

ANNUAL REPORT

& FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022



Age Concern (Age UK) Ashford Limited

(A company limited by guarantee)

Legal & Administrative Information

Trustees

Mr Tim Fagg
Mr Tom Dawlings
Ms Anya Harris
Mr Frederick Hobbs
Ms Louise Homewood

Chief Executive and Company Secretary

Cleo Smith BEM

Charity Number

1152993

Company Number

08248833

Registered Office & Principal address

Farrow Court
Stanhope Road
Ashford
Kent
TN23 5RF

Auditor

Michael Wood
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor
22A Bank Street
Ashford
Kent
TN23 1BE

Accountants

Kendall Richardson LLP
Romney House
Monument Way
Orbital Park
Ashford
Kent
TN24 0HB

Main Bankers

HSBC Bank plc
39 High Street
Ashford
Kent
TN24 8TG

Insurance Brokers

Independent Insurance Services
Church House
136 Sandgate Road
Folkestone
Kent
CT20 2BN



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Message from the Chair

Tim Fagg



My role as Chair on behalf of the Group of Trustees is to introduce our annual report which takes you through the work this organisation completed during this period, the services they successfully managed to continue to deliver, the risks and opportunities, alongside the work to shape the organisation for its future sustainability.

Year 2 of Covid – 19 was a difficult time for us all with reduced services and no friends and family gatherings. The dedicated team of staff and volunteers at Age UK Ashford continued to deliver services that people had become dependent on, whilst working with those that were able to reengage with the community and return to visit a supermarket or collect their own medication.

As the year progressed, we were able to reopen our centres and invite people back to join in social groups and activities. We noticed a deterioration in people's health and, for some, the feeling of loneliness increased, causing anxiety and distress. We changed our service offer to meet the needs of the community

and worked with individuals one to one to improve independence and quality of life.

As the pandemic restrictions relaxed towards the end of the year and into 2022 it was a year that brought significant challenges, preparing for the change to social care commissioning, who were moving away from grant funding voluntary organisations and awarding contracts through a tendering process.

Sadly, we failed in our tender application in partnership with a number of Age UKs in Kent, therefore we spent time planning and preparing to enter a new financial year without funding to provide social opportunities to older frail and more vulnerable individuals.

During the year we also experienced fuel shortages but continued to deliver services that heavily relied upon the use of vehicles. Shortly after increased fuel costs also impacted our services, putting pressure on already difficult times and services that were under stress. Other costs increased, such as food, and supplies were in short demand.

It was an incredibly busy year with lots of change and uncertainty that many individuals, families and organisations large and small were facing.

The focus for the remainder of the year, as we approached a year with a loss of statutory funding, was to look to the future and how we could continue, develop and expand services less reliant on financial support.

One service that would be severely effected was Information and Advice. Ashford Borough Council declined our request for financial support, although we have maintained a low-level service with reduced

Message from the Chair

Tim Fagg

staffing as it is a service that is of value to our community and one in which we hope to continue.

We have declared our concerns for the lack of funding for the frail and vulnerable to Kent County Council, however their response is “the process of moving from the historic grants to more strategic contracts was never intended to create huge instability in the voluntary sector”; there is no mention of the detrimental impact to older people that this contract has presented.

We continue to work collaboratively with neighbouring Age UK Hythe and Lyminge, sharing senior management and back-office staff. This has proved

to be very successful and allowed the organisation to learn and develop.

I am confident you will find this Annual Report informative; it will enable you to reflect on all the excellent work we have achieved during the reporting period and give you confidence that this organisation is making the necessary changes to ensure it is sustainable, relevant and can deliver what’s needed to the people in our communities.

Timothy Fagg

Date: 11 November 2022



Trustees' Report (including Directors' Report)

An Introduction

The Trustees, who are the directors for the purpose of company law, are pleased to present their report together with the financial statements of the Charity for the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities:

Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (second edition, effective 1 January 2019).



Trustees' Report

Structure, Governance & Management

Age Concern (Age UK) Ashford Limited was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital with company number 08248833 under the Companies Act 2006 on 11 October 2012. Age Concern (Age UK) Ashford Limited has been a registered charity, number 1152993, since 22 July 2013.

The governing documents of Age Concern (Age UK) Ashford Limited are the Memorandum and Articles of Association adopted by the company on 24 May 2013.

Age Concern (Age UK) Ashford is a brand partner of the national charity Age UK and works with a network of local Age UKs across Kent.

In the year 2016 Age Concern (Age UK) Ashford moved from the Eldercare Centre into the newly-built housing scheme named Farrow Court.

The recently-occupied Pop Inn Centre in Vicarage Lane was returned to Ashford Borough Council in year 2018-2019. This was due to structural damage that was too costly for Age Concern (Age UK) Ashford to repair. Staff were vacated from the building and relocated to Farrow Court.

The move from the Pop Inn Centre has caused significant disruption to service delivery, particularly to the Information and Advice Service and specifically to one to one confidential meetings.

We approached Ashford Borough Council to assist with additional office space in Farrow Court but our negotiations proved unsuccessful.

With some changes in the use of rooms we have managed to increase office space and separate an area to offer support and services to those living with Dementia in a quieter area.

Board of Trustees

The Trustees who served during the year were:

Mr Tim Fagg, Chair

Mr Tom Dawlings, Treasurer

Ms Anya Harris

Mr Frederick Hobbs

Ms Louise Homewood (appointed 11 March 2022)

Mr David Marsh (resigned 28 January 2022)

Ms Diane Parr (resigned 22 June 2021)

The body responsible for the management of the Charity is the Board of Trustees.

The Trustees are also Directors of the incorporated entity, which meets at least ten times a year.

The Board receives financial reports and service progress reports.

The Senior Support Management Team is represented at the meetings of the Board of Trustees.

Trustees' Report

Structure, Governance & Management

The Board conducts a regular skills audit to ensure that the serving Trustees collectively possess all the skills necessary for the efficient governance of the Charity.

Potential Trustees are interviewed before being nominated for election at the Annual General Meeting. If the required skills and experience cannot be met among the Trustees, appropriate individuals can be co-opted onto the Board. The Charity advertises for potential candidates when Trustee vacancies arise.

None of our Trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work with the Charity. Any connection between a Trustee or senior manager with a related party, supplier or beneficiary of the Charity, must be disclosed to the full Board of Trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party. In the current year no such related party transactions were reported.

The Trustees have taken into account the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Management

The Board of Trustees are responsible for the overall strategic direction and development of the organisation.

Decisions on the day-to-day operations and management of the Charity are delegated to the Chief Executive, Cleo Smith, and Senior Managers of the organisation that are shared with a neighbouring Age UK.

The Board receives monthly reports from the Chief Executive on operational matters and on financial performance.

Decisions on matters with significant implications for the organisation are brought to the Board of Trustees. These would include, but are not limited to:

- Organisational priorities
- All matters of risk – in particular resource and reputational risks
- Significant organisational change
- Major initiatives
- Policy formation and development

The pay of the Senior Management Team is reviewed annually. In view of the nature of the charity, it is the intention of the Board of Trustees to benchmark pay levels to other similar-sized local community charities to ensure that pay rates are competitive.

Trustees' Report

Structure, Governance & Management

Internal Control

The Trustees have overall responsibility for ensuring the Charity has appropriate systems of internal control across the entire organisation. They are also responsible for keeping proper accounting records. These must disclose the financial position of the Charity with reasonable accuracy at any time, and confirm the financial statements follow best practice.

They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The systems of internal control are designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance against material mis-statement or loss. They include:

- A business plan and annual budget approved by the Trustees
- Regular consideration by the Trustees of financial results, variances from budgets, and forecasts
- Formal adoption of financial regulations, which includes delegation of authority and segregation of duties.
- Formal adoption of a risk strategy and review of a risk register which identifies and manages individual items.

Risk Management

The Trustees have in place a risk management strategy and risk register. This process includes regular review by the Trustees, Chief Officer and other senior members of staff. The process identifies the types of risks the Charity faces, prioritises them in terms of likelihood of occurrence and potential impact, and identifies the means of mitigating them.

This work has identified that long term financial sustainability is a potential risk for the charity. The focus of the next strategic plan will be to develop self-sustaining income streams for our existing high-quality services and develop new initiatives and services that older people need and want.

Attention has also been focused on non-financial risks arising from fire and health and safety. We work closely with Ashford Borough Council to ensure we comply with all health and safety regulations.

Trustees' Report

Our Mission

Respond to the needs of local older people and provide activities and quality services that influence, and enable choice, independence and wellbeing.



Trustees' Report

Our Strategic Objectives

Charitable Object

The object of the Charity shall be to promote and assist the general good of all older people in any manner which is now or hereafter may be deemed by law to be charitable, primarily within Ashford.

Our Vision

Reduce loneliness and improve the health and wellbeing for those living in or around Ashford.

Our Objectives

- To provide a high quality, safe and sustainable service, which meets the needs of older people across Ashford.
- To use our experience and knowledge to empower older people, represent them and give them an influential voice.
- To influence and respond effectively to changes in Health and Adult Social Care policies.
- To engage with older people, their families and carers so that older people in our town and villages can access support, live well and make the most of later life.

Our Values

We are:

Caring

...providing a high-quality service, with the needs of the individual at its core. Ensuring service users are treated with care, respect and dignity.

Trust

...providing trustworthy, quality and accessible services using our experience and knowledge to empower older people, represent them. Helping them access support, live well and make the most of later life.

Choice

... providing choice to access a range of opportunities and empower older people to make choices about their lives.



About us

Our Services

Our services focus on social opportunity groups in our hubs and community while providing support at home where needed. All services are built around our Wellness Wheel. Recognising there are several aspects of life that can impact on how we might be feeling, we have developed our services to ensure there is a variety of options available to you.

Full days with us



Full day sessions include:

A varied programme of activities offered both morning and afternoon, e.g. seated exercise, new age curling, art, singing and much more.

A hot two course lunch, cooked fresh daily.

Refreshments throughout the day.

Local transport to and from the hub is available.

In the year April 2021-March 2022 we provided **3,201** social opportunity places. We also provided **1,248** wellbeing activities such as art, singing, dance groups and much more.

Help at home



These services include:

Two course hot meal delivery: Fresh meals delivered hot and ready to eat.

Independent living service: Assisting with tasks that might have become more difficult, for example, light housework, preparing you a light lunch or support getting shopping. In the year April 2021-March 2022 we provided **2,095** visits.

Laundry Service: We collect and wash laundry, returning it the following week. Various levels of service are available to suit all needs. In the year April 2021-March 2022 we provided **116** loads of laundry.

Befriending service: Offering companionship in April 2021-March 2022, we provided **312** hours of befriending.

Transport: We have a fleet of wheelchair accessible vehicles to assist with transport needs. In the year April 2021-March 2022 we supported **1,717** individuals with transport needs.

Shopping and prescription delivery: Assisting with essential shopping and collecting and delivering prescriptions. In the year April 2021-March 2022 we provided **1,216** shopping calls and delivered **214** prescriptions.

About us

Our Services

Information & Advice



Age UK has a team of expert Information and Advice Officers who are able to help navigate through life changes and ensure adequate support is received.

The team can help with:

Maximising your income: Completing benefit checks to ensure that you are receiving all you could be entitled to.

Help with form filling: We know those forms are tough! Our team are here to support you. Whether with blue badge applications, attendance allowance or any other form you need support with, we are just a call away.

Community equipment: Don't struggle at home, there is free assistive equipment available that can be put in place where needed.

Care and support advice: A change in health can be a challenge and often needs adapting to. Find out what support is out there and where to access it.

In the year April 2021-March 2022 we provided

10,128 interventions.

Dementia & Me



A diagnosis of dementia can result in mixed feelings; relief for knowing the cause of changes to behaviour, or anxiety of what might be coming next.

We offer a bespoke service to assist and support at each stage of living with dementia.

Volunteering

Our volunteers keep the charity moving. We like to think that we have something for everyone.

In the year April 2021-March 2022 Volunteers have donated **936** hours equating to **£9,360**.

We rely heavily on volunteers to support our organisation. We have many volunteers roles including befrienders, drivers, volunteers supporting with shopping, activities, in the café, kitchen and much more.

About us

Our Services

Personal Independence Programme



Personal Independence Programme can help reduce social isolation and loneliness by supporting individuals to access groups and services in their community. A Personalised Independence Co-ordinator (PIC) will carry out a home visit and will provide direct support to help improve general wellbeing, confidence and self-esteem and promote independence and safety within the home.

Time for me



A new membership group developed in March 2022, offering discounts and priority access to our outings and day trips.

From lunches at local restaurants and theatre trips, to film nights at the hub. It's a great way to meet new people and try new things.

Trustees' Report (cont'd)

Plans for future periods

With effect for the charity from 1 April 2022, Kent County Council ceased grant funding Adult Social Care and started instead to award contracts to social care providers through a tendering process. The charity in partnership with other Age UK brand partners in Kent made a tender application but this was unsuccessful. The charity will therefore not receive any KCC grant funding for any of its services from 1 April 2022.

In addition to this reduction in funding, the trustees are aware that rising costs, for example, utilities and motor fuel, will put further pressure on the charity's finances for the foreseeable future.

To address these issues, at least in part, the charity has since 31 March 2022 instigated a stepped increase in the charges it makes to the individuals who use the charity's services. Demand for the charity's services remains high, even after the price rises, and the trustees are reasonably confident that this initiative will enable the charity to continue providing at least the same range and quality of services while still offering value for money to service users and assisting the charity in maintaining its financial position.

The charity is seeking other sources of funding to enable it to continue developing the range, quality and sustainability of services it can offer to current and potential future service users in its area, and to assist in ensuring its long-term financial stability.

The charity has for some years collaborated closely with another brand partner of Age UK in a geographical area adjacent to that served by the charity, Age UK Hythe and Lyminge. The trustees of both charitable

companies have agreed in principle that this relationship should be put on a more permanent footing and that the two entities should be combined. Solicitors have been appointed to advise on the legal and regulatory implications of the proposal.

If the proposed combination does proceed, it would be expected to take place during 2023, and the trustees of both charitable companies consider that the combined entity would benefit significantly from pooled resources and experience, economies of scale and reduced administrative time and costs.

Fundraising

Due to the restrictions of Covid-19 we were unable to hold in house fundraising activities in the reporting year. Following successful partnership with Age UK Hythe and Lyminge, we have been successful in recruiting a Marketing and Fundraising Officer that is shared across both organisations since April 2022. The role focusses on increasing in house fundraising activity and seeking potential grant income.

Covid-19

There was a significant impact on the organisation due to Covid-19, with reduced services and fluctuation in staffing levels due to positive test results meant that some services were delivered at reduced capacity. We were also faced with a slow return of clients following deterioration in health and mobility along with increased anxiety of returning to social environments. We are still experiencing a need for more in-depth support for those frail and vulnerable and working with individuals to increase confidence and provide reassurance as we now start to return to normal operating services.

Trustees' Report (cont'd)

Financial review

Principal funding sources

The principal funding sources for the charity in the year were in the form of grant income from Kent County Council Social Services and client contributions. Coronavirus-related grants were also received from various bodies, including the KCC and Ashford Borough Council.

During the year, the charity also received restricted funds totalling £86,250 from Age UK Herne Bay in respect of the Personal Independence Programme, which provides personalised support to people over the age of 55 living with long term health conditions.

Result for the year

Incoming resources for the year amounted to £529,397. Resources expended for the year amounted to £448,398. The net income for the year was £80,999. At 31 March 2022, the charity had funds amounting to £424,188, of which £12,724 are restricted.

Reserves

Until 31 March 2022, Age UK Ashford received a substantial proportion of its funding in the form of grants from Kent County Council. The trustees had already recognised that if this funding were to cease the range and quality of services the charity was able to provide would be put at risk. Any reduction in the range or quality of services would ultimately have a knock-on effect on the charity's clients and could lead to a deterioration in their wellbeing.

To avoid this outcome as far as possible if funding difficulties were to happen, Age UK Ashford's board had agreed to keep a certain level of financial reserves to ensure that the charity's main operations could continue for a period of at least six months. It had been calculated that this would require reserves of £200,000 and these reserves have been built up from the charity's unrestricted (earned) income.

As noted in the 'Plans for future periods' section above, grant funding from the KCC ceased with effect from 1 April 2022. That section also outlines the main initiatives taken by the charity since that date to enable it to continue providing its existing range and quality of services. The charity does have the level of reserves identified as being required to ensure continuation of its services in the event of grant funding ceasing and it is hoped that the initiatives outlined above will enable this level to be maintained for the foreseeable future.

The free reserves at 31 March 2022 amounted to £386,974 while the designated unrestricted fund amounted to £24,490. The designated fund represents the carrying value of the charity's fixed assets which to that extent is considered to represent a commitment of the reserves held by the charity.

Disclosure of information to auditor

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



Trustees' Report (cont'd)

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charitable company on 11 November 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
T Dawlings
Trustee

Age Concern (Age UK) Ashford Limited

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

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

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

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

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

Age Concern (Age UK) Ashford Limited

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Age Concern (Age UK) Ashford Limited

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Age Concern (Age UK) Ashford Limited (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2022, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows, and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). As noted below, the financial statements have been prepared on a basis other than going concern.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Material uncertainty relating to going concern

We draw attention to Note 22 to the financial statements, which explains that there is currently a proposal for this charitable company to be combined with another. The full details and final timescale for the proposed combination have yet to be formally agreed. One outcome of a combination process, should it proceed, may be that at some point this charitable company will have transferred all of its activities and undertaking to another entity and will thus cease to be a going concern in its own right. The trustees are not yet able to determine with certainty if or when this may occur. A material uncertainty therefore exists concerning whether the charitable company will continue as a going concern for the twelve months following the date on which the trustees approve the financial statements. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

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

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

Other information

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

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Age Concern (Age UK) Ashford Limited

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the trustees' report, which includes the directors' report, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities (set out on page 15), the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

Age Concern (Age UK) Ashford Limited

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Age Concern (Age UK) Ashford Limited

We plan and perform our audit procedures so that they provide a reasonable prospect of identifying material irregularities, including fraud. All audits carry an inherent risk that not all irregularities, including those that lead to a material misstatement in the financial statements or material non-compliance with laws and regulations, will be detected.

Our procedures in this regard include (but are not limited to):

- Assessing the control environment of the charity
- Considering the risk of irregularities arising
- Discussing with management known or suspected cases of non-compliance with laws and regulations and assessing these
- Performing analytical procedures to identify matters that may indicate risks of material misstatement, whether through irregularities or otherwise
- Confirming with management the related parties of the charity and reviewing the transactions between the charity and related parties to establish the correct disclosure of these and any that may have been entered into outside the normal course of the charity's activities
- Reviewing on a sample basis any conditions under which funds were received by the charity and considering whether the charity has adhered to those conditions
- Reading minutes of management meetings
- Reviewing transactions identified through sampling or other procedures that may be unusual in nature

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

Use of our report

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

.....
Michael Wood (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Michael Wood, Statutory Auditor

22A Bank Street
Ashford
Kent
TN23 1BE

Date 20 December 2022
.....

Age Concern (Age UK) Ashford Limited

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2022 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

2022

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2022 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	3	34,411	-	34,411
Charitable activities	4	408,723	86,250	494,973
Investment income	5	13	-	13
Total Income		<u>443,147</u>	<u>86,250</u>	<u>529,397</u>
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	6	<u>383,043</u>	<u>65,355</u>	<u>448,398</u>
Total Expenditure		<u>383,043</u>	<u>65,355</u>	<u>448,398</u>
Net income		60,104	20,895	80,999
Transfers between funds		<u>13,493</u>	<u>(13,493)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		73,597	7,402	80,999
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		<u>337,867</u>	<u>5,322</u>	<u>343,189</u>
Total funds carried forward	19	<u><u>411,464</u></u>	<u><u>12,724</u></u>	<u><u>424,188</u></u>

2021

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2021 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	3	14,500	-	14,500
Charitable activities	4	591,232	106,293	697,525
Investment income	5	40	-	40
Total Income		<u>605,772</u>	<u>106,293</u>	<u>712,065</u>
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	6	<u>434,821</u>	<u>52,447</u>	<u>487,268</u>
Total Expenditure		<u>434,821</u>	<u>52,447</u>	<u>487,268</u>
Net income		170,951	53,846	224,797
Transfers between funds		<u>57,179</u>	<u>(57,179)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		228,130	(3,333)	224,797
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		<u>109,737</u>	<u>8,655</u>	<u>118,392</u>
Total funds carried forward	19	<u><u>337,867</u></u>	<u><u>5,322</u></u>	<u><u>343,189</u></u>

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

The notes on pages 22 to 35 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Age Concern (Age UK) Ashford Limited

(Registration number: 08248833)

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	12	24,490	26,603
		<u>24,490</u>	<u>26,603</u>
Current assets			
Stocks	13	1,030	719
Debtors	14	32,134	25,372
Cash at bank and in hand	15	396,841	323,770
		<u>430,005</u>	<u>349,861</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	16	<u>(30,307)</u>	<u>(33,275)</u>
Net current assets		<u>399,698</u>	<u>316,586</u>
Net assets		<u>424,188</u>	<u>343,189</u>
Funds of the charitable company:			
Restricted		12,724	5,322
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted		<u>411,464</u>	<u>337,867</u>
Total funds	19	<u>424,188</u>	<u>343,189</u>

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

The financial statements on pages 19 to 35 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 11 November 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

.....
T Dawlings
Trustee

The notes on pages 22 to 35 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Age Concern (Age UK) Ashford Limited

Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash income		80,999	224,797
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items			
Depreciation		8,089	5,039
Investment income	5	(13)	(40)
Loss/(profit) on disposal of tangible fixed assets		24	(8,600)
		<u>89,099</u>	<u>221,196</u>
Working capital adjustments			
(Increase)/decrease in stocks	13	(311)	338
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	14	(6,762)	18,141
Decrease in creditors	16	(2,968)	(5,454)
Net cash flows from operating activities		<u>79,058</u>	<u>234,221</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest receivable and similar income	5	13	40
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	12	(6,000)	(27,438)
Sale of tangible fixed assets		-	8,600
Net cash flows from investing activities		<u>(5,987)</u>	<u>(18,798)</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		73,071	215,423
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April		<u>323,770</u>	<u>108,347</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March		<u><u>396,841</u></u>	<u><u>323,770</u></u>

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

Age Concern (Age UK) Ashford Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

1 Charitable company status

The charity is a charitable company limited by guarantee which does not have a share capital. It is incorporated in England and Wales. Each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the company in the event of liquidation.

The address of the charity's registered office and principal office is:

The Joe Fagg Community Centre
Farrow Court
Stanhope Road
Ashford
Kent
TN23 5SZ

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

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

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (second edition, effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102). They also comply with the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

Age Concern (Age UK) Ashford Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The presentation currency is sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

Going concern

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, but also see note 22.

Fund accounting policy

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

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

Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside at the discretion of the trustees for specific purposes.

Further details of each fund are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Income

All income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Income from donations and grants, including capital grants, is included in incoming resources when these are receivable.

Legacies are recorded as receivable when notified to the charity by the executor, provided that the value can be reasonably ascertained. Legacies received are reported as restricted funds where the conditions of the legacy impose restrictions on the use of funds. Where there are no such restrictions legacy income is shown as part of the general fund income.

Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.

Income from charitable activities includes income recognised as earned (as the related goods or services are provided) under contract.

Other income is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accrual basis. The irrecoverable element of VAT is included with the item of expense to which it relates.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs include those incurred in the governance of the charity and are primarily associated with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation

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

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	20% per annum reducing balance
Motor vehicles	25% per annum straight line

Impairment of fixed assets

Fixed assets are subject to an annual impairment review.

Stock

Stock is stated on the basis of the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

Age Concern (Age UK) Ashford Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Pensions

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Voluntary income	33,836	-	33,836	14,480
Fundraising	575	-	575	20
	<u>34,411</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>34,411</u>	<u>14,500</u>

Voluntary income consists of donations of £6,826 (2021 £14,480) and income from legacies of £27,010 (2021 £nil).

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Grants receivable	172,558	-	172,558	446,422
Other income	236,165	86,250	322,415	251,103
	<u>408,723</u>	<u>86,250</u>	<u>494,973</u>	<u>697,525</u>

See below for analyses of grants receivable and other income.

Age Concern (Age UK) Ashford Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Analysis of grants receivable

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Government grants				
Kent County Council - Adult Social Care Grant Funding	118,947	-	118,947	59,473
Kent County Council - Community Support, Covid-19 response	-	-	-	201,881
Kent County Council - other Covid-19 - related grants	20,089	-	20,089	5,000
Kent County Council - section 106 funding	-	-	-	10,123
Grants under the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme	3,647	-	3,647	38,609
Other grants from central government	-	-	-	5,638
Covid-19 Grants from Ashford Borough Council	8,000	-	8,000	20,193
	<u>150,683</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>150,683</u>	<u>340,917</u>
Other grants				
Covid-19 grants from Age UK	-	-	-	35,715
Other grants from Age UK and other Age UK entities	20,750	-	20,750	34,428
National Lottery Community Fund: Coronavirus Community Support Fund	-	-	-	24,371
Other grants received	1,125	-	1,125	10,991
	<u>21,875</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,875</u>	<u>105,505</u>
Total	<u><u>172,558</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>172,558</u></u>	<u><u>446,422</u></u>

Age Concern (Age UK) Ashford Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Analysis of other income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Day Centre income (incl catering and transport)	135,409	-	135,409	138,577
Helping Hands	61,566	-	61,566	45,505
Dementia Day Break Club	36,988	-	36,988	2,421
Personal Independence Programme receipts	-	86,250	86,250	63,000
Vehicle sponsorship	1,200	-	1,200	1,600
Other income from charitable activities	1,002	-	1,002	-
Total	<u>236,165</u>	<u>86,250</u>	<u>322,415</u>	<u>251,103</u>

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Interest receivable and similar income:		
Interest receivable on bank deposits	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>
Total for 2022	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>
Total for 2021	<u>40</u>	<u>40</u>

Age Concern (Age UK) Ashford Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

Operation of a Day Centre and the provision of ancillary services

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Direct costs (incl. catering costs and motor running expenses)		58,700	-	58,700	75,391
Wages and salaries		209,493	61,474	270,967	288,861
Pension costs		2,381	1,137	3,518	3,544
Staff training		205	-	205	1,779
Rent and rates		1,458	-	1,458	565
Light, heat and power		6,909	-	6,909	7,062
Licences and insurance		2,838	-	2,838	4,381
Repairs and renewals		3,415	-	3,415	6,772
Printing, postage, stationery and office equipment repairs		4,317	-	4,317	9,452
Telephone		4,585	-	4,585	7,742
Travel and subsistence		12,458	2,744	15,202	13,241
Sundry expenses		1,700	-	1,700	5,173
Subscriptions		2,909	-	2,909	2,942
Hire of plant and machinery		3,532	-	3,532	3,440
Lease of motor vehicles (Operating leases)		-	-	-	299
Cleaning		6,950	-	6,950	2,921
Advertising		136	-	136	2,587
Bad debts written off		(140)	-	(140)	1,169
Bank charges		3,464	-	3,464	2,742
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets		8,089	-	8,089	5,039
(Profit)/loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets		24	-	24	(8,600)
Support costs (incl governance costs)	7	49,620	-	49,620	50,766
		<u>383,043</u>	<u>65,355</u>	<u>448,398</u>	<u>487,268</u>

Age Concern (Age UK) Ashford Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

7 Analysis of governance and support costs

Governance and support costs

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Wages and salaries	31,148	-	31,148	33,120
Accountancy fees	7,920	-	7,920	10,326
Audit fees	4,900	-	4,900	3,300
Legal and professional fees	5,652	-	5,652	4,020
	<u>49,620</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>49,620</u>	<u>50,766</u>

8 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net incoming resources for the year include:

	2022 £	2021 £
Operating leases - plant and machinery	3,532	3,440
Operating leases - other assets	117	478
Auditor's remuneration for the audit of the annual financial statements	3,300	3,300
Auditor's remuneration for other non-audit services	1,600	1,600
Loss/(profit) on disposal of tangible fixed assets for charity's own use	24	(8,600)
Depreciation of fixed assets	<u>8,095</u>	<u>5,039</u>

9 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

No person received any remuneration during the year while a trustee (2021 £nil). No trustees received reimbursement of expenses during the year (2021 £nil).

Age Concern (Age UK) Ashford Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

10 Staff costs

Aggregate staff costs incurred during the year were as follows:

	2022	2021
Wages and salaries	289,972	313,171
Social security costs	7,842	8,289
Pension costs	3,518	3,544
	<u>301,332</u>	<u>325,004</u>

The monthly average number of persons employed by the charitable company during the year was as follows:

	2022 No	2021 No
Charitable activities	23	26
Governance	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
	<u>24</u>	<u>27</u>

No employee received emoluments from the charitable company of more than £60,000 during the year.

Age Concern (Age UK) Ashford Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

11 Taxation

The charitable company is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 April 2021	11,440	27,438	38,878
Additions	-	6,000	6,000
Disposals	(117)	-	(117)
At 31 March 2022	11,323	33,438	44,761
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 April 2021	8,077	4,198	12,275
Charge for the year	665	7,424	8,089
Eliminated on disposals	(93)	-	(93)
At 31 March 2022	8,649	11,622	20,271
Net book value			
At 31 March 2022	2,674	21,816	24,490
At 31 March 2021	3,363	23,240	26,603

13 Stock

	2022 £	2021 £
Stock of food and drink	1,030	719

Age Concern (Age UK) Ashford Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

14 Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Prepayments	5,670	5,888
Other debtors	26,464	19,484
	<u>32,134</u>	<u>25,372</u>

15 Cash and cash equivalents

	2022 £	2021 £
Cash on hand	1,069	616
Cash at bank	395,772	323,154
	<u>396,841</u>	<u>323,770</u>

16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Other taxation and social security	3,035	-
Other creditors	4,758	7,013
Accruals	22,514	26,262
	<u>30,307</u>	<u>33,275</u>

17 Pension and other schemes

Defined contribution pension scheme

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the charitable company to the scheme and amounted to £3,518 (2021 - £3,544).

18 Commitments

At the balance sheet date, the charitable company had total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases of £11,517 (2021 £13,763), of which £755 (2021 £2,246) falls due within one year, £934 (2021 £1,576) falls due between one year and five years, and £9,828 (2021 £9,941) falls due after more than five years.

The charitable company had a commitment at 31 March 2021 for the purchase of a new motor vehicle, for which contracts had by then not been entered into, costing up to £25,000. There was no commitment of this nature at 31 March 2022.

Age Concern (Age UK) Ashford Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

19 Funds

2022

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Unrestricted funds					
<i>General</i>					
General funds	311,264	442,145	(382,041)	15,606	386,974
<i>Designated</i>					
Fixed asset fund	<u>26,603</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,113)</u>	<u>24,490</u>
Total unrestricted funds	337,867	442,145	(382,041)	13,493	411,464
Restricted funds					
Personal independence programme	<u>5,322</u>	<u>86,250</u>	<u>(65,355)</u>	<u>(13,493)</u>	<u>12,724</u>
Total funds	<u>343,189</u>	<u>528,395</u>	<u>(447,396)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>424,188</u>

Age Concern (Age UK) Ashford Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

2021

	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
Unrestricted funds					
<i>General</i>					
General funds	105,533	605,772	(434,821)	34,780	311,264
<i>Designated</i>					
Fixed asset fund	4,204	-	-	22,399	26,603
Total unrestricted funds	<u>109,737</u>	<u>605,772</u>	<u>(434,821)</u>	<u>57,179</u>	<u>337,867</u>
Restricted funds					
Personal independence programme	6,756	63,000	(50,548)	(13,886)	5,322
National Lottery Community Fund	1,899	-	(1,899)	-	-
KCC Section 106 funding	-	10,123	-	(10,123)	-
National Lottery Community Fund - Coronavirus Community Support Fund	-	24,371	-	(24,371)	-
Age UK Covid-19 Grant	-	8,799	-	(8,799)	-
Total restricted funds	<u>8,655</u>	<u>106,293</u>	<u>(52,447)</u>	<u>(57,179)</u>	<u>5,322</u>
Total funds	<u>118,392</u>	<u>712,065</u>	<u>(487,268)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>343,189</u>

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

Personal independence programme - To provide personalised support to people over the age of 55 living with long term health conditions

National Lottery Community Fund - To improve opportunities for volunteers, develop a befriending service and set up fundraising events to increase income

KCC Section 106 funding - To provide funds towards the acquisition of a new minibus in the year

National Lottery Community Fund: Coronavirus Community Support Fund - To assist clients re-engage with the community and reintegrate into society after the Covid-19 emergency

Age UK Covid-19 Grant - To help older people in the Covid-19 emergency

Transfers from restricted funds to unrestricted funds arose during the years ended 31 March 2021 and 31 March 2022 following the satisfaction of conditions attached to restricted funds, enabling them to be transferred to unrestricted funds, or to recognise that certain costs relating to specific purposes funded by restricted funds have been met from general costs incurred on charitable activities.

Age Concern (Age UK) Ashford Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

20 Analysis of net assets between funds

2022

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total funds at 31 March 2022
	General	Designated		
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	24,490	-	24,490
Current assets	417,281	-	12,724	430,005
Current liabilities	(30,307)	-	-	(30,307)
Total net assets	<u>386,974</u>	<u>24,490</u>	<u>12,724</u>	<u>424,188</u>

2021

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total funds at 31 March 2021
	General	Designated		
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	26,603	-	26,603
Current assets	344,539	-	5,322	349,861
Current liabilities	(33,275)	-	-	(33,275)
Total net assets	<u>311,264</u>	<u>26,603</u>	<u>5,322</u>	<u>343,189</u>

21 Related party transactions

During the year, the charitable company received key management personnel services from another charitable company, Age Concern Hythe and Lyminge. The cost of these services was £31,148 (2021 £29,990). Age Concern Hythe and Lyminge also provided other goods and services to the charitable company during the year at a cost of £57,218 (2021 £41,447). The charitable company also supplied goods to Age Concern Hythe and Lyminge during the year for £nil (2021 £7,000).

Normal commercial payment terms apply to these respective supplies, which were undertaken at market value.

The amount owing by the charitable company to Age Concern Hythe and Lyminge at 31 March 2022 was £nil (2021 £2,469).

The charitable company is a member of Age Well East Kent Limited, a company limited by guarantee which was incorporated in England and Wales on 8 October 2018. The other members of Age Well East Kent Limited are other charities in East Kent with similar objects to those of the charitable company, including other Age UK brand partners. It is intended that Age Well East Kent Limited will operate as a joint venture between the member charities. There was no amount owing to or by Age Well East Kent Limited at 31 March 2022 (2021 £nil).

There were no other related party transactions during the year.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

22 Potential non-adjusting event after the financial period

The charitable company has for some years collaborated closely with another brand partner of Age UK in a geographical area adjacent to that served by the charity, Age UK Hythe and Lyminge. The trustees of both charitable companies have agreed in principle that this relationship should be put on a more permanent footing and that the two entities should be combined. Solicitors have been appointed to advise on the legal and regulatory implications of the proposal.

If the proposed combination does proceed, it would be expected to take place during 2023, and the trustees of both charitable companies consider that the combined entity would benefit significantly from pooled resources and experience, economies of scale and reduced administrative time and costs.

The full details and final timescale for the proposed combination have yet to be formally agreed. One outcome of a combination process, should it proceed, may be that at some point Age Concern (Age UK) Ashford Limited will have transferred all of its activities and undertaking to another entity and will thus cease to be a going concern in its own right. The trustees are not yet able to determine with certainty if or when this may occur. They consider it appropriate that these financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis but recognise that there is a material uncertainty about whether the charity will continue as a going concern for the twelve months following the date on which they approve the financial statements.