and ideas.

Launched in National Safeguarding Week 2021 and sent to all secondary schools, the aim of 'Equali-tea' pack is for young people to feedback their views to stakeholders who are members of the West Glamorgan Safeguarding Board. We are looking forward to strengthening this relationships further in 2022 and taking forward the issues that young people raise.

West Glamorgan Safeguarding Board Annual Recognition Awards

At the West Glamorgan Safeguarding Board Annual Recognition Awards, the JSB were given special recognition for 'inspirational contribution made by young people'.

NPT Social Care, Health and Housing Awards 2021

The Engagement & Participation Officer put forward the JSB for an NPT award and they came first for their work in relation to the development of the LGBTQIA+ resource. Whilst the CRU was not involved in this submission, we would still like to acknowledge the award and note thanks to all the young people who took part in this project. Well done!

'Stay Safe in Sport' Campaign

As sports started to return to normal in 2021-22, the 'Stay Safe in Sport' campaign that was originally launched in 2020, was shared again during National Safeguarding Week. It's important that children and young people participating in sport can have fun and feel safe and supported, the aim of the campaign was to:

- raise awareness of the issues children and young people face in relation to safeguarding insport and side line
- behaviour
- provide marketing assets for key stakeholders to use to spread the word
- encourage coaches, parents, referees, children and young people to speak up

Collaborative working

Throughout 2021-22 we worked closely with officers from Neath Port Talbot Council and Swansea Council to discuss projects and collaborative working, priorities are identified with agreed timescales and responsibilities and regular joint updates are provided to the West Glamorgan Safeguarding Board.

'Preparing to be a board member' training

One member of the JSB attended our unique ONLINE 'Preparing to be a board member' training specifically for young people aged 14-25. Congratulations on achieving the Level 1 CQFW qualification!

YoVo - Your Voice Matters

YoVo was established to encourage care experienced children and young people to get involved in activities, have fun and provide a safe space to enjoy. The group also acts as a mechanism to give care experienced children and young people a voice on services and in decisions that affect them.

After a long winter lockdown, we kicked off in April 2021 with a great outdoor fun day of tree climbing, team building and wood carving with Plattform at Down to Earth in Murton. We enjoyed being able to support the young people on the day.

Members also enjoyed sand art and surf lessons with Surf School Wales at Aberavon beach.

Many Covid restrictions continued to be lifted throughout 2021 and children and young people experienced a 'Summer of Fun'.

Although there were further Covid restrictions in the Autumn/Winter, we had regular meet ups and lots of fun activities, including: Archery; Nerf Wars; Circus skills; Christmas crafts; Baking; Pool; Table Tennis; Board games; Cooking skills.

Girls' Rights - Hope

Girls' Rights group 'Hope' were established in early 2021 and have grown from strength to strength with regular get togethers, fun activities and wellbeing sessions. Members were given opportunities to have their say on issues they face as care experienced girls. The initial few meetings consisted of some interesting discussion around two main topics they wanted to champion:

- Period dignity
- The right to exercise safely

NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS UNIT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

To champion the rights of girls coming into care in relation to 'Period Dignity' and their right to have the basic essentials made available to them, the girls came up with a list of products that were 'needs' that they want to ensure that every girl coming into care receives. They also created a postcard with a message of support from their group to put girls at ease. The postcards have been printed and distributed to all foster carers with a note asking them to provide the basic essentials.

'Hope' was also fortunate enough to welcome Sally Holland, the Children's Commissioner for Wales to one of their get togethers. The girls learned about the UNCRC and Children's Rights and had the opportunity to talk to Sally about the issues they are championing.

As Community Ambassadors for the Children's Commissioner for Wales, the group were asked to get involved in the CCfW Autumn Mission of 'Wellbeing'.

We will continue to work closely with the Engagement & Participation Officer to support the girls' wellbeing and to encourage them to become active citizens and have their voices heard on issues that are important to them.

Comments, Compliments and Complaints

Children and young people have the right to information in a way they can understand, they also have the right to give their opinion and be listened to. We've supported Children's Services to develop a child/young person friendly leaflet/postcard to ensure that children and young people living in Neath Port Talbot who are accessing services are aware that they can give feedback, whether that be in the form of a compliment, comment or complaint.

Induction Training - Children's Rights and Participation

Over the past few years, the CRU has delivered children's rights induction training to new Children's Services employees. Due to Covid-19 this training was adapted to be delivered online and includes a 'participation' element. The training was delivered in partnership with the Engagement & Participation Officer to one cohort of new employees. The training aims to:

- Raise awareness and develop knowledge of children's rights and the UNCRC
- Understand the legal and policy context of children's rights in Wales
- Share good practice examples
- Support children and young people to understand and claim their rights

Children's Rights Training for foster carers

The CRU has developed an 'Introduction to Children's Rights' training session for foster carers. Participants are introduced to the UNCRC and children's rights and given examples of how children's rights can make a difference to care experienced children and young people. The training was delivered over three sessions to around 40 foster carers in 2021-22.

The Right Way - Social Care

The Children's Commissioner for Wales Office developed and launched 'The Right Way - A Children's Rights Approach for Social Care in Wales', a principled and practical framework for working with children that is rooted in the UNCRC.

On behalf of Children's Services, the CRU submitted three case studies to the Children's Commissioner for Wales Office, to showcase practical examples on how to embed children's rights in practice:

- Foster Carers Information Booklet
- Children's Rights Champions and a Children's Rights Approach
- Short breaks consultation with children and young people with disabilities

As a representative of the local authority, and to showcase partnership working, the Director of the CRU attended the launch of 'The Right Way' in April 2021. This was a great opportunity to showcase the good practice that Children's Services are undertaking in relation to embedding children's rights in practice.

Children's Rights Champions

The UNCRC is a human rights treaty that was agreed by the United Nations in 1989. It provides a framework for organisations when developing and delivering services for children and young people. In Wales, due regard to the UNCRC is also enshrined in policy and legislation. Based on 'The Right Way', we developed Children's Rights training for 'Champions', participants learnt about the UNCRC and a Children's Rights Approach, and contributed to an action plan that will be monitored regularly to ensure they are supported to embed children's rights into practice in their roles.

Emergency Services - training video and communication board

NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS UNIT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

We were invited to attend Ysgol Maes Y Coed school in November as part of their 'Community Heroes' project. The event, coordinated by the Engagement & Participation Officer, coincided with Universal Children's Day and National Safeguarding Week. Various emergency services attended including: South Wales Police; Mid and West Wales Fire Service; Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust. The event was arranged to launch a project that is looking at the development of a training video and resources to aid front line staff in an emergency to communicate with children and young people with additional and complex needs. Whilst the project was at its initial stages in early 2022, funding has been approved by the West Glamorgan Safeguarding Board and planning for the production of the training video has already begun. The video will include children and young people who will teach professionals key phrases using BSL, these phrases will be accompanied by plain English and widgeit symbols. Phase two of the project will be in relation to the development of communication boards that professionals can use as a reference point when communicating with children and young people. We are looking forward to being a part of a team of people taking this forward in 2022.

Children's Rights Charter

A Charter is not currently a statutory requirement for local authorities; however, Children's Services were keen to start the development of a Children's Rights Charter to establish their commitment to children's rights and drive the children's rights agenda forward. The purpose of a Children's Rights Charter is to:

- Raise awareness and inform children and young people of their rights
- Ensure children and young people feel supported and empowered
- Outline the help and support children and young people can expect
- Emphasise NPT's commitment to protect and respect children and young people's rights
- Ensure NPT Children's Services take their responsibilities seriously

The first stage of this development was to consult with children and young people, professionals and foster carers. Their feedback and views, along with desk research and cross referencing with the UNCRC, will be considered in the development of the Charter for Children's Services throughout 2022.

Get on Board Cymru

Get on Board Cymru project

Our 'Get on Board Cymru' project is not currently funded, but we have been able to continue developing and delivering the project with the commitment and support of our dedicated 'Get on Board Training and Support Officer'. Throughout the year the 'Get on Board Cymru' project secured a number of contracts for delivery of services and has continued to work in partnership with organisations to provide training opportunities for young people to exercise their right to have a voice, be listened to, and become active citizens in their communities.

'Preparing to be a board member' training - ONLINE

Our unique 'Preparing to be a board member' training, developed specifically for young people aged 14-25, continues to be delivered online over five, two-hour interactive sessions.

Throughout the year, around 15 young people attended the training, and after completion and external verification of their workbooks, all participants achieved a Level 1 CQFW qualification (accredited by Agored Cymru). The qualification provides young people with the skills and knowledge to undertake their roles; it empowers them to develop a sense of ownership; enables them to realise their potential to participate in decision-making; and gives them the confidence to speak up.

The course was also tailored with college-specific content to meet the needs of NPTC Group of Colleges' Student Governors, two of whom successfully completed the accredited course in March 2022.

We also redeveloped our 'Get on Board Cymru' website, which went live in September 2021.

Training for NPTC Group of Colleges

For the past few years, we have been commissioned to develop and deliver 'Student Representative' training for NPTC Group of Colleges. This year, eight sessions were run in October and November 2021 and more than 50 students attended the training, which was all delivered online. The course content included: benefits of student representatives; team building; equality and diversity; conflict of interest. We also delivered induction training for the newly-elected Student Union officers in November 2021.

Conclusion

Our board of trustees and staff appreciate that the past year has continued to be uncertain and challenging at times, both for our partners and us as a small independent charity. However, with the ongoing strategic commitment to children's rights by our statutory partners, as showcased in our Annual Review, we are very proud of what we have achieved together.

We would like to sincerely thank all the children and young people who have engaged with us throughout the year, and we hope that through our support they have been empowered to understand and access their rights.

Children's Rights are central to our vision and we promise to support our partner organisations to continue to embed

children's rights in their practice in 2022-23 and beyond.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The total income of £52,103 (2021: £49,033) was spent on direct charitable expenditure totalling £53,844 (2021: £53,194) resulting in a net deficit of £1,741 (2021: £4,161).

The Statement of Financial Activities reflects the income and expenditure incurred by Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit in carrying out its role in respect of its objectives. The unrestricted funds at 31 March 2022 were £59,953 (2021: £61,694).

Reserves policy

The board has examined the charity's requirements for reserves in respect of the main risks to the organisation and aims to build up reserves in future years to enable it to continue and expand the services they currently provide. The charity's policy is to maintain a designated reserve for future running costs and critical costs. This will cover twelve months running costs to meet its medium term objectives and to look to absorb any impact of Covid 19, and it will cover redundancy payments to employees and other termination costs should the funding of the charity reduce in the future.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

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

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 31/7/2003 and registered as a charity on 21/06/2013. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the company's Articles are known as Trustees. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the members of the Management Committee are elected to serve for a period of three years after which they must be re-elected at the next Annual General Meeting.

All members of the Management Committee give their time voluntarily and received no benefits from the charity.

Sophie Watson and Pat Dunmore retire by rotation and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Trustees are appointed through election from the Membership of the Charity and through co-option of individuals with specific skills and experience useful to the Charity. The Children's Rights Unit seeks to maintain a diverse trustee body comprising the skills, knowledge and experience necessary to ensure that the Charity is managed professionally, that its objects are pursued rigorously and that public benefit is maintained in all its activities. To this end, the Children's Rights Unit seeks suitable candidates widely with skills, knowledge and experience to complement the trustee team.

Induction and training of new trustees

All trustees receive induction into the work of the Children's Rights Unit. Regular training is provided for trustees and has included training in governance, roles and responsibilities of trustees and child protection.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

04906893 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1152471

Registered office

Ty Margaret Thorne
17 - 19 Alfred Street
Neath
West Glamorgan
SA11 1EF

NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Trustees

P Treseder
M A Shufflebotham
S A Jones MBE
P H Dunmore
S B Watson
M Dacey

Staff

Jannine Smith	Director/Company Secretary
Victoria Owen	Training and Support Officer

Company Secretary

J Smith

Independent Examiner

Alison Vickers ACA
Bevan Buckland LLP
Ground Floor
Cardigan House
Castle Court
Swansea Enterprise Park
Swansea
SA7 9LA

Bankers

The Co - operative Bank
P.O. Box 250
Delf House
Southway
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 27th October 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



J Smith - Secretary

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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 accounts to be reached.



Alison Vickers ACA
Bevan Buckland LLP
Ground Floor
Cardigan House
Castle Court
Swansea Enterprise Park
Swansea
SA7 9LA

Date: 08/11/2022.....

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	3	46,733	-	46,733	45,433
Other trading activities	4	4,497	-	4,497	3,600
Other income		<u>873</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>873</u>	<u>-</u>
Total		<u>52,103</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>52,103</u>	<u>49,033</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Charitable Activities		53,844	-	53,844	53,194
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		<u>(1,741)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,741)</u>	<u>(4,161)</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>61,694</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>61,694</u>	<u>65,855</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>59,953</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>59,953</u></u>	<u><u>61,694</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**BALANCE SHEET
31 MARCH 2022**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	9	456	-	456	1,002
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	-	-	-	500
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>63,558</u>	<u>600</u>	<u>64,158</u>	<u>65,688</u>
		63,558	600	64,158	66,188
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>(4,061)</u>	<u>(600)</u>	<u>(4,661)</u>	<u>(5,496)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>59,497</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>59,497</u>	<u>60,692</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>59,953</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>59,953</u>	<u>61,694</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>59,953</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>59,953</u>	<u>61,694</u>
FUNDS	12				
Unrestricted funds				<u>59,953</u>	<u>61,694</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>59,953</u>	<u>61,694</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2022.

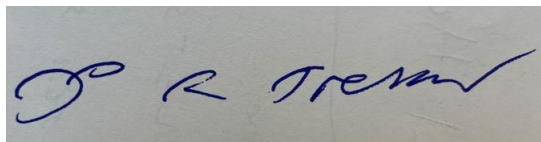
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 27th October 2022 and were signed on its behalf by:



P Treseder - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern.

Income

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

Training income is recognised in the period in which it relates.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, 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 accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

All costs allocated between expenditure categories are on a basis designed to reflect their resource usage. For some costs this means direct allocation to activities, other costs are apportioned, e.g. by staff time spent on the activity, or another equitable usage measure.

The Charity initially identifies the costs of its support functions. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the charities programmes and activities.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 20% on cost
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

Assets costing less than £1,000 are not capitalised and shown as an expense in the statement of financial activities.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Grants

Grants relating to specific capital expenditure are treated as deferred income which is credited to the profit and loss account over the related asset's life.

Revenue grants are credited to the profit and loss account in the same period as the expenditure to which they relate.

Debtors

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any discount due.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments held within a deposit or similar account.

Creditors and provisions

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

Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

Costs have been allocated as far as possible between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities on a basis designed to reflect the usage of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly. Others have been apportioned based on the estimated usage of the resource.

Financial Instruments

Under FRS 102 financial instruments are classified as either basic or complex, the charity has reviewed its financial instruments and is satisfied that all financial instruments can be classified as basic and are recognised at amortised historical cost.

2. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgments, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgments about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results in the future may differ from these estimates. 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 and in any future periods affected.

3. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2022	2021
	£	£
Grants	<u>46,733</u>	<u>45,433</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
SBUHB	29,933	29,933
NPTCBC	16,800	15,000
Welsh Government Coronavirus Recovery Grant for Volunteering	<u>-</u>	<u>500</u>
	<u>46,733</u>	<u>45,433</u>

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2022	2021
	£	£
Training	<u>4,497</u>	<u>3,600</u>

5. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2022	2021
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>546</u>	<u>546</u>

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2022 nor for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2022 nor for the year ended 31 March 2021.

7. STAFF COSTS

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

	2022	2021
	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
Administration & support		

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

8. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	45,433	-	45,433
Other trading activities	<u>3,600</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,600</u>
Total	<u>49,033</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>49,033</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activities	53,194	-	53,194
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	<u>(4,161)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(4,161)</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	<u>65,855</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>65,855</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u><u>61,694</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>61,694</u></u>

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2022	<u>863</u>	<u>2,138</u>	<u>3,001</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2021	863	1,136	1,999
Charge for year	<u>-</u>	<u>546</u>	<u>546</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>863</u>	<u>1,682</u>	<u>2,545</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>456</u>	<u>456</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>-</u>	<u>1,002</u>	<u>1,002</u>

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade debtors	<u>-</u>	<u>500</u>

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors	381	2,616
Social security and other taxes	936	858
Deferred income	600	-
Accrued expenses	<u>2,744</u>	<u>2,022</u>
	<u>4,661</u>	<u>5,496</u>

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.22 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	10,694	4,488	(6,229)	8,953
Designated Strategic Fund	45,000	-	-	45,000
Get on Board	-	(6,229)	6,229	-
Critical cost fund	<u>6,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,000</u>
	<u>61,694</u>	<u>(1,741)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>59,953</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>61,694</u>	<u>(1,741)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>59,953</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	47,606	(43,118)	4,488
Get on Board	<u>4,497</u>	<u>(10,726)</u>	<u>(6,229)</u>
	<u>52,103</u>	<u>(53,844)</u>	<u>(1,741)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	52,103	(53,844)	(1,741)

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**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.21 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	15,855	3,738	(8,899)	10,694
Designated Strategic Fund	45,000	-	-	45,000
Get on Board	-	(7,899)	7,899	-
Critical cost fund	<u>5,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>6,000</u>
	<u>65,855</u>	<u>(4,161)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>61,694</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>65,855</u>	<u>(4,161)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>61,694</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	45,433	(41,695)	3,738
Get on Board	<u>3,600</u>	<u>(11,499)</u>	<u>(7,899)</u>
	<u>49,033</u>	<u>(53,194)</u>	<u>(4,161)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>49,033</u>	<u>(53,194)</u>	<u>(4,161)</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.22 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	15,855	8,226	(15,128)	8,953
Designated Strategic Fund	45,000	-	-	45,000
Get on Board	-	(14,128)	14,128	-
Critical cost fund	<u>5,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>6,000</u>
	<u>65,855</u>	<u>(5,902)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>59,953</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>65,855</u>	<u>(5,902)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>59,953</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	93,039	(84,813)	8,226
Get on Board	<u>8,097</u>	<u>(22,225)</u>	<u>(14,128)</u>
	<u>101,136</u>	<u>(107,038)</u>	<u>(5,902)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>101,136</u>	<u>(107,038)</u>	<u>(5,902)</u>

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Funds

Unrestricted funds

Swansea Bay University Health Board	The Children's Rights Unit works in partnership with SBUHB to deliver Children's Rights projects and embed Children's Rights practice including: recruiting, supporting and developing a Youth Board; developing and delivering Children's Rights training for SBUHB staff; launch and implementation of the Children's Rights Charter.
NPTCBC	Children's Rights Unit support of NPT Children's Services including; training, youth engagement (in a variety of areas), advice and guidance, and the development of a children's rights based approach.
Designated Strategic Fund	The charity has designated some of its unrestricted general reserves to a designated fund for future running costs. This will cover twelve months running costs to meet it's medium term objectives and to look to absorb any impact of Covid 19.
Critical Cost Fund	The charity has designated some of its unrestricted general reserves to a designated fund for critical costs. This will cover redundancy payments to employees and other termination costs should the funding of the charity reduce in the future.

13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2022.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

	2022 £	2021 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Grants	46,733	45,433
Other trading activities		
Training	4,497	3,600
Other income		
Sundry Income	<u>873</u>	<u>-</u>
Total incoming resources	52,103	49,033
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	41,723	40,621
Pensions	2,317	2,208
Telephone	267	315
Postage and stationery	718	1,193
Travelling	169	3
Staff Training	86	580
Project Activities	639	1,920
Subscriptions	30	25
Insurance	639	631
Marketing & Publicity	-	256
Room Hire	-	30
Computer Expenses	651	830
Depreciation	<u>546</u>	<u>546</u>
	47,785	49,158
Support costs		
Support costs		
Accountancy fees	2,446	1,823
Legal fees	514	308
Support from NPTCVS	3,099	1,808
Bad debts	<u>-</u>	<u>97</u>
	<u>6,059</u>	<u>4,036</u>
Total resources expended	<u>53,844</u>	<u>53,194</u>
Net expenditure	<u><u>(1,741)</u></u>	<u><u>(4,161)</u></u>

Accounts



Working together to make children's rights a reality



ANNUAL REPORT TO THE 2021 AGM

21ST OCTOBER 2021

www.childrensrightsunit.org.uk

 [@childrensrightsunit](https://twitter.com/childrensrightsunit)

FOREWORD

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit eighth Annual Report, covering the year 2020-21.

Firstly, I would like to note my sincere thanks to our statutory funders, Neath Port Talbot Council and Swansea Bay University Health Board. As Chair of the Board of Trustees, I would like to take this opportunity to highlight the importance of the strong relationship we have with both organisations. Their commitment enables us to support them to embed children's rights into practice, and ensures that children and young people are able to have their rights respected and protected. We are also very proud of our 'Get on Board Cymru' project, which provides training opportunities for young people to become active citizens in their communities.

In its entirety, this report covers a period of twelve months that no-one could have anticipated, a year where all of our lives were forever changed by a global pandemic. It is strange to look back at a world that was pre-pandemic, and appreciate the freedom and normality we all took for granted. Covid-19 was challenging, it certainly made us creative and pushed us to adapt our ways of working in unprecedented ways, it also disproportionately impacted the most vulnerable in our society. However, as a very small charity and with the commitment of our staff and the strong leadership and governance of our Board of Trustees, we survived, we took opportunities and were able to continue to thrive as a resilient organisation working towards its aim of making children's rights a reality for children and young people in our communities.

As Chair of the Board of Trustees, I would like to extend my thanks to our staff, statutory funders and partners for their continued support, and to the children and young people who took part in projects and activities. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Neath Port Talbot Council for Voluntary Service for providing invaluable advice and guidance, it is very much appreciated.

We are all looking forward to 2021-22 and are confident that as an organisation we will be able to continue to champion the rights of children and young people, give them opportunities to participate and have their voices heard, and support organisations to further embed children's rights into the development and delivery of services.

Mark Dacey
Chair

Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit | Ty Margaret Thorne | 17-19 Alfred Street | Neath | SA11 1EF

Company No. 04906893 | Registered Charity No: 1152471

Working together to make children's rights a reality

OUR VISION

Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit (CRU) is a charity that was established to promote and protect the rights of children and young people in Neath Port Talbot and the surrounding areas. The unit aims to make the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), a reality for children, young people and their families.

The CRU was first established in 2003 and is governed by a Board of Trustees who are responsible for overseeing the work of the charity and its long-term direction.

It provides opportunities for children and young people up to the age of 25 to develop the confidence and skills to understand and exercise their rights, thus becoming active citizens in their communities, and aims to advance the education of duty bearers to understand their role in enabling children and young people to access their rights.

OUR VALUES

Board Members and staff believe in:

- a Children's Rights approach in everything we do
- equal opportunities for all
- becoming the best that you can be
- partnership and holistic working
- empowering and transforming attitudes

OUR STAFF

Jannine Smith | Director/Company Secretary

Victoria Owen | Training and Support Officer - Get on Board Cymru

OUR BOARD

Mark Dacey | Chair

Pat Dunmore | Director

Susan Anne Jones MBE DL | Director (Treasurer)

Sophie Millar | Director

Mari Shufflebotham | Director

Phil Treseder | Director

Cllr. Peter Rees | Observer



OUR IMPACT IN 2020-21

Our Annual Report highlights the key projects and initiatives we have been involved in from 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021. It's been a busy and productive year, and we believe that through our work we have continued to have an impact on the children's rights agenda in the Neath Port Talbot and Swansea areas.



GIG Cymru NHS Wales
Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Bae Abertawe
Swansea Bay University
Health Board

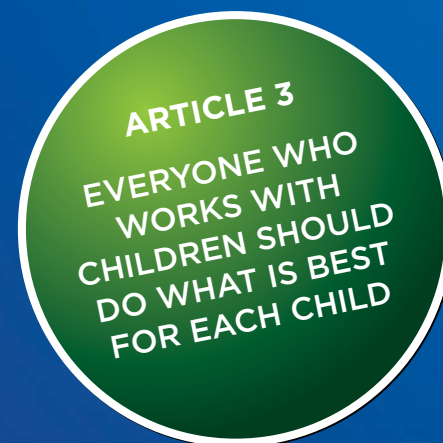
Swansea Bay University Health Board - working together to make children's rights a reality

We have had a strong relationship with Swansea Bay University Health Board for a number of years, and have supported them to develop strategic initiatives and practical projects to embed children's rights in practice across their services. We are proud to showcase a summary of the key achievements for 2020-21 with you.

"Despite considerable restrictions there has been continued support, involvement and contribution from the CRU to children and young people services. This has included: support for the development of the updated Children Rights Promises and launch planning; creation of a Covid information and safeguarding posters for children and young people; contribution to the Nurse Staffing Act posters for children and parents; development of online Children's Rights training; support and research for the development of an Adolescent Allergy Clinic; and consultation involvement with important national projects such as feedback from C&YP on their experiences during the pandemic and lockdown.

The CRU has also continued to support BAYouth by not only maintaining the interest of the young people involved in the group, but also increasing membership. Whilst face-to-face meetings have not taken place, there has been no shortage of contribution from the group."

Jane Phillips, Interim Head of Nursing for Children & Young People,
Swansea Bay University Health Board.



Working together to make children's rights a reality

BAYouth - Youth Advisory Panel

Swansea Bay University Health Board's Youth Advisory Panel was established in the Spring of 2017 and was the first health board in Wales to set up a youth advisory panel. BAYouth:

- Is youth led (with the support of CRU and SBUHB staff)
- Is dedicated to improving health services for children and young people
- Represents the voices of children and young people across SBUHB area
- Influences the decision-making process

The CRU were involved in the initial recruitment drive for members and continues to support and mentor members of BAYouth on every project they are involved in.

Throughout 2020-21, ten virtual BAYouth meetings were held and the CRU provided assistance to the young people in: arranging the agenda; collating papers for the meetings; working with members on minutes/actions; coordinating speakers; and supporting young people at the meetings to ensure they have their voices heard and are listened to.



"The Director of the CRU is an extremely fundamental role to the running of BAYouth. As a young person who is heavily supported by Jannine in my role as Chair, I am very grateful for the help and advice that she shares with me regularly. When things get overwhelming, Jannine is always around to give me guidance and empower me to continue leading the team."

Catrin Davies, Chair, BAYouth.

It is important that members of BAYouth are aware of the impact of their involvement. We support members by liaising with speakers and organisations so that they are accountable. This ensures that members are aware of the difference they are making.



"Being a member of BAYouth this year has been so rewarding. The challenges of COVID-19 have been hard for us as a board, we have not been able to meet face to face, which we love to do as we bounce ideas off each other and complete a lot of hands on work. However, virtual meetings have been great due to the dedication of our team and the incredible support of the CRU. The CRU has played a crucial role in allowing BAYouth to continue to promote children's rights in health through the pandemic. Meetings have been so much fun too, we have done scavenger hunts and quizzes, these have been a much needed social time for us. This year has shown us that even though we may not be meeting face to face, BAYouth is still committed to our priorities. Being a part of BAYouth is so enjoyable and we hope to continue to make a difference."

Amy Brown, Vice-Chair, BAYouth.



Projects

BAYouth members are given a choice of projects that they can get involved in. Through the coordination of sub-groups, members are aware of how to get involved, what is expected, and any associated timescales and deadlines.

During 2020-21 some of the regular ongoing projects were put on hold due to Covid-19, nevertheless BAYouth members were still given many opportunities to get involved and have their voices heard. Some of these are highlighted below.

Consultations

BAYouth members were supported to have their voices heard at a regional and national level and their involvement in consultation exercises has been a vital mechanism in ensuring that members had the opportunity to be part of decision-making, and in the development of services that directly affect them. BAYouth were involved in a number of consultation exercises and workshops in 2020-21 including: Children's Commissioner for Wales; Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health; Welsh Government; Community Health Council.

Health Services during lockdown - RCPCH consultation

The RCPCH approached the CRU to ask if BAYouth would be willing to provide their experiences of health services during lockdown. There was a mixture of positive and negative experiences from BAYouth members, as follows:



ED at Morriston hospital - fast and efficient service; checked for Covid symptoms; separating people

GP call - longer conversation than normal; felt like the GP had more time to talk; more helpful than usual; quick service



Anxiety and fear of going into hospital for treatment is heightened by Covid fear

Information - there isn't much information that is child and young person friendly; mostly for adults

The CRU collated and fed back responses from BAYouth to the RCPCH, who then shared these with the RCPCH Wales office who are working with the Senedd on supporting post Covid planning of services.

Working together to make children's rights a reality

Welsh Government - Transition guidance for health boards

The Welsh Government have produced 'Transition guidance' for all health boards in Wales to ensure that young people are supported when they move from paediatric to adult services.

We produced a PowerPoint presentation to highlight the main points for BAYouth to consider. Initial feedback was gained from all attendees at a BAYouth meeting and a sub-group was created to look at this in more detail. The CRU coordinated and facilitated the sub-group workshop and collated feedback into the following themes:

- General comments
- Terminology
- Timings
- Handover Lead
- Transition Handover Plan
- Information
- Welsh language
- Feedback
- Case study from one young person



"He remembers his transition from Children's cardiology services in Singleton to Adult services in Bridgend. He remembers meeting his Paediatric cardiologist then his new cardiologist and two specialist nurses, who encouraged him to stay healthy (that's what he remembers the most!). They were really good and explained things simply to him but it would have been lovely to have a booklet to explain the process as he, like lots of people, can find it overwhelming attending somewhere new after being used to an old routine."

Mum of BAYouth member.

Members' feedback was submitted to Welsh Government and the CCfW office and will be used to develop the transition guidance further.



Welsh Government – Mental Health and Well-being workshop

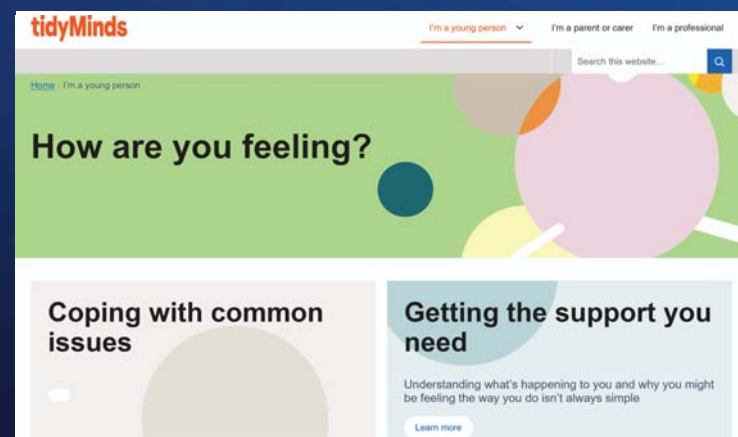
Welsh Government was undertaking surveys and workshops with young people and professionals to understand the picture in Wales in relation to mental health and well-being services and the needs of young people. This is a priority that BAYouth are championing and members were keen to take part. In Q2 of 2020-21 the CRU coordinated and attended a workshop with BAYouth members and representatives from Welsh Government. The feedback from the workshop was fed into the views of other young people across Wales and will be used to produce a report which will in the future be used to develop policies and services in relation to mental health and well-being.

ARTICLE 4
THE GOVERNMENT
SHOULD MAKE
SURE MY RIGHTS
ARE RESPECTED

Mental health and well-being website

BAYouth members worked closely with colleagues in the health board throughout 2020 and gave their views on where they would go for help and support on mental health and well-being. Further to a number of meetings and consultation workshops, a website was developed and BAYouth have been kept up to date on how their views have been acted upon.

Members were also asked to provide further comments on the proposed name and branding of the website, and were also involved in the validation process to test the navigation of the website and its content.



“Members of the Emotional & Mental Health Planning Group are committed to working together to improve services for children & young people. Working alongside the CRU and specifically BAYouth has allowed the planning group to make informed planning decisions on various projects including a website called TidyMinds!

The website was an idea generated by BAYouth, and members have been involved at every stage of development. We will always be grateful for the support of the CRU and members of the youth board.”

Michelle Davies, Head of Strategic Planning, Swansea Bay University Health Board.

Working together to make children's rights a reality

Kooth – mental health and well-being digital platform

Kooth is a digital service for children and young people who need early intervention mental health and well-being support. The health board commissioned this digital platform to provide a safe, secure and accessible counselling service for children and young people across the Swansea Bay area.

- “Mental health is such a prominent issue and having another platform for young people to open up or even just talk about their feelings, is a really positive thing.”
- “The fact that it is online and less overt as a way of opening up and perhaps finally sharing something that they before haven't felt they're capable of doing.”

CAMHS building name

In the Spring of 2021 CAMHS moved into a brand-new clinic in Swansea and members of BAYouth were asked to complete an online survey regarding ideas for a name for the building. The name was also discussed at a virtual BAYouth meeting where members felt that a Welsh name may be worth considering. They proposed: TY Lles (this translates as Well-being House). Through consultation with other young people, the final name agreed was Ty'r Meddwl.

ARTICLE 30
THE RIGHT TO
SPEAK YOUR
OWN
LANGUAGE

NHS Careers Wales website

Health Education and Improvement Wales have been developing an online platform to showcase information to young people on careers in the NHS in Wales. The CRU was approached to request BAYouth's involvement, and representatives from HEIW were invited to a BAYouth meeting. Members were able to give their initial views on the proposal and began to establish a relationship for input into future plans. The platform is due to launch in the Autumn of 2021.



Nurse Staffing Levels Act Poster

Swansea Bay University Health Board were approached by the Paediatric Project Lead for HEIW to ask if BAYouth would help to develop a child/young person friendly version of an information poster for the whole of Wales. The CRU supported members of BAYouth to develop content and designed a 'FAQ' poster. In conjunction with other young people in Cardiff and the Vale Health Board, the poster content and design were developed further and signed off for use in 2021.

Members were also asked to comment on a nurse staffing numbers information poster.

"I just wanted to extend mine and the paediatric workstream groups thanks for all the support the youth groups have given us with the posters for the FAQs and also the informing patients of the nurse staffing numbers. The Awnsg praised their creativity and work."

Dawn Parry, Paediatric Project Lead, Health Education and Improvement Wales (HEIW).



Working together to make children's rights a reality

Adolescent Allergy Clinic

The CRU was asked to support the health board in the development of a workshop to gain the views of members of BAYouth and to enable them to express their thoughts and ideas on the concept of an Adolescent Allergy Clinic. The workshop took place in Q4 and members came up with lots of great ideas.

"Working with BAYouth in developing an adolescent allergy service has been a great experience. Having the perspective and voice of young people has been invaluable in developing an adolescent specific information leaflet as well as an adolescent allergy clinic workshop from which we hope to develop the service. Thank-you."

Dr Eliana Panayiotou, Consultant Paediatrician, Swansea Bay University Health Board.

ARTICLE 6
THE RIGHT TO
LIFE AND TO
GROW UP TO BE
HEALTHY

Following on from this, the CRU worked closely with Dr Panayiotou to develop a questionnaire in 'Survey Monkey' that will be shared with adolescents who are accessing allergy services in the health board. Feedback from the survey will be used to develop the Adolescent Allergy Clinic.

"Jannine has been instrumental in helping to plan and develop the concept of an adolescent allergy clinic. She devised a workshop which explored the ideas of BAYouth panel and has used the outcome of this brainstorming exercise to develop a survey that can be delivered to adolescent allergy patients. The data collected from this will be used to develop a service that is tailored to young people's needs. Jannine's contribution to encouraging and enabling young people to have a voice in health is invaluable."

Dr Eliana Panayiotou, Consultant Paediatrician, Swansea Bay University Health Board.

'Young Interviewers' online training

Due to the restrictions of Covid-19, our bespoke 'Young Interviewers' training session for young people who were invited to be part of an interview panel for health board positions has been adapted for online delivery. The training was offered to all members of BAYouth and delivered once in 2020-21. When appropriate, members who have undertaken the training will be invited to take part in interviews for the health board.

Adolescent Allergy leaflet

Consultant Paediatrician Dr Eliana Panayiotou approached BAYouth for their input into an adolescent allergy leaflet she was producing for young people. An initial design was proposed to the group who gave their feedback. Based on that feedback a revised design was developed, a section of the revised leaflet can be seen here.

"On behalf of BAYouth, we really appreciate when we can see/hear how our opinions are being listened to, and this shows just that!"

Catrin Davies, Chair, BAYouth.



Top Tips

In response to Covid-19, the CRU proposed an idea to the Chair to ask if members of BAYouth would share their top tips for staying safe during lockdown. Members of BAYouth embraced this idea and posted their personal top tips every Tuesday throughout the first lockdown in 2020. This kept BAYouth members engaged and in contact, and provided inspiration for others on social media. All tips were accompanied by a message reminding people to follow NHS and government guidelines. Have a look at their top tips on twitter @BAYouthNHS.

Big lockdown quiz

It's not all work for BAYouth, members took part in the 'BAYouth big lockdown quiz'. They had lots of fun running through five rounds of questions ranging from general knowledge, to lockdown residences, to music. Joint winners Amy and Tal were awarded Amazon vouchers by the CRU.

ARTICLE 29
THE RIGHT
TO BE THE
BEST YOU
CAN BE

Recognition

Kindness Award - The CRU awarded BAYouth a 'Kindness Award' for championing children and young people's rights in health.

Volunteering Award - In recognition of their commitment to volunteering, the CRU awarded BAYouth members with a certificate acknowledging their outstanding contribution to volunteering.



Working together to make children's rights a reality

Children's Commissioner for Wales

Annual Child Health Seminar

The CRU has been accompanying colleagues from SBUHB to the annual Child Health Seminar organised by the CCFW for four years. The seminar is an opportunity for Swansea Bay University Health Board to update Sally Holland and health board colleagues across Wales on the progress that has been made in embedding children's rights into practice in health.

This year the CRU jointly developed and delivered a presentation which showcased the main children's rights projects and initiatives that have been a priority for the health board.

Community Ambassadors

Members of BAYouth are Community Ambassadors for the Children's Commissioner for Wales office. As Community Ambassadors, members highlight health issues that are important to them to Sally Holland. The three issues BAYouth championed in 2020-21 were:

- Mental health and well-being
- Health promotion
- Adolescent Services

We supported a member of BAYouth and attended the CCfW Community Ambassadors workshop in November 2020 to update Sally Holland on the work BAYouth undertook throughout 2020.



"The Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit continues to lead the way for children's rights promotion, and have been a catalyst for children's rights work in other areas of Wales. For example, their involvement in the setting up of the UK's first health authority youth advisory panel has led to most health boards in Wales now having a youth board, and the development of a children's rights charter has been replicated across health boards and by other organisations such as South Wales Police. This Annual Review showcases the brilliant work of the unit within the Neath Port Talbot and Swansea Bay areas, and it is testament to this dedication of children's human rights that others across Wales are following their example."

Sally Holland, Children's Commissioner for Wales.

National Participation Standards Kitemark

In February 2020, Swansea Bay University Health Board signed up to the National Participation Standards Charter. In doing so, the health board committed to measure and improve the quality of children and young people's participation. The next stage of the journey for the health board is to work towards the National Participation Standards Kitemark. In Wales there are seven standards which help organisations make sure the process, quality and experience of involving children and young people's participation are followed, these are:

- Information
- It's your choice
- No discrimination
- Respect
- You get something out of it
- Feedback
- Working better for you

The next stage is for the health board to undertake a self-assessment against the National Participation Standards. The CRU has been leading this process with input from young people who are members of BAYouth. Evidence gathering for the self-assessment started in Q4 and it is anticipated that the whole process will take around 12 months.

Children's Rights Training for professionals

Due to the challenges of providing training to health professionals during the pandemic, the CRU developed an online 'Introduction to Children's Rights and the UNCRC' training session. The session aims to:

- Raise awareness and develop knowledge/understanding of Children's Rights and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Understand the legal and policy context of Children's Rights in Wales
- Share good practice examples and allow individuals and organisations to develop an understanding of their role in embedding children's rights into practice

Working together to make children's rights a reality

A Children's Rights Approach and Children's Rights Champions

A Children's Rights Approach is a principled and practical framework for working with children, grounded in the UNCRC. It is about placing the UNCRC at the core of planning and service delivery and integrating children's rights into every aspect of decision-making, policy and practice. The five principles of a Children's Rights Approach are:

- Embedding children's rights
- Equality & non-discrimination
- Empowering children
- Participation
- Accountability

The CRU has been working in partnership with Swansea Bay University Health Board for a number of years and has supported the health board to develop various children's rights projects. The health board are already doing many things that are consistent with the above. More formally adopting a 'Children's Rights Approach' will complement this work further.

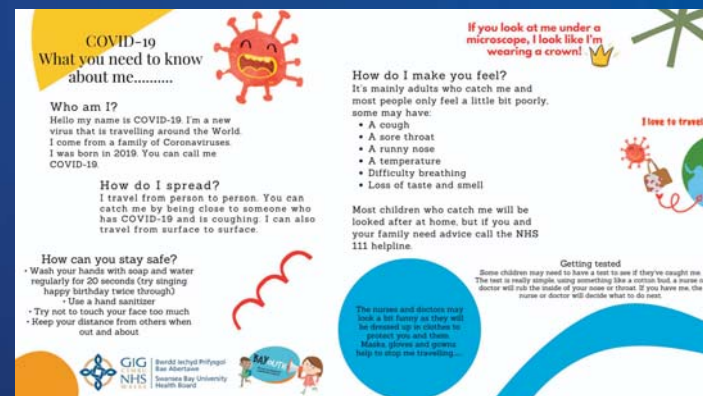
In order to put the above into practice the health board needs the support and commitment from key staff and should consider the development of 'Children's Rights Champions'. A proposal for the recruitment and development of Children's Rights Champions, including the development of a 1 ½ hour training workshop, has been proposed to the health board. We are looking forward to working with the health board to implement this further in 2021-22.

ARTICLE 42
ALL CHILDREN,
YOUNG PEOPLE
AND ADULTS
SHOULD KNOW
ABOUT THE
CONVENTION



Covid-19 information leaflet for children and young people

The Patient Experience Nurse requested the help of the CRU to consult with members of BAYouth to create a bespoke SBUHB child and young person friendly Covid-19 information leaflet. The CRU coordinated a sub-group of members to look through the content and design of an example leaflet that had been provided, and members gave their opinions on what they thought would make it more child and young person friendly. From their ideas, the CRU designed an updated information leaflet which was then circulated to sub-group members so that they could suggest any changes before it was sent to health professionals for their feedback. The information leaflet was sent to all children and young people being admitted to hospital during the pandemic.



"This is amazing work; I have shown it to the pre assessment nurses and they agree. Thank you so much."

Jan Williams, Patient Experience Nurse, SBUHB.

National Safeguarding Week - Safeguarding Poster

National Safeguarding Week was in November 2020 and the CRU developed a safeguarding poster for the health board. The poster included safeguarding information in a child friendly way in relation to hand hygiene, medicines, moving around etc.

The poster was shared with professionals in the health board and BAYouth members for their views and revised before being distributed for display in all paediatric wards in Swansea Bay.



Working together to make children's rights a reality

Children's Rights Promises – Poster

The CRU has been working closely with SBUHB to develop an updated version of the Children's Rights Charter that is accessible to all children and young people regardless of their age or ability. The CRU supported the health board to undertake consultation with children and young people and this resulted in the creation of a draft 'Children's Rights Promises' poster. In Q1 and Q2 of 2020-21 the CRU coordinated final changes and updates to the poster which included a Welsh language version, and arranged a licence from 'Widgit' which enables the health board to use the accessible symbols. The 'Children's Rights Promises' poster was approved by the health board in Q4 of 2020-21, meetings and discussions have already taken place to start planning its launch in the autumn of 2021.



Neath Port Talbot Council – working together to make children's rights a reality



Cyngor Castell-nedd Port Talbot
Neath Port Talbot Council

We are very proud of the strong relationship we have established with Neath Port Talbot Council over the last few years. This section of our Annual Report provides a summary of the key support and service we have provided to the local authority in 2020-21.

"Jannine Smith from the Children's Rights Unit works closely with the local authority and in particular Engagement & Participation Officer Darren Bartley, through the facilitation of various activities and forums for the children & young people of Neath Port Talbot. Some of the work is through focus groups with children & young people to include workshops with the Commissioner's Office, through to the maintenance of the Junior Safeguarding Board, online quizzes and activities, sessions with Looked After Children & Young People (YoVo), and various consultation sessions to name a few."

Helen Sinclair, Strategic Lead for Engagement & Participation,
Neath Port Talbot Council.

Junior Safeguarding Board

The JSB was set up in 2019 and pupils from across NPT would meet each term to discuss the safeguarding issues they faced at home; school; in their community; and online. From these initial discussions the young people decided that they wanted to champion two broad issues that were important to them.

These two broad issues were further developed and focussed on:

- Bullying & Pressures - Safeguarding in Sport
- Equality and Discrimination - LGBTQ

Due to the restrictions that Covid-19 imposed in 2020, in relation to schools being closed and the barriers of being able to meet young people face to face, the work of the Junior Safeguarding Board had to adapt. Throughout the year the CRU and the Engagement & Participation Officer have continued to work behind the scenes to champion safeguarding issues for children and young people in Neath Port Talbot in a number of ways, these are outlined below.



Working together to make children's rights a reality

JSB Newsletter

In order to maintain engagement with members of the JSB we have worked closely to support the Engagement & Participation Officer to produce content for regular online newsletter updates for schools and JSB members on safeguarding issues. Five newsletters were sent out in 2020-21. Packed full of information, some of the content included:

- Children's Rights
- Competitions - toptips2survivelockdown; Child Net Film (Safer Internet)
- Consultations/Surveys – Unicef; Children and Young People Education Committee; Coronavirus and me; Welsh Youth Parliament; Mental Health and well-being website.
- Launch of NPT Young People website
- Anti-bullying week
- Launch of 'Stay Safe in Sport' campaign
- Safeguarding Week
- Girls' Rights
- LGBTQ updates
- JSB Member focus
- Swansea Council projects update



"I like the JSB because they are very real. They don't try to sugar coat issues that affect children & young people and they seriously care about trying to fix the problems."

Oisin, JSB member.

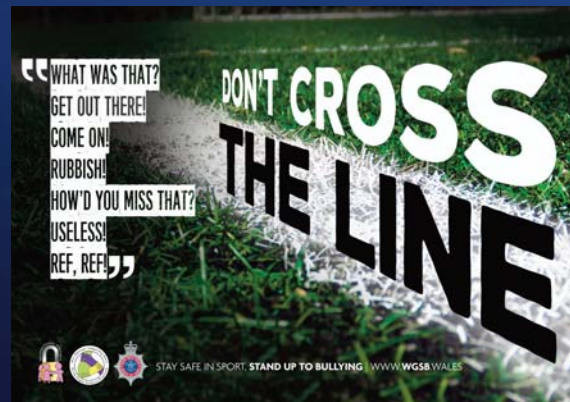


'Stay Safe in Sport' Workshop and Campaign

Members of the JSB felt that children and young people experience too much pressure in relation to sporting activities, that they are victims of verbal and physical abuse, and that there are not enough opportunities for all children and young people to take part in sport. Whilst Covid-19 presented many challenges, we felt that it was important to progress this issue and continued to lobby various organisations in anticipation of a partnership approach to highlighting this issue. South Wales Police were very keen to get on board to support this work with the local authority and the CRU and a workshop session was developed where JSB members and Police Youth Volunteers came along (virtually) to discuss how they wanted to address the problem. Around eight young people attended the workshop and gave their views and ideas for an awareness campaign. Taking on board the young people's comments and ideas, the CRU commissioned a graphic designer and coordinated the development of three different campaign ideas. These were shared with the young people and based on their feedback one idea was further developed into a campaign with a suite of three visuals, (see below).

The 'Stay Safe in Sport' campaign was launched in National Safeguarding Week 2020 and aimed to:

- raise awareness of the issues children and young people face in relation to safeguarding in sport and side line behaviour
- provide marketing assets for key stakeholders to use to spread the word
- encourage coaches, parents, referees, children and young people to speak up



Working together to make children's rights a reality

LGBTQ+

Members of the JSB raised LGBTQ+ as something they'd like to champion. In Q4 of 2020-21 the CRU worked in partnership with the Engagement & Participation Officer to develop a resource for schools to use to undertake a workshop with young people to gain their views. Workshops will be held in Q1 and Q2 of 2021 and ideas from pupils will be collated and an action plan proposed based on young people's priorities.



Reporting to the West Glamorgan Safeguarding Board

Throughout the year the CRU attended regular meetings with the Engagement & Participation Officer and representatives from Swansea City Council to discuss working together and arrange sharing of updates and information to the WGSB. Combined written updates of progress in each local authority area are given at each WGSB meeting and both local authorities will continue working together to ensure a coordinated approach in 2021-22.

Recognition for commitment

Kindness Award - The CRU awarded JSB members with 'Kindness Award' for championing safeguarding issues in their community.

Volunteering Award - In recognition of their commitment to volunteering, the CRU awarded JSB members with a certificate acknowledging their outstanding contribution to volunteering.



YoVo and Jnr YoVo- Your Voice Matters

Due to the restrictions of Covid-19, the care experienced children's council YoVo and Jnr YoVo were not able to meet face to face throughout 2020-21. Both groups were established to encourage care experienced children and young people to get involved in activities, have fun and provide a safe space to enjoy, and as a mechanism to give care experienced children and young people a voice in decisions that affect them.

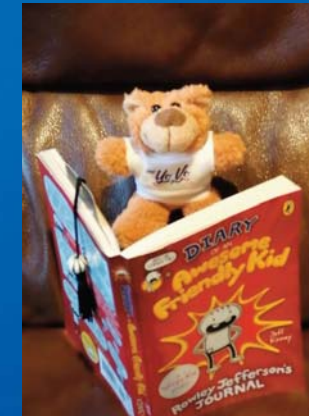
As the year progressed and safeguarding issues were addressed, the CRU began to support the Engagement & Participation Officer in the planning and delivery of sessions. Regularity and content of sessions started off quite small and simple and over the year grew into a wide range of fun activities and opportunities which also included collaboration with external providers including: Bullies Out; Circus Eruption; Plattform4YP.



Working together to make children's rights a reality

Rusty the Children's Rights Teddy

As a way of teaching children about Children's Rights, Rusty the children's rights teddy joined Jnr YoVo in 2020, members of Jnr YoVo were sent a goodie bag that included Rusty, and he joins in with most sessions. Rusty is also a regular on twitter, he shares children's rights messages and all the positive things the children and young people are doing in Neath Port Talbot.



A huge well done to all members of YoVo and Jnr YoVo for keeping engaged throughout the year, and continuing to be the voice of care experienced children and young people in Neath Port Talbot.

Facebook

A private Facebook group was set up in the pandemic order to provide information and share opportunities with looked after children and young people. The CRU supported the Engagement & Participation Officer with updating content and through sharing information and advice, activities, games, and opportunities for children and young people to have their voices heard through surveys and consultations.



Padlet

The Engagement & Participation Officer for Children's Services developed an online 'padlet' noticeboard to communicate information, fun games, advice and opportunities for children and young people to get involved in and have their say. The CRU also posts content onto the 'padlet' to ensure that information and opportunities are kept up to date and interesting.

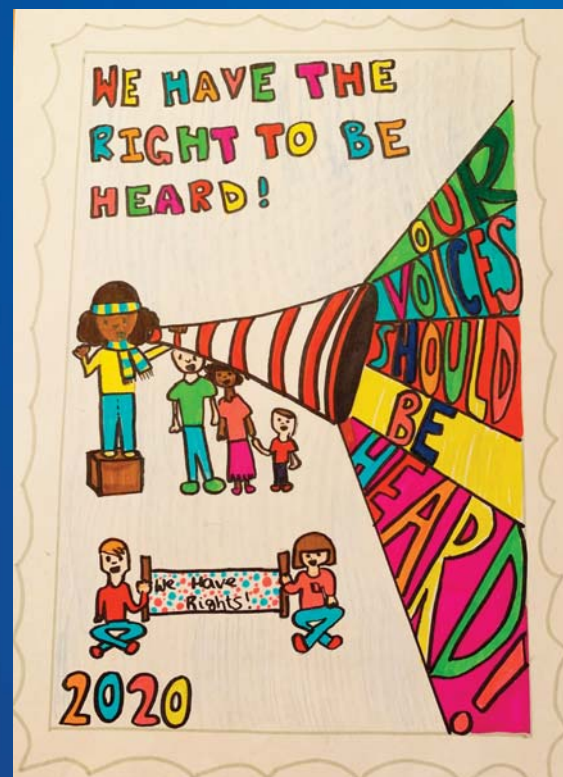
"NPTCBC Children's Services have continued to work closely with the Children's Rights Unit in Neath to ensure the UNCRC is embedded in our everyday practice and our children and young people receive the best services possible. Through challenging times the CRU has adapted and delivered exciting opportunities for our children and young people to continue receiving support, learning about their rights and having fun online. We look forward to another year of collaboration."

Darren Bartley, Engagement & Participation Officer, Neath Port Talbot Council.



Children's Rights Competition

We ran a competition for children to design a children's rights stamp. The winning entry was from Sarah aged 12, who designed 'You have the right to be heard' stamp. Sarah was given a £10 Amazon voucher for her entry which highlights the need for children and young people to have a voice and be heard.



Induction Training – Children's Rights and Participation

Over the past few years, the CRU has delivered children's rights induction training to new Children's Services employees. Due to Covid-19 this training was adapted to be delivered online and includes a 'participation' element. The training was delivered in partnership with the Engagement & Participation Officer to one cohort of new employees. The training aims to:

- Raise awareness and develop knowledge of children's rights and the UNCRC
- Understand the legal and policy context of children's rights in Wales
- Share good practice examples
- Support children and young people to understand and claim their rights

Working together to make children's rights a reality

#toptipstosurvivelockdown competition

We awarded the winner of the 'toptips2survivelockdown' competition with a £10 Amazon voucher. The young girl submitted this brilliant poem.

Today When I Woke Up

Today when I woke up, I wanted to have some fun,
I wanted to go outside and do lots of playing in the sun.
So I asked Mama, "Can I go outside to play?"
But Mama said, "I'm afraid we can't, no, not today"

Today when I woke up, I wanted to go to the park,
I wanted to play on the swings and slide, before it got extra dark.
So I asked Mama, "Can I go to the park to play?"
But Mama said "We must stay inside today".

Today when I woke up, I wanted to go to the shop,
I wanted to buy something nice, maybe an ice pop.
So I asked Mama, "Can we go to Joe's Ice Cream in the car?"
But Mama said, "I'm afraid we're not allowed to go that far".

Today when I woke up, I had enough of staying inside,
I didn't understand why Nanny had to stand 2 metres wide.
So I asked Mama, "Can Nanny come in for tea?"
But Mama said, "no sorry, they don't live with me".

Today I woke up, I wanted to go to school today,
I wanted to do lots of work and with my friends I wanted to play.
So I asked Mama, "Can I put on my uniform and shoes?"
But Mama said, "I'm sorry you can't, those are the rules".

Today when I woke up, something was different and new,
All of a sudden, we had lots of fun things to do.
We could go outside, to the park and meet my friend,
See Nanny & Grandad, go to school, the fun will never end.

So today when I woke up, I asked Mama "why is it better today?"
Mama said, "It's because the Coronavirus has all gone away!"
I think that things will be different now and we looked after each other so well,
We are all superheroes for staying strong, and I'm happy about that....

Can you tell?



Children's Rights Champions

The UNCRC is a human rights treaty that was agreed by the United Nations in 1989. It provides a framework for organisations when developing and delivering services for children and young people. In Wales, due regard to the UNCRC is enshrined in policy and legislation within:

- The Rights of Children and Young Persons (Wales) Measure 2011
- The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014
- The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

The Children's Commissioner for Wales Office has developed 'The Right Way', a principled and practical framework for working with children that is rooted in the UNCRC.

Children's Rights are everyone's responsibility and in order to embed children's rights into practice the local authority needs the support and commitment from key staff. To support the local authority to begin its journey to take a 'Children's Rights Approach', the CRU developed and proposed a role description for 'Children's Rights Champions'. The role includes:

- Being passionate about children's rights
- Acting as an ambassador for children's rights
- Being accountable for considering children's rights in their everyday role/life
- Championing children's rights through promotion and awareness raising
- Encouraging others to pledge their commitment to children's rights
- Helping to create a culture where children's rights is at the heart of service development
- Proposing children's rights projects/initiatives where appropriate
- Considering mechanisms to involve children and young people in decision-making
- Feeding back information to decision-makers in the local authority

In order to fully support staff to undertake their role, the CRU developed a 90-minute virtual training session for staff who have volunteered as 'Children's Rights Champions'. The aims of the training are:

- To raise awareness and develop knowledge/understanding of Children's Rights and the UNCRC
- To look at real life case studies in relation to a 'Children's Rights Approach'
- To discuss barriers and solutions to implementing Children's Rights in practice
- To support colleagues to generate ideas and set objectives on taking a 'Children's Rights Approach'.

In 2020-21, two groups of local authority staff identified as Children's Rights Champions attended the training and provided ideas for implementing children's rights in practice. The CRU has taken these ideas and populated them into two action plans that follow the five principles of a Children's Rights Approach. This work will be further developed and monitored in 2021-22.

Working together to make children's rights a reality

The Right Way – A Children's Rights Approach for Social Care

The Children's Commissioner for Wales office developed 'The Right Way – A Children's Rights Approach for Social Care in Wales' which launched in the Spring of 2021. A 'Children's Rights Approach' is a principled and practical framework for working with children, grounded in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Further to attendance at a workshop run by the Children's Commissioner's Office, we worked in partnership with the local authority to contribute three case studies, one to the resource guide and two to the website. The case studies are as follows:

- Foster Carers Information Booklet
- Children's Rights Champions and a Children's Rights Approach
- Short Breaks Consultation with children and young people with disabilities

This was a great opportunity to showcase the great work that Children's Services are undertaking in relation to embedding children's rights in practice.



Short breaks consultation with children and young people



Children's Services wanted children and young people with disabilities to be able to share their views on their experiences of short breaks. The CRU supported commissioning and the Engagement & Participation Officer, to develop an information pack/toolkit for parents/carers.

The toolkit proposed a few fun ways for parents/carers to undertake activities with children and young people to find out what they enjoyed about the short breaks they attended, and what their wishes would be for a short break. This ensured that children and young people were given a voice, were listened to and can make a difference to services. Below are some responses from the consultation, these will be taken into consideration when future services are commissioned.



NPT Young People Website

The CRU has been involved in the development of content, navigation and design of a young person's website to communicate information to young people, their families and professionals. The website was launched in July 2020.

www.nptyoungpeople.co.uk

Networks and Forums

The CRU has representation on a variety of different networks and forums in the area, these include:

- Swansea Bay Regional National Safeguarding Week Task & Finish Group (children and young people)
- Children and Young People Voluntary Sector Forum
- Neath Port Talbot Youth Providers Network
- Neath Port Talbot Council Participation Group
- HCSW Network

We continue to have good working relationships with many organisations throughout Wales, these include: Children in Wales; Office of the Children's Commissioner for Wales; Public Health Wales; NPTCVS; NPTC Group of Colleges; RCPCH; HEIW. We look forward to developing these relationships further in 2021-22.

Working together to make children's rights a reality

Get on Board Cymru project

Our 'Get on Board Cymru' project is not currently funded, but we have been able to continue developing and delivering the project with the commitment and support of our dedicated 'Get on Board Training and Support Officer'. Throughout the year the 'Get on Board Cymru' project secured a number of contracts for delivery of services and has continued to work in partnership with organisations to provide training opportunities for young people to exercise their right to have a voice, be listened to, and become active citizens in their communities.

'Preparing to be a board member' training - online

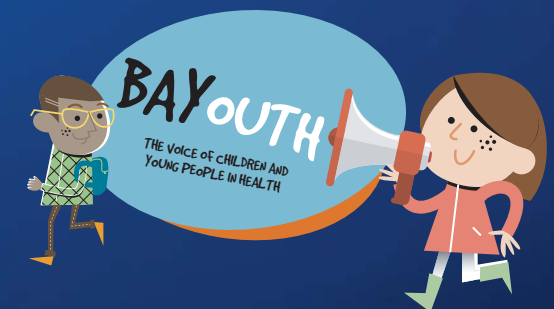
Our unique 'Preparing to be a board member' training, developed specifically for young people aged 14-25, has been adapted so that it can be delivered online over five, two-hour interactive sessions.

Throughout the year, 20 young people attended the training, and after completion and external verification of their workbooks, 19 participants achieved a Level 1 CQFW qualification (Accredited by Agored Cymru). The qualification provides young people with the skills and knowledge to undertake their roles; it empowers them to develop a sense of ownership; enables them to realise their potential to participate in decision-making; and gives them the confidence to speak up.



"I attended the get on board training to boost my opportunities in college and university to get on to my preferred course. I really liked how interactive it was and really recommend it to anyone who likes to learn more about charities."

Cerys, JSB member.



"The 'Preparing to be a board member' training was so much fun; I gained a true understanding of what the role entails and this has inspired me to hopefully become a charity board member in the future!"

Kara, BAYouth member.

Development of Welsh medium resources

Following interest in the training being offered through the medium of Welsh, we translated and further developed our course materials and trained a Welsh speaker to deliver the training, again online over five, two-hour interactive sessions, at the end of the year. All participants achieved a Level 1 CQFW qualification (Accredited by Agored Cymru).

"Credaf roedd y cwrs yn ddiddorol a gwahanol i wneud a wedi agor fy meddwl i gyfleoedd newydd." / "I think the course was interesting and different."

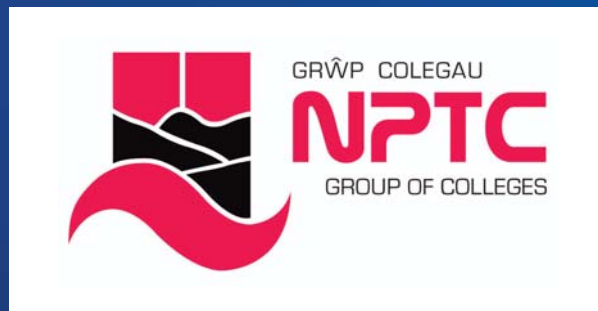
"Roeddwn i wir wedi dysgu llawer. Doedd dim cymaint o wybodaeth gennyf cyn y cwrs." / "I really learned a lot. I didn't know much before the course."



Training for NPTC Group of Colleges

For the past few years we have been commissioned to develop and deliver 'Student Representative' training for NPTC Group of Colleges. This year 11 sessions were run and more than 110 young people attended the training which was all delivered online. The course content included: benefits of student representatives; team building; equality and diversity; conflict of interest.

The course was further developed to make the content specific to meet the needs of NPTC Group of Colleges' Student Governors, with greater emphasis on independent learning and the setting of key tasks to be completed in the students' own time.



Get on Board Cymru Consultation

We commissioned CARP collaborations in 2020-21 to undertake independent research with young people and stakeholders on our behalf. The key findings of the report are:

- There is a clear desire from young people and from organisations for young people to have their voices heard.
- There is an equally clear recognition that young people are underrepresented in key decision-making processes.
- There needs to be greater clarity about what roles young people can play.
- There is a need to ensure that all young people are offered the opportunity to become involved.
- There should be a clear recognition of the value, impact and effect that young people can bring.

The results from the research will be used as evidence to develop future funding bids to ensure the sustainability of the project.

Website: www.getonboard.cymru

Twitter: [@getonboardcymru](https://twitter.com/getonboardcymru)

Conclusion

Our board of trustees and staff acknowledge that this year has been a time of great change and uncertainty for children and young people and we would sincerely like to thank all the children and young people who have participated in the work of the CRU throughout 2020-21. We hope all the children and young people enjoyed, and have been empowered to access their rights.

As a board of trustees, Children's Rights are central to our vision and we promise to support our partner organisations to uphold the principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. We are committed to helping them to continue to embed children's rights in their practice, to ensure that children and young people accessing services are aware of their rights, and continue to have their rights respected and protected.

Notwithstanding the challenges of 2020-21, we are very proud of what has been achieved and with the continued support of our statutory funders we are looking forward to working in partnership to develop these relationships further in 2021-22 and beyond. We are hopeful that life will return to a 'new normal' and we can continue to be a small piece of the jigsaw in making a difference to the lives of children and young people in our communities.





Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit

Ty Margaret Thorne, 17-19 Alfred Street, Neath, SA11 1EF

Company No. 04906893 | Registered Charity No: 1152471

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04906893 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1152471

**UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 MARCH 2021**

FOR

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

Bevan Buckland LLP
Ground Floor
Cardigan House
Castle Court
Swansea Enterprise Park
Swansea
SA7 9LA

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

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**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021. 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 2019).

Our Vision

Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit (CRU) is a charity that was established to promote and protect the rights of children and young people in Neath Port Talbot and the surrounding areas. The unit aims to make the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), a reality for children, young people and their families.

The CRU was first established in 2003 and is governed by a Board of Trustees who are responsible for overseeing the work of the charity and its long-term direction.

It provides opportunities for children and young people up to the age of 25 to develop the confidence and skills to understand and exercise their rights, thus becoming active citizens in their communities, and aims to advance the education of duty bearers to understand their role in enabling children and young people to access their rights.

Our Values

Board Members and staff believe in:

- A Children's Rights based approach in everything we do
- Equal opportunities for all
- Becoming the best that you can be
- Partnership and holistic working
- Empowering and transforming attitudes

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Our impact in 2020 - 2021

Our Annual Report highlights the key projects and initiatives we have been involved in from 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021. It's been a busy and productive year, and we believe that through our work we have continued to have an impact on the children's rights agenda in the Neath Port Talbot and Swansea areas.

Swansea Bay University Health Board - working together to make children's rights a reality

We have had a strong relationship with Swansea Bay University Health Board for a number of years, and have supported them to develop strategic initiatives and practical projects to embed children's rights in practice across their services. We are proud to showcase a summary of the key achievements for 2020-21 with you.

BAYouth - Youth Advisory Panel

Swansea Bay University Health Board's Youth Advisory Panel was established in the Spring of 2017 and was the first health board in Wales to set up a youth advisory panel. BAYouth:

- Is youth led (with the support of CRU and SBUHB staff)
- Is dedicated to improving health services for children and young people
- Represents the voices of children and young people across SBUHB area
- Influences the decision-making process

The CRU were involved in the initial recruitment drive for members and continues to support and mentor members of BAYouth on every project they are involved in.

Throughout 2020-21, ten virtual BAYouth meetings were held and the CRU provided assistance to the young people in: arranging the agenda; collating papers for the meetings; working with members on minutes/actions; coordinating speakers; and supporting young people at the meetings to ensure they have their voices heard and are listened to.

It is important that members of BAYouth are aware of the impact of their involvement. We support members by liaising with speakers and organisations so that they are accountable. This ensures that members are aware of the difference they are making.

BAYouth members are given a choice of projects that they can get involved in. Through the coordination of sub-groups, members are aware of how to get involved, what is expected, and any associated timescales and deadlines.

During 2020-21 some of the regular ongoing projects were put on hold due to Covid-19, nevertheless BAYouth members were still given many opportunities to get involved and have their voices heard. Some of these are highlighted below.

Consultations

BAYouth members were supported to have their voices heard at a regional and national level and their involvement in consultation exercises has been a vital mechanism in ensuring that members had the opportunity to be part of decision-making, and in the development of services that directly affect them. BAYouth were involved in a number of consultation exercises and workshops in 2020-21 including: Children's Commissioner for Wales; Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health; Welsh Government; Community Health Council.

Health Services during lockdown - RCPCH consultation

The RCPCH approached the CRU to ask if BAYouth would be willing to provide their experiences of health services during lockdown. There was a mixture of positive and negative experiences from BAYouth members, as follows:

- + ED at Morriston hospital - fast and efficient service; checked for Covid symptoms; separating people
- + GP call - longer conversation than normal; felt like the GP had more time to talk; more helpful than usual; quick service

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

- Anxiety and fear of going into hospital for treatment is heightened by Covid fear
- Information - there isn't much information that is child and young person friendly; mostly for adults

The CRU collated and fed back responses from BAYouth to the RCPCH, who then shared these with the RCPCH Wales office who are working with the Senedd on supporting post Covid planning of services.

Welsh Government - Transition guidance for health boards

The Welsh Government have produced 'Transition guidance' for all health boards in Wales to ensure that young people are supported when they move from paediatric to adult services.

We produced a PowerPoint presentation to highlight the main points for BAYouth to consider. Initial feedback was gained from all attendees at a BAYouth meeting and a sub-group was created to look at this in more detail. The CRU coordinated and facilitated the sub-group workshop and collated feedback into the following themes:

- General comments
- Terminology
- Timings
- Handover Lead
- Transition Handover Plan
- Information
- Welsh language
- Feedback
- Case study from one young person

Members' feedback was submitted to Welsh Government and the CCfW office and will be used to develop the transition guidance further.

Mental health and well-being website

BAYouth members worked closely with colleagues in the health board throughout 2020 and gave their views on where they would go for help and support on mental health and well-being. Further to a number of meetings and consultation workshops, a website was developed and BAYouth have been kept up to date on how their views have been acted upon.

Members were also asked to provide further comments on the proposed name and branding of the website, and were also involved in the validation process to test the navigation of the website and its content.

Kooth - mental health and well-being

digital platform

Kooth is a digital service for children and young people who need early intervention mental health and well-being support. The health board commissioned this digital platform to provide a safe, secure and accessible counselling service for children and young people across the Swansea Bay area.

CAMHS building name

In the Spring of 2021 CAMHS moved into a brand-new clinic in Swansea and members of BAYouth were asked to complete an online survey regarding ideas for a name for the building. The name was also discussed at a virtual BAYouth meeting where members felt that a Welsh name may be worth considering. They proposed: TY Lles (this translates as Well-being House). Through consultation with other young people, the final name agreed was Ty'r Meddwl.

NHS Careers Wales website

Health Education and Improvement Wales have been developing an online platform to showcase information to young people on careers in the NHS in Wales. The CRU was approached to request BAYouth's involvement, and representatives from HEIW were invited to a BAYouth meeting. Members were able to give their initial views on the proposal and began to establish a relationship for input into future plans. The platform is due to launch in the Autumn of 2021.

Nurse Staffing Levels Act Poster

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

Swansea Bay University Health Board were approached by the Paediatric Project Lead for HEIW to ask if BAYouth would help to develop a child/young person friendly version of an information poster for the whole of Wales. The CRU supported members of BAYouth to develop content and designed a 'FAQ' poster. In conjunction with other young people in Cardiff and the Vale Health Board, the poster content and design were developed further and signed off for use in 2021.

Members were also asked to comment on a nurse staffing numbers information poster.

Adolescent Allergy leaflet

Consultant Paediatrician Dr Eliana Panayiotou approached BAYouth for their input into an adolescent allergy leaflet she was producing for young people. An initial design was proposed to the group who gave their feedback. Based on that feedback a revised design was developed, a section of the revised leaflet can be seen below.

Adolescent Allergy Clinic

The CRU was asked to support the health board in the development of a workshop to gain the views of members of BAYouth and to enable them to express their thoughts and ideas on the concept of an Adolescent Allergy Clinic. The workshop took place in Q4 and members came up with lots of great ideas.

Following on from this, the CRU worked closely with Dr Panayiotou to develop a questionnaire in 'Survey Monkey' that will be shared with adolescents who are accessing allergy services in the health board. Feedback from the survey will be used to develop the Adolescent Allergy Clinic.

'Young Interviewers' online training

Due to the restrictions of Covid-19, our bespoke 'Young Interviewers' training session for young people who were invited to be part of an interview panel for health board positions has been adapted for online delivery. The training was offered to all members of BAYouth and delivered once in 2020-21. When appropriate, members who have undertaken the training will be invited to take part in interviews for the health board.

Top Tips

In response to Covid-19, the CRU proposed an idea to the Chair to ask if members of BAYouth would share their top tips for staying safe during lockdown. Members of BAYouth embraced this idea and posted their personal top tips every Tuesday throughout the first lockdown in 2020. This kept BAYouth members engaged and in contact, and provided inspiration for others on social media. All tips were accompanied by a message reminding people to follow NHS and government guidelines. Have a look at their top tips on twitter @BAYouthNHS.

Big lockdown quiz

It's not all work for BAYouth, members took part in the 'BAYouth big lockdown quiz'. They had lots of fun running through five rounds of questions ranging from general knowledge, to lockdown residences, to music. Joint winners Amy and Tal were awarded Amazon vouchers by the CRU.

Recognition

Kindness Award - The CRU awarded BAYouth a 'Kindness Award' for championing children and young people's rights in health.

Volunteering Award - In recognition of their commitment to volunteering, the CRU awarded BAYouth members with a certificate acknowledging their outstanding contribution to volunteering.

Children's Commissioner for Wales- Annual Child Health Seminar

The CRU has been accompanying colleagues from SBUHB to the annual Child Health Seminar organised by the CCFW for four years. The seminar is an opportunity for Swansea Bay University Health Board to update Sally Holland and health board colleagues across Wales on the progress that has been made in embedding children's rights into practice in health.

NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS UNIT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

This year the CRU jointly developed and delivered a presentation which showcased the main children's rights projects and initiatives that have been a priority for the health board.

Community Ambassadors

Members of BAYouth are Community Ambassadors for the Children's Commissioner for Wales office. As Community Ambassadors, members highlight health issues that are important to them to Sally Holland. The three issues BAYouth championed in 2020-21 were:

- Mental health and well-being
- Health promotion
- Adolescent Services

We supported a member of BAYouth and attended the CCMW Community Ambassadors workshop in November 2020 to update Sally Holland on the work BAYouth undertook throughout 2020.

National Participation Standards Kitemark

In February 2020, Swansea Bay University Health Board signed up to the National Participation Standards Charter. In doing so, the health board committed to measure and improve the quality of children and young people's participation. The next stage of the journey for the health board is to work towards the National Participation Standards Kitemark. In Wales there are seven standards which help organisations make sure the process, quality and experience of involving children and young people's participation are followed, these are:

- Information
- It's your choice
- No discrimination
- Respect
- You get something out of it
- Feedback
- Working better for you

The next stage is for the health board to undertake a self-assessment against the National Participation Standards. The CRU has been leading this process with input from young people who are members of BAYouth. Evidence gathering for the self-assessment started in Q4 and it is anticipated that the whole process will take around 12 months.

Children's Rights Training for professionals

Due to the challenges of providing training to health professionals during the pandemic, the CRU developed an online 'Introduction to Children's Rights and the UNCRC' training session. The session aims to:

- Raise awareness and develop knowledge/understanding of Children's Rights and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Understand the legal and policy context of Children's Rights in Wales
- Share good practice examples and allow individuals and organisations to develop an understanding of their role in embedding children's rights into practice

A Children's Rights Approach and Children's Rights Champions

A Children's Rights Approach is a principled and practical framework for working with children, grounded in the UNCRC. It is about placing the UNCRC at the core of planning and service delivery and integrating children's rights into every aspect of decision-making, policy and practice. The five principles of a Children's Rights Approach are:

- Embedding children's rights
- Equality & non-discrimination
- Empowering children
- Participation
- Accountability

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

The CRU has been working in partnership with Swansea Bay University Health Board for a number of years and has supported the health board to develop various children's rights projects. The health board are already doing many things that are consistent with the above. More formally adopting a 'Children's Rights Approach' will complement this work further.

In order to put the above into practice the health board needs the support and commitment from key staff and should consider the development of 'Children's Rights Champions'. A proposal for the recruitment and development of Children's Rights Champions, including the development of a 1 ½ hour training workshop, has been proposed to the health board. We are looking forward to working with the health board to implement this further in 2021-22.

Covid-19 information leaflet for children and young people

The Patient Experience Nurse requested the help of the CRU to consult with members of BAYouth to create a bespoke SBUHB child and young person friendly Covid-19 information leaflet. The CRU coordinated a sub-group of members to look through the content and design of an example leaflet that had been provided, and members gave their opinions on what they thought would make it more child and young person friendly. From their ideas, the CRU designed an updated information leaflet which was then circulated to sub-group members so that they could suggest any changes before it was sent to health professionals for their feedback. The information leaflet was sent to all children and young people being admitted to hospital during the pandemic.

National Safeguarding Week - Safeguarding Poster

National Safeguarding Week was in November 2020 and the CRU developed a safeguarding poster for the health board. The poster included safeguarding information in a child friendly way in relation to hand hygiene, medicines, moving around etc.

The poster was shared with professionals in the health board and BAYouth members for their views and revised before being distributed for display in all paediatric wards in Swansea Bay.

Children's Rights Promises - Poster

The CRU has been working closely with SBUHB to develop an updated version of the Children's Rights Charter that is accessible to all children and young people regardless of their age or ability. The CRU supported the health board to undertake consultation with children and young people and this resulted in the creation of a draft 'Children's Rights Promises' poster. In Q1 and Q2 of 2020-21 the CRU coordinated final changes and updates to the poster which included a Welsh language version, and arranged a licence from 'Widgit' which enables the health board to use the accessible symbols. The 'Children's Rights Promises' poster was approved by the health board in Q4 of 2020-21, meetings and discussions have already taken place to start planning its launch in the autumn of 2021.

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council - working together to make children's rights a reality

We are very proud of the strong relationship we have established with Neath Port Talbot Council over the last few years. This section of our Annual Report provides a summary of the key support and service we have provided to the local authority in 2020-21.

Junior Safeguarding Board

The JSB was set up in 2019 and pupils from across NPT would meet each term to discuss the safeguarding issues they faced at home; school; in their community; and online. From these initial discussions the young people decided that they wanted to champion two broad issues that were important to them.

These two broad issues were further developed and focussed on:

- Bullying & Pressures - Safeguarding in Sport
- Equality and Discrimination - LGBTQ

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

Due to the restrictions that Covid-19 imposed in 2020, in relation to schools being closed and the barriers of being able to meet young people face to face, the work of the Junior Safeguarding Board had to adapt. Throughout the year the CRU and the Engagement & Participation Officer have continued to work behind the scenes to champion safeguarding issues for children and young people in Neath Port Talbot in a number of ways, these are outlined below.

JSB Newsletter

In order to maintain engagement with members of the JSB we have worked closely to support the Engagement & Participation Officer to produce content for regular online newsletter updates for schools and JSB members on safeguarding issues. Five newsletters were sent out in 2020-21. Packed full of information, some of the content included:

- Children's Rights
- Competitions - toptips2survivelockdown; Child Net Film (Safer Internet)
- Consultations/Surveys - Unicef; Children and Young People Education Committee; Coronavirus and me; Welsh Youth Parliament; Mental Health and well-being website.
- Launch of NPT Young People website
- Anti-bullying week
- Launch of 'Stay Safe in Sport' campaign
- Safeguarding Week
- Girls' Rights
- LGBTQ updates
- JSB Member focus
- Swansea Council projects update

'Stay Safe in Sport' Workshop and Campaign

Members of the JSB felt that children and young people experience too much pressure in relation to sporting activities, that they are victims of verbal and physical abuse, and that there are not enough opportunities for all children and young people to take part in sport. Whilst Covid-19 presented many challenges, we felt that it was important to progress this issue and continued to lobby various organisations in anticipation of a partnership approach to highlighting this issue. South Wales Police were very keen to get on board to support this work with the local authority and the CRU and a workshop session was developed where JSB members and Police Youth Volunteers came along (virtually) to discuss how they wanted to address the problem. Around eight young people attended the workshop and gave their views and ideas for an awareness campaign. Taking on board the young people's comments and ideas, the CRU commissioned a graphic designer and coordinated the development of three different campaign ideas. These were shared with the young people and based on their feedback one idea was further developed into a campaign with a suite of three visuals, (see below).

The 'Stay Safe in Sport' campaign was launched in National Safeguarding Week 2020 and aimed to:

- sport and side line behaviour, raise awareness of the issues children and young people face in relation to safeguarding in
- provide marketing assets for key stakeholders to use to spread the word
- encourage coaches, parents, referees, children and young people to speak up

LGBTQ+

Members of the JSB raised LGBTQ+ as something they'd like to champion. In Q4 of 2020-21 the CRU worked in partnership with the Engagement & Participation Officer to develop a resource for schools to use to undertake a workshop with young people to gain their views. Workshops will be held in Q1 and Q2 of 2021 and ideas from pupils will be collated and an action plan proposed based on young people's priorities.

Reporting to the West Glamorgan Safeguarding Board

Throughout the year the CRU attended regular meetings with the Engagement & Participation Officer and representatives from Swansea City Council to discuss working together and arrange sharing of updates and information to the WGSB. Combined written updates of progress in each local authority area are given at each WGSB meeting and both local authorities will continue working together to ensure a coordinated approach in 2021-22.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

Recognition for commitment

Kindness Award - The CRU awarded JSB members with 'Kindness Award' for championing safeguarding issues in their community.

Volunteering Award - In recognition of their commitment to volunteering, the CRU awarded JSB members with a certificate acknowledging their outstanding contribution to volunteering.

YoVo and Jnr YoVo- Your Voice Matters

Due to the restrictions of Covid-19, the care experienced children's council YoVo and Jnr YoVo were not able to meet face to face throughout 2020-21. Both groups were established to encourage care experienced children and young people to get involved in activities, have fun and provide a safe space to enjoy, and as a mechanism to give care experienced children and young people a voice in decisions that affect them.

As the year progressed and safeguarding issues were addressed, the CRU began to support the Engagement & Participation Officer in the planning and delivery of sessions. Regularity and content of sessions started off quite small and simple and over the year grew into a wide range of activities and opportunities which also included collaboration with external providers.

Rusty the Children's Rights Teddy

As a way of teaching children about Children's Rights, Rusty the children's rights teddy joined Jnr YoVo in 2020, members of Jnr YoVo were sent a goodie bag that included Rusty, and he joins in with most sessions. Rusty is also a regular on twitter, he shares children's rights messages and all the positive things the children and young people are doing in Neath Port Talbot.

A huge well done to all members of YoVo and Jnr YoVo for keeping engaged throughout the year, and continuing to be the voice of care experienced children and young people in Neath Port Talbot.

Facebook

A private Facebook group was set up in the pandemic order to provide information and share opportunities with looked after children and young people. The CRU supported the Engagement & Participation Officer with updating content and through sharing information and advice, activities, games, and opportunities for children and young people to have their voices heard through surveys and consultations.

Padlet

The Engagement & Participation Officer for Children's Services developed an online 'padlet' noticeboard to communicate information, fun games, advice and opportunities for children and young people to get involved in and have their say. The CRU also posts content onto the 'padlet' to ensure that information and opportunities are kept up to date and interesting.

Children's Rights Competition

We ran a competition for children to design a children's rights stamp. The winning entry was from Sarah aged 12, who designed 'You have the right to be heard' stamp. Sarah was given a £10 Amazon voucher for her entry which highlights the need for children and young people to have a voice and be heard.

Induction Training - Children's Rights and Participation

Over the past few years, the CRU has delivered children's rights induction training to new Children's Services employees. Due to Covid-19 this training was adapted to be delivered online and includes a 'participation' element. The training was delivered in partnership with the Engagement & Participation Officer to one cohort of new employees. The training aims to:

- Raise awareness and develop knowledge of children's rights and the UNCRC
- Understand the legal and policy context of children's rights in Wales
- Share good practice examples
- Support children and young people to understand and claim their rights

#toptipstosurvivelockdowncompetition

We awarded the winner of the 'toptips2survivelockdown' competition with a £10 Amazon voucher. The young girl submitted this brilliant poem.

NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS UNIT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Children's Rights Champions

The UNCRC is a human rights treaty that was agreed by the United Nations in 1989. It provides a framework for organisations when developing and delivering services for children and young people. In Wales, due regard to the UNCRC is enshrined in policy and legislation within:

- The Rights of Children and Young Persons (Wales) Measure 2011
- The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014
- The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

The Children's Commissioner for Wales Office has developed 'The Right Way', a principled and practical framework for working with children that is rooted in the UNCRC. Children's Rights are everyone's responsibility and in order to embed children's rights into practice the local authority needs the support and commitment from key staff. To support the local authority to begin its journey to take a 'Children's Rights Approach', the CRU developed and proposed a role description for 'Children's Rights Champions'. The role includes:

- Being passionate about children's rights
- Acting as an ambassador for children's rights
- Being accountable for considering children's rights in their everyday role/life
- Championing children's rights through promotion and awareness raising
- Encouraging others to pledge their commitment to children's rights
- Helping to create a culture where children's rights is at the heart of service development
- Proposing children's rights projects/initiatives where appropriate
- Considering mechanisms to involve children and young people in decision-making
- Feeding back information to decision-makers in the local authority

In order to fully support staff to undertake their role, the CRU developed a 90-minute virtual training session for staff who have volunteered as 'Children's Rights Champions'. The aims of the training are:

- To raise awareness and develop knowledge/understanding of Children's Rights and the UNCRC
- To look at real life case studies in relation to a 'Children's Rights Approach'
- To discuss barriers and solutions to implementing Children's Rights in practice
- To support colleagues to generate ideas and set objectives on taking a 'Children's Rights Approach'.

In 2020-21, two groups of local authority staff identified as Children's Rights Champions attended the training and provided ideas for implementing children's rights in practice. The CRU has taken these ideas and populated them into two action plans that follow the five principles of a Children's Rights Approach. This work will be further developed and monitored in 2021-22.

The Right Way - A Children's Rights Approach for Social Care

The Children's Commissioner for Wales office developed 'The Right Way – A Children's Rights Approach for Social Care in Wales' which launched in the Spring of 2021. A 'Children's Rights Approach' is a principled and practical framework for working with children, grounded in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Further to attendance at a workshop run by the Children's Commissioner's Office, we worked in partnership with the local authority to contribute three case studies, one to the resource guide and two to the website. The case studies are as follows:

- Foster Carers Information Booklet
- Children's Rights Champions and a Children's Rights Approach
- Short Breaks Consultation with children and young people with disabilities

This was a great opportunity to showcase the great work that Children's Services are undertaking in relation to embedding children's rights in practice.

Short breaks consultation with children and young people

Children's Services wanted children and young people with disabilities to be able to share their views on their experiences of short breaks. The CRU supported commissioning and the Engagement & Participation Officer, to develop an information pack/toolkit for parents/carers.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

The toolkit proposed a few fun ways for parents/carers to undertake activities with children and young people to find out what they enjoyed about the short breaks they attended, and what their wishes would be for a short break. This ensured that children and young people were given a voice, were listened to and can make a difference to services. Below are some responses from the consultation, these will be taken into consideration when future services are commissioned.

NPT Young People Website

The CRU has been involved in the development of content, navigation and design of a young person's website to communicate information to young people, their families and professionals. The website was launched in July 2020.

www.nptyoungpeople.co.uk

Networks and Forums

The CRU has representation on a variety of different networks and forums in the area, these include:

- Swansea Bay Regional National Safeguarding Week Task & Finish Group (children and young people)
- Children and Young People Voluntary Sector Forum
- Neath Port Talbot Youth Providers Network
- Neath Port Talbot Council Participation Group
- HCSW Network

We continue to have good working relationships with many organisations throughout Wales, these include: Children in Wales; Office of the Children's Commissioner for Wales; Public Health Wales; NPTCVS; NPTC Group of Colleges; RCPCH; HEIW. We look forward to developing these relationships further in 2021-22.

Get on Board Cymru project

Our 'Get on Board Cymru' project is not currently funded, but we have been able to continue developing and delivering the project with the commitment and support of our dedicated 'Get on Board Training and Support Officer'. Throughout the year the 'Get on Board Cymru' project secured a number of contracts for delivery of services and has continued to work in partnership with organisations to provide training opportunities for young people to exercise their right to have a voice, be listened to, and become active citizens in their communities.

'Preparing to be a board member' training - online

Our unique 'Preparing to be a board member' training, developed specifically for young people aged 14-25, has been adapted so that it can be delivered online over five, two-hour interactive sessions.

Throughout the year, 20 young people attended the training, and after completion and external verification of their workbooks, 19 participants achieved a Level 1 CQFW qualification (Accredited by Agored Cymru). The qualification provides young people with the skills and knowledge to undertake their roles; it empowers them to develop a sense of ownership; enables them to realise their potential to participate in decision-making; and gives them the confidence to speak up.

Development of Welsh medium resources

Following interest in the training being offered through the medium of Welsh, we translated and further developed our course materials and trained a Welsh speaker to deliver the training, again online over five, two-hour interactive sessions, at the end of the year. All participants achieved a Level 1 CQFW qualification (Accredited by Agored Cymru).

Training for NPTC Group of Colleges

For the past few years we have been commissioned to develop and deliver 'Student Representative' training for NPTC Group of Colleges. This year 11 sessions were run and more than 110 young people attended the training which was all delivered online. The course content included: benefits of student representatives; team building; equality and diversity; conflict of interest.

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The course was further developed to make the content specific to meet the needs of NPTC Group of Colleges' Student Governors, with greater emphasis on independent learning and the setting of key tasks to be completed in the students' own time.

Get on Board Cymru Consultation

We commissioned CARP collaborations in 2020-21 to undertake independent research with young people and stakeholders on our behalf. The key findings of the report are:

- There is a clear desire from young people and from organisations for young people to have their voices heard.
- There is an equally clear recognition that young people are underrepresented in key decision-making processes.
- There needs to be greater clarity about what roles young people can play.
- There is a need to ensure that all young people are offered the opportunity to become involved.
- There should be a clear recognition of the value, impact and effect that young people can bring.

The results from the research will be used as evidence to develop future funding bids to ensure the sustainability of the project.

Website: www.getonboard.cymru

Twitter: [@getonboardcymru](https://twitter.com/getonboardcymru)

Conclusion

Our board of trustees and staff acknowledge that this year has been a time of great change and uncertainty for children and young people and we would sincerely like to thank all the children and young people who have participated in the work of the CRU throughout 2020-21. We hope all the children and young people enjoyed, and have been empowered to access their rights.

As a board of trustees, Children's Rights are central to our vision and we promise to support our partner organisations to uphold the principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. We are committed to helping them to continue to embed children's rights in their practice, to ensure that children and young people accessing services are aware of their rights, and continue to have their rights respected and protected.

Notwithstanding the challenges of 2020-21, we are very proud of what has been achieved and with the continued support of our statutory funders we are looking forward to working in partnership to develop these relationships further in 2021-22 and beyond. We are hopeful that life will return to a 'new normal' and we can continue to be a small piece of the jigsaw in making a difference to the lives of children and young people in our communities.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The total income of £49,033 (2020: £47,701) was spent on direct charitable expenditure totalling £53,194 (2020: £46,269) resulting in a net deficit of £4,161 (2020: £1,432 surplus).

The Statement of Financial Activities reflects the income and expenditure incurred by Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit in carrying out its role in respect of its objectives. The unrestricted funds at 31 March 2021 were £61,694 (2020: £65,855).

Reserves policy

The board has examined the charity's requirements for reserves in respect of the main risks to the organisation and aims to build up reserves in future years to enable it to continue and expand the services they currently provide. The charity's policy is to maintain a designated reserve for future running costs and critical costs. This will cover twelve months running costs to meet its medium term objectives and to look to absorb any impact of Covid 19, and it will cover redundancy payments to employees and other termination costs should the funding of the charity reduce in the future.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

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

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 31/7/2003 and registered as a charity on 21/06/2013. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the company's Articles are known as Trustees. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the members of the Management Committee are elected to serve for a period of three years after which they must be re-elected at the next Annual General Meeting.

All members of the Management Committee give their time voluntarily and received no benefits from the charity.

Mari Shufflebotham and Phil Treseder retire by rotation and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Trustees are appointed through election from the Membership of the Charity and through co-option of individuals with specific skills and experience useful to the Charity. The Children's Rights Unit seeks to maintain a diverse trustee body comprising the skills, knowledge and experience necessary to ensure that the Charity is managed professionally, that its objects are pursued rigorously and that public benefit is maintained in all its activities. To this end, the Children's Rights Unit seeks suitable candidates widely with skills, knowledge and experience to complement the trustee team.

Induction and training of new trustees

All trustees receive induction into the work of the Children's Rights Unit. Regular training is provided for trustees and has included training in governance, roles and responsibilities of trustees and child protection.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

04906893 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1152471

Registered office

Ty Margaret Thome
17 - 19 Alfred Street
Neath
West Glamorgan
SA11 1EF

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

Trustees

M Dacey
P Treseder
M A Shufflebotham
S A Jones MBE
S B Millar
P H Dunmore

Staff

Jannine Smith	Director/Company Secretary
Victoria Owen	Training and Support Officer - Get on Board Cymru

Company Secretary

J Smith

Independent Examiner

Alison Vickers ACA
Bevan Buckland LLP
Ground Floor
Cardigan House
Castle Court
Swansea Enterprise Park
Swansea
SA7 9LA

Bankers

The Co - operative Bank
P.O. Box 250
Delf House
Southway
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 21st October 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
J Smith - Secretary

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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 accounts to be reached.



Alison Vickers ACA
Bevan Buckland LLP
Ground Floor
Cardigan House
Castle Court
Swansea Enterprise Park
Swansea
SA7 9LA

Date: ..23.11.2021.....

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	3	45,433	-	45,433	45,028
Other trading activities	4	<u>3,600</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,600</u>	<u>2,673</u>
Total		49,033	-	49,033	47,701
 EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds		97	-	97	-
Charitable activities					
Charitable Activities		<u>53,097</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>53,097</u>	<u>46,269</u>
Total		<u>53,194</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>53,194</u>	<u>46,269</u>
 NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(4,161)	-	(4,161)	1,432
 RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>65,855</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>65,855</u>	<u>64,423</u>
 TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>61,694</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>61,694</u></u>	<u><u>65,855</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**BALANCE SHEET
31 MARCH 2021**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	9	1,002	-	1,002	1,548
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	500	-	500	97
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>65,688</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>65,688</u>	<u>67,322</u>
		66,188	-	66,188	67,419
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(5,496)	-	(5,496)	(3,112)
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>60,692</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>60,692</u>	<u>64,307</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		61,694	-	61,694	65,855
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>61,694</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>61,694</u>	<u>65,855</u>
FUNDS	12				
Unrestricted funds				<u>61,694</u>	<u>65,855</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>61,694</u>	<u>65,855</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

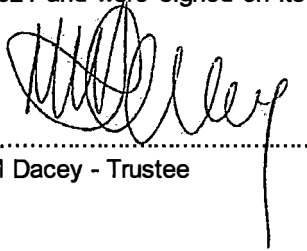
The notes form part of these financial statements

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**BALANCE SHEET - continued
31 MARCH 2021**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 21st October 2021 and were signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Dacey', is written over a horizontal dotted line. A vertical line extends downwards from the end of the signature.

M Dacey - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern.

Income

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

Training income is recognised in the period in which it relates.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, 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 accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

All costs allocated between expenditure categories are on a basis designed to reflect their resource usage. For some costs this means direct allocation to activities, other costs are apportioned, e.g. by staff time spent on the activity, or another equitable usage measure.

The Charity initially identifies the costs of its support functions. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the charities programmes and activities.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 20%	on cost
Computer equipment	- 33%	on cost

Assets costing less than £1,000 are not capitalised and shown as an expense in the statement of financial activities.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

Grants

Grants relating to specific capital expenditure are treated as deferred income which is the credited to the profit and loss account over the related asset's life.

Revenue grants are credited to the profit and loss account in the same period as the expenditure to which they relate.

Debtors

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any discount due.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments held within a deposit or similar account.

Creditors and provisions

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

Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

Costs have been allocated as far as possible between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities on a basis designed to reflect the usage of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly. Others have been apportioned based on the estimated usage of the resource.

Financial Instruments

Under FRS 102 financial instruments are classified as either basic or complex, the charity has reviewed its financial instruments and is satisfied that all financial instruments can be classified as basic and are recognised at amortised historical cost.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**2. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION
UNCERTAINTY**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgments, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgments about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results in the future may differ from these estimates. 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 and in any future periods affected.

3. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2021 £	2020 £
Donations	-	97
Grants	<u>45,433</u>	<u>44,931</u>
	<u>45,433</u>	<u>45,028</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
SBUHB	29,933	29,931
NPTCBC	15,000	15,000
Welsh Government Coronavirus Recovery Grant for Volunteering	<u>500</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>45,433</u>	<u>44,931</u>

4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2021 £	2020 £
Training	<u>3,600</u>	<u>2,673</u>

5. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2021 £	2020 £
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>546</u>	<u>91</u>

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2021 nor for the year ended 31 March 2020.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2021 nor for the year ended 31 March 2020.

7. STAFF COSTS

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

	2021	2020
Administration & support	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

8. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	45,028	-	45,028
Other trading activities	<u>2,673</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,673</u>
Total	47,701	-	47,701
 EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activities	<u>46,269</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>46,269</u>
 NET INCOME	1,432	-	1,432
 RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	<u>64,423</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>64,423</u>
 TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>65,855</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>65,855</u>

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021	<u>863</u>	<u>2,138</u>	<u>3,001</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2020	863	590	1,453
Charge for year	<u>-</u>	<u>546</u>	<u>546</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>863</u>	<u>1,136</u>	<u>1,999</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2021	<u>-</u>	<u>1,002</u>	<u>1,002</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>-</u>	<u>1,548</u>	<u>1,548</u>

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors	<u>500</u>	<u>97</u>

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade creditors	2,616	67
Social security and other taxes	858	784
Accrued expenses	<u>2,022</u>	<u>2,261</u>
	<u>5,496</u>	<u>3,112</u>

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.21 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	15,855	3,738	(8,899)	10,694
Designated Strategic Fund	45,000	-	-	45,000
Get on Board	-	(7,899)	7,899	-
Critical cost fund	<u>5,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>6,000</u>
	<u>65,855</u>	<u>(4,161)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>61,694</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>65,855</u>	<u>(4,161)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>61,694</u>

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	45,433	(41,695)	3,738
Get on Board	<u>3,600</u>	<u>(11,499)</u>	<u>(7,899)</u>
	<u>49,033</u>	<u>(53,194)</u>	<u>(4,161)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>49,033</u></u>	<u><u>(53,194)</u></u>	<u><u>(4,161)</u></u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.19 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.20 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	64,439	6,246	(54,830)	15,855
Designated Strategic Fund	-	-	45,000	45,000
Get on Board	(16)	(4,814)	4,830	-
Critical cost fund	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>
	<u>64,423</u>	<u>1,432</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>65,855</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>64,423</u></u>	<u><u>1,432</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>65,855</u></u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	45,028	(38,782)	6,246
Get on Board	<u>2,673</u>	<u>(7,487)</u>	<u>(4,814)</u>
	<u>47,701</u>	<u>(46,269)</u>	<u>1,432</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>47,701</u></u>	<u><u>(46,269)</u></u>	<u><u>1,432</u></u>

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.19 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.21 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	64,439	9,984	(63,729)	10,694
Designated Strategic Fund	-	-	45,000	45,000
Get on Board	(16)	(12,713)	12,729	-
Critical cost fund	-	-	6,000	6,000
	<u>64,423</u>	<u>(2,729)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>61,694</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>64,423</u>	<u>(2,729)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>61,694</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	90,461	(80,477)	9,984
Get on Board	<u>6,273</u>	<u>(18,986)</u>	<u>(12,713)</u>
	<u>96,734</u>	<u>(99,463)</u>	<u>(2,729)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>96,734</u>	<u>(99,463)</u>	<u>(2,729)</u>

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Funds

Unrestricted funds

Swansea Bay University Health Board

The Children's Rights Unit works in partnership with SBUHB to deliver Children's Rights projects and embed Children's Rights practice including: recruiting, supporting and developing a Youth Board; developing and delivering Children's Rights training for SBUHB staff; launch and implementation of the Children's Rights Charter.

NPTCBC

Children's Rights Unit support of NPT Children's Services including; training, youth engagement (in a variety of areas), advice and guidance, and the development of a children's rights based approach.

Designated Strategic Fund

The charity has designated some of its unrestricted general reserves to a designated fund for future running costs. This will cover twelve months running costs to meet its medium term objectives and to look to absorb any impact of Covid 19.

Critical Cost Fund

The charity has designated some of its unrestricted general reserves to a designated fund for critical costs. This will cover redundancy payments to employees and other termination costs should the funding of the charity reduce in the future.

13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2021.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

	2021 £	2020 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	-	97
Grants	<u>45,433</u>	<u>44,931</u>
	45,433	45,028
Other trading activities		
Training	<u>3,600</u>	<u>2,673</u>
Total incoming resources	49,033	47,701
EXPENDITURE		
Other trading activities		
Bad debts	97	-
Charitable activities		
Wages	40,621	32,769
Pensions	2,208	1,443
Telephone	315	325
Postage and stationery	1,193	567
Travelling	3	830
Staff Training	580	580
Project Activities	1,920	2,475
Subscriptions	25	-
Insurance	631	631
Marketing & Publicity	256	-
Room Hire	30	66
Computer Expenses	830	716
Depreciation	<u>546</u>	<u>91</u>
	49,158	40,493
Support costs		
Support costs		
Accountancy fees	1,823	2,572
Legal fees	308	442
Support from NPTCVS	<u>1,808</u>	<u>2,762</u>
	<u>3,939</u>	<u>5,776</u>
Total resources expended	<u>53,194</u>	<u>46,269</u>
Net (expenditure)/income	<u><u>(4,161)</u></u>	<u><u>1,432</u></u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04906893 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1152471

**UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 MARCH 2021**

FOR

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

Bevan Buckland LLP
Ground Floor
Cardigan House
Castle Court
Swansea Enterprise Park
Swansea
SA7 9LA

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

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**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021. 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 2019).

Our Vision

Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit (CRU) is a charity that was established to promote and protect the rights of children and young people in Neath Port Talbot and the surrounding areas. The unit aims to make the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), a reality for children, young people and their families.

The CRU was first established in 2003 and is governed by a Board of Trustees who are responsible for overseeing the work of the charity and its long-term direction.

It provides opportunities for children and young people up to the age of 25 to develop the confidence and skills to understand and exercise their rights, thus becoming active citizens in their communities, and aims to advance the education of duty bearers to understand their role in enabling children and young people to access their rights.

Our Values

Board Members and staff believe in:

- A Children's Rights based approach in everything we do
- Equal opportunities for all
- Becoming the best that you can be
- Partnership and holistic working
- Empowering and transforming attitudes

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Our impact in 2020 - 2021

Our Annual Report highlights the key projects and initiatives we have been involved in from 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021. It's been a busy and productive year, and we believe that through our work we have continued to have an impact on the children's rights agenda in the Neath Port Talbot and Swansea areas.

Swansea Bay University Health Board - working together to make children's rights a reality

We have had a strong relationship with Swansea Bay University Health Board for a number of years, and have supported them to develop strategic initiatives and practical projects to embed children's rights in practice across their services. We are proud to showcase a summary of the key achievements for 2020-21 with you.

BAYouth - Youth Advisory Panel

Swansea Bay University Health Board's Youth Advisory Panel was established in the Spring of 2017 and was the first health board in Wales to set up a youth advisory panel. BAYouth:

- Is youth led (with the support of CRU and SBUHB staff)
- Is dedicated to improving health services for children and young people
- Represents the voices of children and young people across SBUHB area
- Influences the decision-making process

The CRU were involved in the initial recruitment drive for members and continues to support and mentor members of BAYouth on every project they are involved in.

Throughout 2020-21, ten virtual BAYouth meetings were held and the CRU provided assistance to the young people in: arranging the agenda; collating papers for the meetings; working with members on minutes/actions; coordinating speakers; and supporting young people at the meetings to ensure they have their voices heard and are listened to.

It is important that members of BAYouth are aware of the impact of their involvement. We support members by liaising with speakers and organisations so that they are accountable. This ensures that members are aware of the difference they are making.

BAYouth members are given a choice of projects that they can get involved in. Through the coordination of sub-groups, members are aware of how to get involved, what is expected, and any associated timescales and deadlines.

During 2020-21 some of the regular ongoing projects were put on hold due to Covid-19, nevertheless BAYouth members were still given many opportunities to get involved and have their voices heard. Some of these are highlighted below.

Consultations

BAYouth members were supported to have their voices heard at a regional and national level and their involvement in consultation exercises has been a vital mechanism in ensuring that members had the opportunity to be part of decision-making, and in the development of services that directly affect them. BAYouth were involved in a number of consultation exercises and workshops in 2020-21 including: Children's Commissioner for Wales; Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health; Welsh Government; Community Health Council.

Health Services during lockdown - RCPCH consultation

The RCPCH approached the CRU to ask if BAYouth would be willing to provide their experiences of health services during lockdown. There was a mixture of positive and negative experiences from BAYouth members, as follows:

- + ED at Morriston hospital - fast and efficient service; checked for Covid symptoms; separating people
- + GP call - longer conversation than normal; felt like the GP had more time to talk; more helpful than usual; quick service

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

- Anxiety and fear of going into hospital for treatment is heightened by Covid fear
- Information - there isn't much information that is child and young person friendly; mostly for adults

The CRU collated and fed back responses from BAYouth to the RCPCH, who then shared these with the RCPCH Wales office who are working with the Senedd on supporting post Covid planning of services.

Welsh Government - Transition guidance for health boards

The Welsh Government have produced 'Transition guidance' for all health boards in Wales to ensure that young people are supported when they move from paediatric to adult services.

We produced a PowerPoint presentation to highlight the main points for BAYouth to consider. Initial feedback was gained from all attendees at a BAYouth meeting and a sub-group was created to look at this in more detail. The CRU coordinated and facilitated the sub-group workshop and collated feedback into the following themes:

- General comments
- Terminology
- Timings
- Handover Lead
- Transition Handover Plan
- Information
- Welsh language
- Feedback
- Case study from one young person

Members' feedback was submitted to Welsh Government and the CCfW office and will be used to develop the transition guidance further.

Mental health and well-being website

BAYouth members worked closely with colleagues in the health board throughout 2020 and gave their views on where they would go for help and support on mental health and well-being. Further to a number of meetings and consultation workshops, a website was developed and BAYouth have been kept up to date on how their views have been acted upon.

Members were also asked to provide further comments on the proposed name and branding of the website, and were also involved in the validation process to test the navigation of the website and its content.

Kooth - mental health and well-being

digital platform

Kooth is a digital service for children and young people who need early intervention mental health and well-being support. The health board commissioned this digital platform to provide a safe, secure and accessible counselling service for children and young people across the Swansea Bay area.

CAMHS building name

In the Spring of 2021 CAMHS moved into a brand-new clinic in Swansea and members of BAYouth were asked to complete an online survey regarding ideas for a name for the building. The name was also discussed at a virtual BAYouth meeting where members felt that a Welsh name may be worth considering. They proposed: TY Lles (this translates as Well-being House). Through consultation with other young people, the final name agreed was Ty'r Meddwl.

NHS Careers Wales website

Health Education and Improvement Wales have been developing an online platform to showcase information to young people on careers in the NHS in Wales. The CRU was approached to request BAYouth's involvement, and representatives from HEIW were invited to a BAYouth meeting. Members were able to give their initial views on the proposal and began to establish a relationship for input into future plans. The platform is due to launch in the Autumn of 2021.

Nurse Staffing Levels Act Poster

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

Swansea Bay University Health Board were approached by the Paediatric Project Lead for HEIW to ask if BAYouth would help to develop a child/young person friendly version of an information poster for the whole of Wales. The CRU supported members of BAYouth to develop content and designed a 'FAQ' poster. In conjunction with other young people in Cardiff and the Vale Health Board, the poster content and design were developed further and signed off for use in 2021.

Members were also asked to comment on a nurse staffing numbers information poster.

Adolescent Allergy leaflet

Consultant Paediatrician Dr Eliana Panayiotou approached BAYouth for their input into an adolescent allergy leaflet she was producing for young people. An initial design was proposed to the group who gave their feedback. Based on that feedback a revised design was developed, a section of the revised leaflet can be seen below.

Adolescent Allergy Clinic

The CRU was asked to support the health board in the development of a workshop to gain the views of members of BAYouth and to enable them to express their thoughts and ideas on the concept of an Adolescent Allergy Clinic. The workshop took place in Q4 and members came up with lots of great ideas.

Following on from this, the CRU worked closely with Dr Panayiotou to develop a questionnaire in 'Survey Monkey' that will be shared with adolescents who are accessing allergy services in the health board. Feedback from the survey will be used to develop the Adolescent Allergy Clinic.

'Young Interviewers' online training

Due to the restrictions of Covid-19, our bespoke 'Young Interviewers' training session for young people who were invited to be part of an interview panel for health board positions has been adapted for online delivery. The training was offered to all members of BAYouth and delivered once in 2020-21. When appropriate, members who have undertaken the training will be invited to take part in interviews for the health board.

Top Tips

In response to Covid-19, the CRU proposed an idea to the Chair to ask if members of BAYouth would share their top tips for staying safe during lockdown. Members of BAYouth embraced this idea and posted their personal top tips every Tuesday throughout the first lockdown in 2020. This kept BAYouth members engaged and in contact, and provided inspiration for others on social media. All tips were accompanied by a message reminding people to follow NHS and government guidelines. Have a look at their top tips on twitter @BAYouthNHS.

Big lockdown quiz

It's not all work for BAYouth, members took part in the 'BAYouth big lockdown quiz'. They had lots of fun running through five rounds of questions ranging from general knowledge, to lockdown residences, to music. Joint winners Amy and Tal were awarded Amazon vouchers by the CRU.

Recognition

Kindness Award - The CRU awarded BAYouth a 'Kindness Award' for championing children and young people's rights in health.

Volunteering Award - In recognition of their commitment to volunteering, the CRU awarded BAYouth members with a certificate acknowledging their outstanding contribution to volunteering.

Children's Commissioner for Wales- Annual Child Health Seminar

The CRU has been accompanying colleagues from SBUHB to the annual Child Health Seminar organised by the CCFW for four years. The seminar is an opportunity for Swansea Bay University Health Board to update Sally Holland and health board colleagues across Wales on the progress that has been made in embedding children's rights into practice in health.

NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS UNIT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

This year the CRU jointly developed and delivered a presentation which showcased the main children's rights projects and initiatives that have been a priority for the health board.

Community Ambassadors

Members of BAYouth are Community Ambassadors for the Children's Commissioner for Wales office. As Community Ambassadors, members highlight health issues that are important to them to Sally Holland. The three issues BAYouth championed in 2020-21 were:

- Mental health and well-being
- Health promotion
- Adolescent Services

We supported a member of BAYouth and attended the CCMW Community Ambassadors workshop in November 2020 to update Sally Holland on the work BAYouth undertook throughout 2020.

National Participation Standards Kitemark

In February 2020, Swansea Bay University Health Board signed up to the National Participation Standards Charter. In doing so, the health board committed to measure and improve the quality of children and young people's participation. The next stage of the journey for the health board is to work towards the National Participation Standards Kitemark. In Wales there are seven standards which help organisations make sure the process, quality and experience of involving children and young people's participation are followed, these are:

- Information
- It's your choice
- No discrimination
- Respect
- You get something out of it
- Feedback
- Working better for you

The next stage is for the health board to undertake a self-assessment against the National Participation Standards. The CRU has been leading this process with input from young people who are members of BAYouth. Evidence gathering for the self-assessment started in Q4 and it is anticipated that the whole process will take around 12 months.

Children's Rights Training for professionals

Due to the challenges of providing training to health professionals during the pandemic, the CRU developed an online 'Introduction to Children's Rights and the UNCRC' training session. The session aims to:

- Raise awareness and develop knowledge/understanding of Children's Rights and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Understand the legal and policy context of Children's Rights in Wales
- Share good practice examples and allow individuals and organisations to develop an understanding of their role in embedding children's rights into practice

A Children's Rights Approach and Children's Rights Champions

A Children's Rights Approach is a principled and practical framework for working with children, grounded in the UNCRC. It is about placing the UNCRC at the core of planning and service delivery and integrating children's rights into every aspect of decision-making, policy and practice. The five principles of a Children's Rights Approach are:

- Embedding children's rights
- Equality & non-discrimination
- Empowering children
- Participation
- Accountability

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

The CRU has been working in partnership with Swansea Bay University Health Board for a number of years and has supported the health board to develop various children's rights projects. The health board are already doing many things that are consistent with the above. More formally adopting a 'Children's Rights Approach' will complement this work further.

In order to put the above into practice the health board needs the support and commitment from key staff and should consider the development of 'Children's Rights Champions'. A proposal for the recruitment and development of Children's Rights Champions, including the development of a 1 ½ hour training workshop, has been proposed to the health board. We are looking forward to working with the health board to implement this further in 2021-22.

Covid-19 information leaflet for children and young people

The Patient Experience Nurse requested the help of the CRU to consult with members of BAYouth to create a bespoke SBUHB child and young person friendly Covid-19 information leaflet. The CRU coordinated a sub-group of members to look through the content and design of an example leaflet that had been provided, and members gave their opinions on what they thought would make it more child and young person friendly. From their ideas, the CRU designed an updated information leaflet which was then circulated to sub-group members so that they could suggest any changes before it was sent to health professionals for their feedback. The information leaflet was sent to all children and young people being admitted to hospital during the pandemic.

National Safeguarding Week - Safeguarding Poster

National Safeguarding Week was in November 2020 and the CRU developed a safeguarding poster for the health board. The poster included safeguarding information in a child friendly way in relation to hand hygiene, medicines, moving around etc.

The poster was shared with professionals in the health board and BAYouth members for their views and revised before being distributed for display in all paediatric wards in Swansea Bay.

Children's Rights Promises - Poster

The CRU has been working closely with SBUHB to develop an updated version of the Children's Rights Charter that is accessible to all children and young people regardless of their age or ability. The CRU supported the health board to undertake consultation with children and young people and this resulted in the creation of a draft 'Children's Rights Promises' poster. In Q1 and Q2 of 2020-21 the CRU coordinated final changes and updates to the poster which included a Welsh language version, and arranged a licence from 'Widgit' which enables the health board to use the accessible symbols. The 'Children's Rights Promises' poster was approved by the health board in Q4 of 2020-21, meetings and discussions have already taken place to start planning its launch in the autumn of 2021.

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council - working together to make children's rights a reality

We are very proud of the strong relationship we have established with Neath Port Talbot Council over the last few years. This section of our Annual Report provides a summary of the key support and service we have provided to the local authority in 2020-21.

Junior Safeguarding Board

The JSB was set up in 2019 and pupils from across NPT would meet each term to discuss the safeguarding issues they faced at home; school; in their community; and online. From these initial discussions the young people decided that they wanted to champion two broad issues that were important to them.

These two broad issues were further developed and focussed on:

- Bullying & Pressures - Safeguarding in Sport
- Equality and Discrimination - LGBTQ

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

Due to the restrictions that Covid-19 imposed in 2020, in relation to schools being closed and the barriers of being able to meet young people face to face, the work of the Junior Safeguarding Board had to adapt. Throughout the year the CRU and the Engagement & Participation Officer have continued to work behind the scenes to champion safeguarding issues for children and young people in Neath Port Talbot in a number of ways, these are outlined below.

JSB Newsletter

In order to maintain engagement with members of the JSB we have worked closely to support the Engagement & Participation Officer to produce content for regular online newsletter updates for schools and JSB members on safeguarding issues. Five newsletters were sent out in 2020-21. Packed full of information, some of the content included:

- Children's Rights
- Competitions - toptips2survivelockdown; Child Net Film (Safer Internet)
- Consultations/Surveys - Unicef; Children and Young People Education Committee; Coronavirus and me; Welsh Youth Parliament; Mental Health and well-being website.
- Launch of NPT Young People website
- Anti-bullying week
- Launch of 'Stay Safe in Sport' campaign
- Safeguarding Week
- Girls' Rights
- LGBTQ updates
- JSB Member focus
- Swansea Council projects update

'Stay Safe in Sport' Workshop and Campaign

Members of the JSB felt that children and young people experience too much pressure in relation to sporting activities, that they are victims of verbal and physical abuse, and that there are not enough opportunities for all children and young people to take part in sport. Whilst Covid-19 presented many challenges, we felt that it was important to progress this issue and continued to lobby various organisations in anticipation of a partnership approach to highlighting this issue. South Wales Police were very keen to get on board to support this work with the local authority and the CRU and a workshop session was developed where JSB members and Police Youth Volunteers came along (virtually) to discuss how they wanted to address the problem. Around eight young people attended the workshop and gave their views and ideas for an awareness campaign. Taking on board the young people's comments and ideas, the CRU commissioned a graphic designer and coordinated the development of three different campaign ideas. These were shared with the young people and based on their feedback one idea was further developed into a campaign with a suite of three visuals, (see below).

The 'Stay Safe in Sport' campaign was launched in National Safeguarding Week 2020 and aimed to:

- sport and side line behaviour, raise awareness of the issues children and young people face in relation to safeguarding in
- provide marketing assets for key stakeholders to use to spread the word
- encourage coaches, parents, referees, children and young people to speak up

LGBTQ+

Members of the JSB raised LGBTQ+ as something they'd like to champion. In Q4 of 2020-21 the CRU worked in partnership with the Engagement & Participation Officer to develop a resource for schools to use to undertake a workshop with young people to gain their views. Workshops will be held in Q1 and Q2 of 2021 and ideas from pupils will be collated and an action plan proposed based on young people's priorities.

Reporting to the West Glamorgan Safeguarding Board

Throughout the year the CRU attended regular meetings with the Engagement & Participation Officer and representatives from Swansea City Council to discuss working together and arrange sharing of updates and information to the WGSB. Combined written updates of progress in each local authority area are given at each WGSB meeting and both local authorities will continue working together to ensure a coordinated approach in 2021-22.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

Recognition for commitment

Kindness Award - The CRU awarded JSB members with 'Kindness Award' for championing safeguarding issues in their community.

Volunteering Award - In recognition of their commitment to volunteering, the CRU awarded JSB members with a certificate acknowledging their outstanding contribution to volunteering.

YoVo and Jnr YoVo- Your Voice Matters

Due to the restrictions of Covid-19, the care experienced children's council YoVo and Jnr YoVo were not able to meet face to face throughout 2020-21. Both groups were established to encourage care experienced children and young people to get involved in activities, have fun and provide a safe space to enjoy, and as a mechanism to give care experienced children and young people a voice in decisions that affect them.

As the year progressed and safeguarding issues were addressed, the CRU began to support the Engagement & Participation Officer in the planning and delivery of sessions. Regularity and content of sessions started off quite small and simple and over the year grew into a wide range of activities and opportunities which also included collaboration with external providers.

Rusty the Children's Rights Teddy

As a way of teaching children about Children's Rights, Rusty the children's rights teddy joined Jnr YoVo in 2020, members of Jnr YoVo were sent a goodie bag that included Rusty, and he joins in with most sessions. Rusty is also a regular on twitter, he shares children's rights messages and all the positive things the children and young people are doing in Neath Port Talbot.

A huge well done to all members of YoVo and Jnr YoVo for keeping engaged throughout the year, and continuing to be the voice of care experienced children and young people in Neath Port Talbot.

Facebook

A private Facebook group was set up in the pandemic order to provide information and share opportunities with looked after children and young people. The CRU supported the Engagement & Participation Officer with updating content and through sharing information and advice, activities, games, and opportunities for children and young people to have their voices heard through surveys and consultations.

Padlet

The Engagement & Participation Officer for Children's Services developed an online 'padlet' noticeboard to communicate information, fun games, advice and opportunities for children and young people to get involved in and have their say. The CRU also posts content onto the 'padlet' to ensure that information and opportunities are kept up to date and interesting.

Children's Rights Competition

We ran a competition for children to design a children's rights stamp. The winning entry was from Sarah aged 12, who designed 'You have the right to be heard' stamp. Sarah was given a £10 Amazon voucher for her entry which highlights the need for children and young people to have a voice and be heard.

Induction Training - Children's Rights and Participation

Over the past few years, the CRU has delivered children's rights induction training to new Children's Services employees. Due to Covid-19 this training was adapted to be delivered online and includes a 'participation' element. The training was delivered in partnership with the Engagement & Participation Officer to one cohort of new employees. The training aims to:

- Raise awareness and develop knowledge of children's rights and the UNCRC
- Understand the legal and policy context of children's rights in Wales
- Share good practice examples
- Support children and young people to understand and claim their rights

#toptipstosurvivelockdowncompetition

We awarded the winner of the 'toptips2survivelockdown' competition with a £10 Amazon voucher. The young girl submitted this brilliant poem.

NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS UNIT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Children's Rights Champions

The UNCRC is a human rights treaty that was agreed by the United Nations in 1989. It provides a framework for organisations when developing and delivering services for children and young people. In Wales, due regard to the UNCRC is enshrined in policy and legislation within:

- The Rights of Children and Young Persons (Wales) Measure 2011
- The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014
- The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

The Children's Commissioner for Wales Office has developed 'The Right Way', a principled and practical framework for working with children that is rooted in the UNCRC. Children's Rights are everyone's responsibility and in order to embed children's rights into practice the local authority needs the support and commitment from key staff. To support the local authority to begin its journey to take a 'Children's Rights Approach', the CRU developed and proposed a role description for 'Children's Rights Champions'. The role includes:

- Being passionate about children's rights
- Acting as an ambassador for children's rights
- Being accountable for considering children's rights in their everyday role/life
- Championing children's rights through promotion and awareness raising
- Encouraging others to pledge their commitment to children's rights
- Helping to create a culture where children's rights is at the heart of service development
- Proposing children's rights projects/initiatives where appropriate
- Considering mechanisms to involve children and young people in decision-making
- Feeding back information to decision-makers in the local authority

In order to fully support staff to undertake their role, the CRU developed a 90-minute virtual training session for staff who have volunteered as 'Children's Rights Champions'. The aims of the training are:

- To raise awareness and develop knowledge/understanding of Children's Rights and the UNCRC
- To look at real life case studies in relation to a 'Children's Rights Approach'
- To discuss barriers and solutions to implementing Children's Rights in practice
- To support colleagues to generate ideas and set objectives on taking a 'Children's Rights Approach'.

In 2020-21, two groups of local authority staff identified as Children's Rights Champions attended the training and provided ideas for implementing children's rights in practice. The CRU has taken these ideas and populated them into two action plans that follow the five principles of a Children's Rights Approach. This work will be further developed and monitored in 2021-22.

The Right Way - A Children's Rights Approach for Social Care

The Children's Commissioner for Wales office developed 'The Right Way – A Children's Rights Approach for Social Care in Wales' which launched in the Spring of 2021. A 'Children's Rights Approach' is a principled and practical framework for working with children, grounded in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Further to attendance at a workshop run by the Children's Commissioner's Office, we worked in partnership with the local authority to contribute three case studies, one to the resource guide and two to the website. The case studies are as follows:

- Foster Carers Information Booklet
- Children's Rights Champions and a Children's Rights Approach
- Short Breaks Consultation with children and young people with disabilities

This was a great opportunity to showcase the great work that Children's Services are undertaking in relation to embedding children's rights in practice.

Short breaks consultation with children and young people

Children's Services wanted children and young people with disabilities to be able to share their views on their experiences of short breaks. The CRU supported commissioning and the Engagement & Participation Officer, to develop an information pack/toolkit for parents/carers.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

The toolkit proposed a few fun ways for parents/carers to undertake activities with children and young people to find out what they enjoyed about the short breaks they attended, and what their wishes would be for a short break. This ensured that children and young people were given a voice, were listened to and can make a difference to services. Below are some responses from the consultation, these will be taken into consideration when future services are commissioned.

NPT Young People Website

The CRU has been involved in the development of content, navigation and design of a young person's website to communicate information to young people, their families and professionals. The website was launched in July 2020.

www.nptyoungpeople.co.uk

Networks and Forums

The CRU has representation on a variety of different networks and forums in the area, these include:

- Swansea Bay Regional National Safeguarding Week Task & Finish Group (children and young people)
- Children and Young People Voluntary Sector Forum
- Neath Port Talbot Youth Providers Network
- Neath Port Talbot Council Participation Group
- HCSW Network

We continue to have good working relationships with many organisations throughout Wales, these include: Children in Wales; Office of the Children's Commissioner for Wales; Public Health Wales; NPTCVS; NPTC Group of Colleges; RCPCH; HEIW. We look forward to developing these relationships further in 2021-22.

Get on Board Cymru project

Our 'Get on Board Cymru' project is not currently funded, but we have been able to continue developing and delivering the project with the commitment and support of our dedicated 'Get on Board Training and Support Officer'. Throughout the year the 'Get on Board Cymru' project secured a number of contracts for delivery of services and has continued to work in partnership with organisations to provide training opportunities for young people to exercise their right to have a voice, be listened to, and become active citizens in their communities.

'Preparing to be a board member' training - online

Our unique 'Preparing to be a board member' training, developed specifically for young people aged 14-25, has been adapted so that it can be delivered online over five, two-hour interactive sessions.

Throughout the year, 20 young people attended the training, and after completion and external verification of their workbooks, 19 participants achieved a Level 1 CQFW qualification (Accredited by Agored Cymru). The qualification provides young people with the skills and knowledge to undertake their roles; it empowers them to develop a sense of ownership; enables them to realise their potential to participate in decision-making; and gives them the confidence to speak up.

Development of Welsh medium resources

Following interest in the training being offered through the medium of Welsh, we translated and further developed our course materials and trained a Welsh speaker to deliver the training, again online over five, two-hour interactive sessions, at the end of the year. All participants achieved a Level 1 CQFW qualification (Accredited by Agored Cymru).

Training for NPTC Group of Colleges

For the past few years we have been commissioned to develop and deliver 'Student Representative' training for NPTC Group of Colleges. This year 11 sessions were run and more than 110 young people attended the training which was all delivered online. The course content included: benefits of student representatives; team building; equality and diversity; conflict of interest.

NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS UNIT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The course was further developed to make the content specific to meet the needs of NPTC Group of Colleges' Student Governors, with greater emphasis on independent learning and the setting of key tasks to be completed in the students' own time.

Get on Board Cymru Consultation

We commissioned CARP collaborations in 2020-21 to undertake independent research with young people and stakeholders on our behalf. The key findings of the report are:

- There is a clear desire from young people and from organisations for young people to have their voices heard.
- There is an equally clear recognition that young people are underrepresented in key decision-making processes.
- There needs to be greater clarity about what roles young people can play.
- There is a need to ensure that all young people are offered the opportunity to become involved.
- There should be a clear recognition of the value, impact and effect that young people can bring.

The results from the research will be used as evidence to develop future funding bids to ensure the sustainability of the project.

Website: www.getonboard.cymru

Twitter: [@getonboardcymru](https://twitter.com/getonboardcymru)

Conclusion

Our board of trustees and staff acknowledge that this year has been a time of great change and uncertainty for children and young people and we would sincerely like to thank all the children and young people who have participated in the work of the CRU throughout 2020-21. We hope all the children and young people enjoyed, and have been empowered to access their rights.

As a board of trustees, Children's Rights are central to our vision and we promise to support our partner organisations to uphold the principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. We are committed to helping them to continue to embed children's rights in their practice, to ensure that children and young people accessing services are aware of their rights, and continue to have their rights respected and protected.

Notwithstanding the challenges of 2020-21, we are very proud of what has been achieved and with the continued support of our statutory funders we are looking forward to working in partnership to develop these relationships further in 2021-22 and beyond. We are hopeful that life will return to a 'new normal' and we can continue to be a small piece of the jigsaw in making a difference to the lives of children and young people in our communities.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The total income of £49,033 (2020: £47,701) was spent on direct charitable expenditure totalling £53,194 (2020: £46,269) resulting in a net deficit of £4,161 (2020: £1,432 surplus).

The Statement of Financial Activities reflects the income and expenditure incurred by Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit in carrying out its role in respect of its objectives. The unrestricted funds at 31 March 2021 were £61,694 (2020: £65,855).

Reserves policy

The board has examined the charity's requirements for reserves in respect of the main risks to the organisation and aims to build up reserves in future years to enable it to continue and expand the services they currently provide. The charity's policy is to maintain a designated reserve for future running costs and critical costs. This will cover twelve months running costs to meet its medium term objectives and to look to absorb any impact of Covid 19, and it will cover redundancy payments to employees and other termination costs should the funding of the charity reduce in the future.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

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

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 31/7/2003 and registered as a charity on 21/06/2013. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the company's Articles are known as Trustees. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the members of the Management Committee are elected to serve for a period of three years after which they must be re-elected at the next Annual General Meeting.

All members of the Management Committee give their time voluntarily and received no benefits from the charity.

Mari Shufflebotham and Phil Treseder retire by rotation and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Trustees are appointed through election from the Membership of the Charity and through co-option of individuals with specific skills and experience useful to the Charity. The Children's Rights Unit seeks to maintain a diverse trustee body comprising the skills, knowledge and experience necessary to ensure that the Charity is managed professionally, that its objects are pursued rigorously and that public benefit is maintained in all its activities. To this end, the Children's Rights Unit seeks suitable candidates widely with skills, knowledge and experience to complement the trustee team.

Induction and training of new trustees

All trustees receive induction into the work of the Children's Rights Unit. Regular training is provided for trustees and has included training in governance, roles and responsibilities of trustees and child protection.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

04906893 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1152471

Registered office

Ty Margaret Thome
17 - 19 Alfred Street
Neath
West Glamorgan
SA11 1EF

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

Trustees

M Dacey
P Treseder
M A Shufflebotham
S A Jones MBE
S B Millar
P H Dunmore

Staff

Jannine Smith	Director/Company Secretary
Victoria Owen	Training and Support Officer - Get on Board Cymru

Company Secretary

J Smith

Independent Examiner

Alison Vickers ACA
Bevan Buckland LLP
Ground Floor
Cardigan House
Castle Court
Swansea Enterprise Park
Swansea
SA7 9LA

Bankers

The Co - operative Bank
P.O. Box 250
Delf House
Southway
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 21st October 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
J Smith - Secretary

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Neath Port Talbot Children's Rights Unit ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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 accounts to be reached.



Alison Vickers ACA
Bevan Buckland LLP
Ground Floor
Cardigan House
Castle Court
Swansea Enterprise Park
Swansea
SA7 9LA

Date: ..23.11.2021.....

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	3	45,433	-	45,433	45,028
Other trading activities	4	<u>3,600</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,600</u>	<u>2,673</u>
Total		49,033	-	49,033	47,701
 EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds		97	-	97	-
Charitable activities					
Charitable Activities		<u>53,097</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>53,097</u>	<u>46,269</u>
Total		<u>53,194</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>53,194</u>	<u>46,269</u>
 NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(4,161)	-	(4,161)	1,432
 RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>65,855</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>65,855</u>	<u>64,423</u>
 TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>61,694</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>61,694</u></u>	<u><u>65,855</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**BALANCE SHEET
31 MARCH 2021**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	9	1,002	-	1,002	1,548
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	500	-	500	97
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>65,688</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>65,688</u>	<u>67,322</u>
		66,188	-	66,188	67,419
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(5,496)	-	(5,496)	(3,112)
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>60,692</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>60,692</u>	<u>64,307</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		61,694	-	61,694	65,855
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>61,694</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>61,694</u>	<u>65,855</u>
FUNDS	12				
Unrestricted funds				<u>61,694</u>	<u>65,855</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>61,694</u>	<u>65,855</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

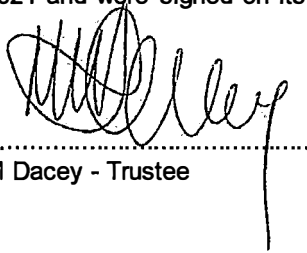
The notes form part of these financial statements

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**BALANCE SHEET - continued
31 MARCH 2021**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 21st October 2021 and were signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Dacey', is written over a horizontal dotted line. A vertical line extends downwards from the end of the signature.

M Dacey - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern.

Income

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

Training income is recognised in the period in which it relates.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, 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 accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

All costs allocated between expenditure categories are on a basis designed to reflect their resource usage. For some costs this means direct allocation to activities, other costs are apportioned, e.g. by staff time spent on the activity, or another equitable usage measure.

The Charity initially identifies the costs of its support functions. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the charities programmes and activities.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 20%	on cost
Computer equipment	- 33%	on cost

Assets costing less than £1,000 are not capitalised and shown as an expense in the statement of financial activities.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

Grants

Grants relating to specific capital expenditure are treated as deferred income which is the credited to the profit and loss account over the related asset's life.

Revenue grants are credited to the profit and loss account in the same period as the expenditure to which they relate.

Debtors

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any discount due.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments held within a deposit or similar account.

Creditors and provisions

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

Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

Costs have been allocated as far as possible between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities on a basis designed to reflect the usage of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly. Others have been apportioned based on the estimated usage of the resource.

Financial Instruments

Under FRS 102 financial instruments are classified as either basic or complex, the charity has reviewed its financial instruments and is satisfied that all financial instruments can be classified as basic and are recognised at amortised historical cost.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**2. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION
UNCERTAINTY**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgments, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgments about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results in the future may differ from these estimates. 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 and in any future periods affected.

3. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2021 £	2020 £
Donations	-	97
Grants	<u>45,433</u>	<u>44,931</u>
	<u>45,433</u>	<u>45,028</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
SBUHB	29,933	29,931
NPTCBC	15,000	15,000
Welsh Government Coronavirus Recovery Grant for Volunteering	<u>500</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>45,433</u>	<u>44,931</u>

4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2021 £	2020 £
Training	<u>3,600</u>	<u>2,673</u>

5. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2021 £	2020 £
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>546</u>	<u>91</u>

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2021 nor for the year ended 31 March 2020.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2021 nor for the year ended 31 March 2020.

7. STAFF COSTS

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

	2021	2020
Administration & support	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

8. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	45,028	-	45,028
Other trading activities	<u>2,673</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,673</u>
Total	47,701	-	47,701
 EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Charitable Activities	<u>46,269</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>46,269</u>
 NET INCOME	1,432	-	1,432
 RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	<u>64,423</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>64,423</u>
 TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>65,855</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>65,855</u>

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021	<u>863</u>	<u>2,138</u>	<u>3,001</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2020	863	590	1,453
Charge for year	<u>-</u>	<u>546</u>	<u>546</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>863</u>	<u>1,136</u>	<u>1,999</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2021	<u>-</u>	<u>1,002</u>	<u>1,002</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>-</u>	<u>1,548</u>	<u>1,548</u>

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors	<u>500</u>	<u>97</u>

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade creditors	2,616	67
Social security and other taxes	858	784
Accrued expenses	<u>2,022</u>	<u>2,261</u>
	<u>5,496</u>	<u>3,112</u>

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.21 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	15,855	3,738	(8,899)	10,694
Designated Strategic Fund	45,000	-	-	45,000
Get on Board	-	(7,899)	7,899	-
Critical cost fund	<u>5,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>6,000</u>
	<u>65,855</u>	<u>(4,161)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>61,694</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>65,855</u>	<u>(4,161)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>61,694</u>

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	45,433	(41,695)	3,738
Get on Board	<u>3,600</u>	<u>(11,499)</u>	<u>(7,899)</u>
	<u>49,033</u>	<u>(53,194)</u>	<u>(4,161)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>49,033</u></u>	<u><u>(53,194)</u></u>	<u><u>(4,161)</u></u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.19 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.20 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	64,439	6,246	(54,830)	15,855
Designated Strategic Fund	-	-	45,000	45,000
Get on Board	(16)	(4,814)	4,830	-
Critical cost fund	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>
	<u>64,423</u>	<u>1,432</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>65,855</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>64,423</u></u>	<u><u>1,432</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>65,855</u></u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	45,028	(38,782)	6,246
Get on Board	<u>2,673</u>	<u>(7,487)</u>	<u>(4,814)</u>
	<u>47,701</u>	<u>(46,269)</u>	<u>1,432</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>47,701</u></u>	<u><u>(46,269)</u></u>	<u><u>1,432</u></u>

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.19 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.21 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	64,439	9,984	(63,729)	10,694
Designated Strategic Fund	-	-	45,000	45,000
Get on Board	(16)	(12,713)	12,729	-
Critical cost fund	-	-	6,000	6,000
	<u>64,423</u>	<u>(2,729)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>61,694</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>64,423</u>	<u>(2,729)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>61,694</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General Fund	90,461	(80,477)	9,984
Get on Board	<u>6,273</u>	<u>(18,986)</u>	<u>(12,713)</u>
	<u>96,734</u>	<u>(99,463)</u>	<u>(2,729)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>96,734</u>	<u>(99,463)</u>	<u>(2,729)</u>

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Funds

Unrestricted funds

Swansea Bay University Health
Board

The Children's Rights Unit works in partnership with SBUHB to deliver Children's Rights projects and embed Children's Rights practice including: recruiting, supporting and developing a Youth Board; developing and delivering Children's Rights training for SBUHB staff; launch and implementation of the Children's Rights Charter.

NPTCBC

Children's Rights Unit support of NPT Children's Services including; training, youth engagement (in a variety of areas), advice and guidance, and the development of a children's rights based approach.

Designated Strategic Fund

The charity has designated some of its unrestricted general reserves to a designated fund for future running costs. This will cover twelve months running costs to meet its medium term objectives and to look to absorb any impact of Covid 19.

Critical Cost Fund

The charity has designated some of its unrestricted general reserves to a designated fund for critical costs. This will cover redundancy payments to employees and other termination costs should the funding of the charity reduce in the future.

13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2021.

**NEATH PORT TALBOT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
UNIT**

**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

	2021 £	2020 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	-	97
Grants	<u>45,433</u>	<u>44,931</u>
	45,433	45,028
Other trading activities		
Training	<u>3,600</u>	<u>2,673</u>
Total incoming resources	49,033	47,701
EXPENDITURE		
Other trading activities		
Bad debts	97	-
Charitable activities		
Wages	40,621	32,769
Pensions	2,208	1,443
Telephone	315	325
Postage and stationery	1,193	567
Travelling	3	830
Staff Training	580	580
Project Activities	1,920	2,475
Subscriptions	25	-
Insurance	631	631
Marketing & Publicity	256	-
Room Hire	30	66
Computer Expenses	830	716
Depreciation	<u>546</u>	<u>91</u>
	49,158	40,493
Support costs		
Support costs		
Accountancy fees	1,823	2,572
Legal fees	308	442
Support from NPTCVS	<u>1,808</u>	<u>2,762</u>
	<u>3,939</u>	<u>5,776</u>
Total resources expended	<u>53,194</u>	<u>46,269</u>
Net (expenditure)/income	<u><u>(4,161)</u></u>	<u><u>1,432</u></u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements