

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 08436073

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1153773

Ace (Anglia) Limited
Company Limited by Guarantee
Unaudited financial statements
31 March 2024

Ace (Anglia) Limited
Company Limited by Guarantee
Financial statements
Year ended 31 March 2024

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Ace (Anglia) Limited

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Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report)

Year ended 31 March 2024

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Companies Act 2006 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 published in October 2019.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Ace (Anglia) Limited
Charity registration number	1153773
Company registration number	08436073
Principal office and registered office	Red Gables Ipswich Road Stowmarket Suffolk IP14 1BE

The trustees

The trustees who served during the year and at the date of approval were as follows:

K Chate
J Evans
S Horsfield
P Robbins

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Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Ace Anglia Advisory Group

H Turner - President
M Conquer (Resigned Apr 23)
J Edwards
E Eno-Daynes (Appointed May 23)
S Largent (Resigned Apr 23)
A Lennon
M Rolfe

Staff Team

A Clark - CEO
D Ainsley - Self Advocacy and Coproduction Co-ordinator (Resigned Dec 23)
I Akers - Digital Content Designer
A Berrington - Managing Advocate
N Betts - Health Project Co-ordinator
S Burton - Health Project Co-ordinator (Resigned Dec 23)
J Chew - Co-production Project Lead/ Advocate
C Couchman - Advocate
D Driver - Health Project Lead
E Edwards-Hill - Health Project Worker
D Hill - Accessible Information Design Lead
A Irons - Advocate
K Irons - Health Project Worker
K Murray - HR and Operations Director
C Sparkman - Advocate
T Stevens - Accounts and Office Administrator
B Warren - Advocate

Experts with experience/Peer Educators

S Angell
G Bellinger (Appointed Dec 23, Resigned Feb 24)
S Bull (Resigned Dec 23)
M Conquer
M Chittenden
J Debenham
I Dunstan
E Eno-Daynes (Appointed May 23)
S Largent
H Lucas
J Mayo
R Saunders
N Smith (Appointed Dec 23)
O Terence-Smith

Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
King Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Scottish Widows PLC
PO Box 883
Leeds
LS1 9TY

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Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Independent examiner

L Thurston FCCA
Lovewell Blake LLP
Chartered accountants
First Floor Suite
2 Hillside Business Park
Bury St Edmunds
IP32 7EA

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Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Objectives and activities

The charity's objects are to provide assistance, advice, representation and services which will directly relieve the need or disability of vulnerable people and to promote, organise and facilitate the cooperation and partnership working between third sector, statutory and other relevant bodies in the achievement of the purposes within the area of benefit including Cambridgeshire, Essex, Norfolk and Suffolk.

In shaping our objectives for the future and planning our activities, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. The trustees also carefully consider the accessibility of its services for those on low incomes. Ace(Anglia) Limited receives money mainly from grants. Ace will charge an organisation a fee to cover the costs of some of the work we do, such as our easy-to-read translation service.

All advocacy services at Ace Anglia Limited are free at the point of contact, and people with learning disabilities are not charged.

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Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Achievements and performance

The Charity's Vision

Our vision is for a world where everyone has their voice heard so that people live good lives as part of their community with the right support at the right time from the right people. The charity's aims during the year have continued to be:

- To support people to have a powerful and effective voice.
- To support people to be in control of their lives and in control of the support they get.
- Providing an independent forum for people to get their views heard and to be involved in the local authority, health and other agency planning processes affecting their lives.
- To support people to speak up and make decisions in all areas of their life.

Suffolk is a rural county, and travelling less cuts our organisation's carbon footprint. The whole team continues to adjust and find alternative ways of working with people with learning disabilities and autism.

This year we continued to work on the implementation of the Suffolk Joint learning Disability Strategy.

Andrea Clark (CEO) and Kathryn Murray (HR and Operations Director) continue to work to implement and update the Paradigm recommendations. The following list outlines some of these achievements alongside new ideas from our staff and management team.

Recruitment and Staff Retention

We continue to review our current systems in co-production with the staff team and self-advocates.

We use an accessible application pack that supports people in sustainable employment.

Host two staff away days per year and an Annual salary review.

The Westfield Health cashback/ benefits scheme is offered to all staff.

An improved and updated online document that explains who does what at Ace.

Share internal documents on our internal project management platform (basecamp) and our online HR platform. (breathe HR)

Training and performance management

Staff have regular meetings with team leaders.

Team leaders report to HR/CEO at management team meetings.

All staff have a training log so that training is recorded.

Staff consulted on their personal strengths and weaknesses.

Staff complete quarterly appraisals online.

All staff have an end-of-year 1-1 meeting.

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Trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Supported employment

Ace employs people with learning disabilities and/or autistic people on permanent contracts. Where possible, all our employment documents are translated into easy-to-read documents. We employ two part-time people to support the peer educators during their employment. These roles have been critical to the scheme's success.

We currently employ 14 peer educators and one expert with experience as a project worker in our supported employment scheme. They are employed to deliver a mixture of Annual Health Check workshops, Oliver McGowan and other health-related projects. However, the scheme aims to offer people the opportunity to gain valuable and transferrable skills that will, ultimately, enable them to leave Ace and gain further employment elsewhere. Therefore, in addition to delivering project work, they are supported each month to develop and learn new skills, such as teamwork, confidence building, organisation, independent travel, and presentation skills.

Business development

Regular meetings with trustees and accountants to monitor our reserves.

Invest in IT and new systems to support our teams, such as Ace Website, laptops and mobile phones

Invest in new equipment for the design department, including software, video, and cameras.

Promote ACE as an advocacy leader.

Share good practices with partner organisations locally, regionally, and nationally.

Developed films and accessible documents that promote the organisation and give people high-quality information.

Increase our social media presence.

Self-Advocacy - Achievements and performance

Ace self-advocacy groups provide an opportunity for self-advocates to meet either in person or online to share and have their voices heard,

Our new Self-Advocacy back-to-basic sessions with Word boards have been very successful. Filming self-advocates feedback has been empowering, and we can provide evidence of how far people have come from session to session.

Using all the features of Basecamp has boosted efficiency and streamlined project communication.

Self-advocates travel from all over Suffolk and are encouraged to be independent travellers, using public transport where possible.

Events

Ace Anglia facilitate and hosts the Suffolk Learning disability partnership Board meetings; we develop content and presentations and support self-advocates to attend: 4

Ace Anglia facilitate and hosts The Suffolk Joint Learning Disability Strategy Focus groups: 13

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Year ended 31 March 2024

Events and workshops

Suffolk People First conferences: 4

Self-Advocacy groups:54

Ace Advisory groups:3

Talk Tech Conference

My Voice focus group family carer session external

Delivered Physical Activity and Mental Well-being workshops:23

Coproduction meetings to design accessible information and make a film with the National Trust: 4

Support self-advocates to take part in ten films for Suffolk People First and Learning Disability Strategy Focus Groups

External

Mid Suffolk Disability Forums:4

Headway Conference

Care Group Disability forum

Website Testing Groups with Babergh and Mid Suffolk Council: 2

Meeting with CQC at Suffolk County Council

Regional NHS conference - health inequalities

Addas East Learning Disabilities Network Event

Feedback from people we work with:

Self-Advocate "I think it is fun; I love the ACE Anglia Meetings, The Suffolk People's first meeting in Ipswich. It is very nice to socialise with all the people who are in the group; I always have a great time, and it is good to learn from organisations about different things that are happening in Suffolk.

Wendy Scott, Deputy Director of Nursing SNEE ICB "The ICB values working with ACE. They support the ICB in engaging with people our communities to coproduce services or to hear experiences. ACE is integral in the SNEE ICB for improving the health outcomes of people in our communities, either through the My Health Focus Group, the Oliver McGowan Mandatory Training or the peer educators, to name a few. They are a partner in every sense and a joy to work alongside"

Lucy Humphrey, Managing Director, Leading Lives "Leading Lives and Ace have a great working relationship; Ace's work is integral to providers hearing the voice of people who use services as well as enabling self-advocates to be confident to share their views. At the recent Suffolk Learning Disability Strategy Meeting it was great to see Ace creating a safe environment for people to share their experiences of social care support and for people to be confident to offer ideas and solutions to the local authority.

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Year ended 31 March 2024

Health Department Workshops meetings and events.

Annual health check workshops: 41

East of England NHS Co-production meetings: 4

Health Focus Group meetings: 4

Health and wellbeing events: 28

Health and wellbeing meetings: 8

Oliver McGowan Webinars: 51

Tier-2 Oliver McGowan Training sessions: 14

Social Prescriber training sessions: 4

Health Focus Groups: 6

Projects overview

Social Prescriber Project

The Suffolk and North-East Essex Integrated Care Board (ICB) funded this project. It was developed in collaboration with Social Prescribers, individuals with lived experience of a learning disability and/or Autism, and health professionals. The project's main goal was to provide Social Prescribers with the knowledge and skills to support individuals with learning disabilities and Autism. 147 social prescribers and some care coordinators from GP practices participated in the project, and the training was led and delivered by peer educators who brought their expertise and personal experiences to the sessions.

Screen your way to good health:

This year, we worked in co-production with Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust Primary Care Learning Disability Liaison Nurses, Suffolk and North-East Essex ICB, Suffolk GP Federation, and people with lived experience of learning disabilities and/or autistic people. We co-produced five Easy Read and plain English documents to help people understand the five main areas of screening and where to go for support: Abdominal Aortic Screening, Cervical Screening, Bowel Screening, Diabetic Eye Screening and Breast Screening. We have worked with the film department at Ace Anglia and health professionals to film people talking about their personal experiences.

Menopause film co-production with Suffolk Libraries

Peer educators worked with the film department at Ace and Suffolk Libraries to make and feature in a film about menopause.

LD Friendly GP Practices

This project aims to support GP practices in Suffolk in improving the access to and quality of learning disability annual health checks and highlighting areas for improvement. Peer Educators and Primary Care Learning Disability Liaison Nurses visited three GP surgeries across Suffolk to assess their service for people with learning disabilities. The successful Learning Disability-Friendly practices will receive a Kitemark award.

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Year ended 31 March 2024

Healthy Hearts Together

The Healthy Hearts Together collaboration project aims to improve lipid management for people with learning disabilities and those living with severe mental health illnesses who are at a high risk of cardiovascular disease.

No Barriers Here Pilot Project

We worked with St. Elizabeth Hospice to facilitate three **No Barriers Here** sessions, which were piloted with a group of six people. The sessions aim to help people think about their advanced care plan and address health inequalities in the care and choices that different groups receive. The workshops use art to facilitate discussion of difficult subjects.

My Health Focus Group

The My Health Focus Groups are for anyone interested in the Suffolk Joint Learning Disability Strategy. This could include people with learning disabilities, autistic people, families and carers, provider organisations, members of the public, key organisations, and businesses. The health team has presented agenda items at four sessions this year.

NHS East of England Regional Co-Production Group

The group brings together six areas of the East of England, Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Norfolk and Suffolk. This has enabled the sharing of information and ideas and discussing topics across the region. The meeting's stories, comments and experiences were fed to the Health and Inequalities Improvement Board. This group is for people with a learning disability, autistic people, parent carers, self-advocacy groups, and parent carer groups. It supports good co-production and working together.

Women's Health Survey

Suffolk and North-East Essex Integrated Care board asked for input to ensure their local women's health care offer is accessible and improves the health of all who use women's services in Suffolk and north-east Essex. The information gathered will help design the local women's healthcare offer. Ace Anglia's design team created an easy-read version of the survey in March 2024. The health team promoted the surveys at annual health check workshops and events and supported people in completing and sending their surveys.

Health and Wellbeing meetings:

These meetings are held face-to-face or online via Zoom, and they directly speak to people with learning disabilities and autistic people and their support. They offer a unique chance to ask a Primary Care Learning Disability Liaison nurse questions on health and wellbeing whilst being able to learn from and listen to their peers' experiences.

Annual health check workshops:

Our learning disability annual health check workshops continue to provide people with important and useful information about preparing for and attending and what happens after the annual health check. This year, we arranged to visit carer and family groups around Suffolk. We travelled on the Be Well Bus with a Peer Educator, and it has been beneficial to reach people with learning disabilities who may live more rurally and speak to many people in the main towns.

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Year ended 31 March 2024

Oliver McGowan Training

This year, Ace Anglia employed and trained 5 new trios to become approved trainers and deliver Oliver McGowan Learning Disability and Autism training. They deliver Tier 1 and Tier 2 training. We have received exceptionally good feedback from the webinars that have been delivered. The whole team meets monthly to share best practices, discuss what is working well and what is not, and keep everyone updated about changes.

Partnership working

This year, SUMMIT, which provides a voice for vulnerable people across the county of Essex, visited us at our office. We supported them on various aspects of the Oliver McGowan training, and the Experts with Lived Experience from both organisations could ask questions and share what was working well and ways of working that could make it even better for both organisations.

What people say about the health team at Ace Anglia.

Peer educators: "For the last six years, I have been working as a Primary Learning Disabilities Liaison Nurse in East Suffolk, and I've been in the privileged position to work very closely with the Peer Educators and Ace Anglia. The Peer Educators have led countless workshops for people with Learning Disabilities and Autism/Family members/Support Staff in a wide variety of settings about the importance of attending Annual Health Checks and this has played a huge part in exceeding national targets and the feedback they provide to us following these Workshops help shape the training we provide in Primary Care. The Peer Educators are heavily involved in many other projects, notably "Screen Your Way To Good Health", a local initiative that we are confident will increase the uptake of screening for people with Learning Disabilities and Autism in Suffolk and I particularly value the accessible information/bitesize videos they regularly produce regarding Health. The Peer Educators are an amazing team that are making a big difference in reducing health inequalities for people with Learning Disabilities and Autism". **Primary Care Learning Disability Liaison Nurse (February 2024)**

"The Suffolk and North East Essex Integrated Care Board have commissioned ACE Anglia for a number of years to support people to be employed as peer educators in order to help the delivery of specific health projects. This has enabled the peer educators to develop their skills and knowledge to live more independent lives and be in control of their own health. The peer educators have grown in confidence and talk directly to people with learning disabilities, their families, carers and professionals. The SNEE ICB are very proud of the peer educators and what they have achieved." **Alison Sadler, Learning Disabilities and Autism Transformation Programme Manager and LeDeR Local Area Contact at Suffolk and North East Essex ICB (February 2024)**

Annual health check workshop"We wanted to thank Daisy and Jemma for their amazing annual health check presentation and question and answer section afterwards. As always, our drop-in is very relaxed, but everyone enjoyed this. We had two new carers in that again did not know what their young person should be receiving during their Annual Health Check. ACE will always be welcome to give more presentations to us. I will forward on our new dates for 2024 once I have them. Please thank Daisy and Gemma again. Thank you to all the ACE team for helping us support carers and cared for." **Wots Up Group Carer's Drop-In (October 2023)**

Oliver McGowan Training

"Thank you for a really interesting and informative session. It's very useful to understand how you feel and why it is important to recognise everyone's needs. I would definitely recommend your training"

"It was really helpful thank you for delivering a very powerful and informative session."

"Thanks so much for today's Webinar. You, Nick and Matt were great. It was great to be able to listen to people's own experiences instead of the usual just reading." **Oliver McGowan Webinars (March 2024)**

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Year ended 31 March 2024

Suffolk Advocacy Service

Pohwer is the lead provider of the service. Ace is the sole/lead provider for the children's advocacy component within the contract.

Ace is a member of the Suffolk Information Partnership.

In addition to children's advocacy, Ace delivered IMCA, IMHA, Care Act, Community Advocacy, and NHS complaints. advocacy for adults.

Ace specialises in advocacy for people with a learning disability, so a large percentage of our cases are working with adults with a learning disability whose child has been placed on a child protection plan. The Advocate's role is to support them through a complex process with social services and ensure their voice is heard.

Ace has three full-time Advocates, two who work four days and one part-time Advocate.

The majority of case activity time for children has been face-to-face. C&YP Child Protection meetings have returned to venues, although Child in Care and Core group meetings remain hybrid.

We are currently supporting C&YP in:

Child in Care reviews -

Child protection -

Challenging school placements/lack of school placement

EHCP meetings

Understanding the transition post education (care leavers) Complaints about Transition.

Complaints about lack of funding from ACS

One-to-one advocacy for youngsters in children's homes - issues with contact/education, referrals for an Independent Visitor.

The advocates made bimonthly visits to each of the six local authority children's homes in Suffolk.

Care leavers going through child protection with their children. Looked after children.

Coproduction

Consulted with children and young people on the draft advocacy feedback form.

Involved in making the children's advocacy film to promote the Suffolk Advocacy service.

We regularly attend each of the online CYP co-production network meetings.

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Year ended 31 March 2024

Additional Activity/ promotion of the service

Foster Carer Support Groups

Wellbeing Roadshows 2023

Regular Ace advocates meetings with guest presenters.

Promoting the Suffolk Advocacy Service:34 events

Training

Nineteen training sessions, including peer advocacy with other advocates from different organisations.

The number of people reached:

The advocates have achieved the contracted advocacy delivery hours for the year.

The team has exceeded the benchmark average of total advocacy cases.

Positive feedback

Advocacy partner. "They have been great and patient and explained things in a way I could understand. They listened to me moaning, shouting and crying and didn't give any judgment towards me (I hope you can understand what I'm saying, haha). I would definitely use and recommend you to anyone who needs help."

Advocacy partner. "Without such input, in what is frequently a challenging system I really don't know where I'd be. It's so refreshing that my advocate takes such pride in the work when many don't. My advocate is an asset to you, and I thank God this advocate got allocated to my case. A real blessing."

Advocacy partner. "Thank you so much; your kindness has me in tears a lot. I have never had many people kind to me, and it takes some getting used to."

You are so kind and patient."

Looking forward

The CLEAR 2 recording system will change in May, and the advocates will be using the new CLEAR 3 system. We are confident that this will be an improvement, as it includes new accessibility settings.

Advocates are attending The Dementia Marketplace event.

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Year ended 31 March 2024

Digital content videography / photography

Activity

Newsletter for events and posts

Refresh the Suffolk ordinary lives website

Connections with new organisations such as National Trust and St Elizabeth Hospice

More reach on social media

Networking and connecting with professionals from other organisations for example comms teams.

Focus groups digital content.

Certificate in Accessible information

Videos:

My menopause video

Ickworth House

Children and Young People advocacy video

Ten health videos of the year:

Top tips for making a GP appointment

Managing weight

What is an expert with experience

Learning disability annual health check questionnaire x 3

Learning disability annual health check workshop promotional film

Hospital passports

Flu vaccination

Hilda's hospital experience

The number of people reached on Social media:

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Year ended 31 March 2024

Facebook:

Reach 27.6K - 40.5%

Facebook visits: 9.6K - 52.2%

Followers: Facebook follows 156 - 83.5%

Content interactions 3.1K - 22.3%

Followers Lifetime 980

Link clicks 415 - 11.6%

Instagram:

Reach 928 - 103.5%

Visits 297 - 11.2%

Instagram follows 61

Ace website:

Users 7.5K, New users 11K

Suffolk Ordinary Lives website:

Views 27K, Event count 63K

Positive feedback Positive feedback

"Oh my goodness, that's incredible. It brought tears to my eyes. Thanks again, ACE Anglia; you are definitely ACE!" **Wendy Burt, Essex Carers Network**

"I loved that this had such an uplifting end, It left me feeling positive. I've watched it twice already." **Nicole Smith, Suffolk Libraries**

"Working with ACE Anglia was an absolute pleasure and has made a substantial difference to our inclusive practices at Ickworth Estate, National Trust. Rarely have I worked with a group of people so genuine, invested and flexible. Thanks to their insight and skills, we now have a superb easy read guide and accompanying video but the impact of ACE Anglia's thoughts and reflections will be felt in many other areas for a long while to come. It's been a pleasure to work with you all; if there's ever anything I can do for Ace at all, please let me know." **Adrian Shepherd, National Trust**

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Year ended 31 March 2024

Accessible Information Department Activity

Ace Anglia Project work

Accessible Information Design Services Booklet

Social Prescribers Training Presentations

Easy Read Leaflets

Annual Health Check resources:

Posters

Awards and certificates

Accessible presentations for conferences and meetings:

Accessible recruitment and employment pack

External projects:

Ickworth House Easy Read

Health Maternity Banner

Housing Guide with Learning Disability England

NHS Demographic Monitoring Form

Suffolk Library Consultation

Suffolk Cost of Living

Disability Action Plan Consultation Presentation

North East London LeDeR Report

Suffolk and North East Essex LeDeR Report

Queen Elizabeth's Hospital Annual Reports

NHS England Patient and Public Voices Surveys

National Voices Primary Care Communications Report 2023

Norfolk and Waveney Mental Health Survey

Travel Training leaflets

NHS England: Looking after yourself at home - heart failure

Suffolk Devolution Survey

Positive feedback x3:

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"The Ace Anglia team were wonderful to work with to design the easy read version of our recent report on how primary care services can better support people with diverse communication needs. They were brilliant in consolidating and refining the key information in our report, and were a slick and professional team to work alongside. We would recommend them to others" **Sarah Sweeney, National Voices**

"I would like to take this opportunity to say 'a huge THANK YOU to you and your team' for all the good work! Again, thanks to you for your good leadership skills and timely responses- we are within the set timeframe- Well done!" **Beatrice Kivengea, NHS North East London ICB**

"Learning Disability England worked with the team on an online guide that required thoughtful Easy Read and plain English Accessible Information. The team were thorough, responsive and patient with us as plans changed. The quality of the work is great." **Sam Clark, Learning Disability England.**

Financial review

The statement of financial activities reflects operational activity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Income from donations and legacies decreased in the year to £347,084 (2023: £288,191) however there was an overall increase in total income which amounted to £560,458 (2023: £511,824). Expenditure on charitable activities during the year totalled £698,224 (2023: £584,653). The net movement on unrestricted funds amounted to a deficit of £137,766 (2023: £72,829) as at the year end date.

Principal funding sources

The principal funding source for the charity for the year was the grants received from Suffolk County Council and income from Powher-Suffolk Advocacy service. We were also funded by various health bodies, IESCCG, WSCCG, NHS England and we have had opportunities for project work with LO England and Public Health Suffolk.

We have increased our design revenue by included digital content and film and audio whilst continuing to develop Accessible Information resources for local and national agencies.

Reserves policy

The trustees' policy is to maintain adequate reserves for the following purposes:

- To enable the charity to fulfill statutory and legal obligations to employees and others;
- To provide a contingency fund to meet unforeseen falls in income or increases in expenditure;
- To allow for the orderly wind up of the charity if required.

Based on this policy, the trustees aim to maintain reserves equivalent to three to six months' expenditure, which would amount to between £174,556 to £349,112 (2023: £292,327 when the policy was to hold at least 6 months reserves). Against a background of considerable change in the provision and funding of care the trustees have released resources from reserves to fulfil our objects while maintaining reserves above this level, and on 31 March 2024, the charity's free reserves amount to £191,526 (2023: £328,302).

The trustees plan to utilise reserves to support the charity's sustainability, invest in project development and co-production capacity, increase staff resilience, and update its IT resources.

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Plans for future periods

Going forward

Ace will continue to implement and update the paradigm recommendations.

Strengthen its supported employment offer.

Support the Learning Disability Strategy for Suffolk

Develop and strengthen the Learning Disability Strategy Focus Groups

Look for sustainable funding options for Ace.

Support people have a voice.

Work in co-production.

Produce high-quality accessible information.

Produce high quality film and media.

Employ more people with learning disabilities.

Support and strengthen the staff team

Strengthen its trustee board and Advisory group

Explore opportunities for Ace to work in partnership locally, regionally and nationally

Continue to explore new digital opportunities, including AI.

Work in coproduction with Powher and its partner organisations to secure ongoing formal advocacy contracts.

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Year ended 31 March 2024

Structure, governance and management

Governing document and principal activities

ACE (Anglia) Limited is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. The charitable company was incorporated on 8 March 2013 (number 08436073) and became a registered charity number (number 1153773) on 12 September 2013. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association, which sets out its objects and powers 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 £10.

The charitable company took over the activities of the previous unincorporated charity, registered number 1021800, which had been operational as a registered charity since 1993.

Recruitment and appointment to the board of trustees

The company's directors are also charity trustees for charity law. Under the Memorandum and Articles of Association, members may appoint a trustee at any general meeting. The trustees may also appoint a person willing to act as a trustee, but they must be re-appointed by the members at the next annual general meeting. One-third of the trustees retire in rotation but are eligible for re-election.

The current trustees are shown in these accounts' reference and administrative details. Trustees are invited to serve for at least four years, and new trustees may be co-opted.

Further trustees may be appointed at any time, at their discretion, in accordance with the charity's recruitment policy.

Trustee induction and training

The current trustees are familiar with the charity's work. New trustees meet with the Chair and CEO to familiarise themselves with the charity and the context within which it operates. Each trustee is given a specific oversight responsibility to an area of the charity's work. The meeting would cover:

The obligations of being a trustee.

An overview of the services which the charity provides.

The main documents that set out the operational framework for the charity include the constitution. The financial position as set out in the latest published accounts.

Future plans and objectives.

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Organisational structure

The charity is governed by the trustees, who meet at least four times a year and are responsible for its strategic direction and policy.

The advisory group is made up of experts by experience. This strong team of self-advocates looks at what people with learning disabilities are telling us in our groups, conferences and consultations. They feed this information to the board of trustees and work with them and the staff team to coproduce a plan for the organisation's future work

The charity employs a Chief Executive responsible for the day-to-day provision of services, ensuring that project objectives are met, and managing the staff team of peer educators and trainers, designers, project workers, advocates, administrative staff, and volunteers. This is achieved with the support of the HR and Operation director and project leads.

Risk management

The trustees have reviewed the financial and operating risks pertaining to the charity and identified key risks to the charity. Policies and procedures are in place to mitigate the risks identified. The board reviews and re-appraises risk on an on-going basis.

Independent examiner reappointment

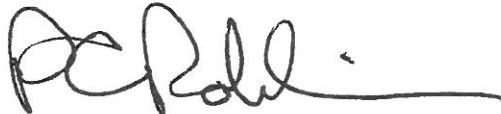
A resolution to appoint L Thurston of Lovewell Blake LLP as independent examiner will be proposed at the next trustees meeting.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared taking advantage of the small companies' exemption of section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 8/10/2024 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

P Robbins
Trustee



Ace (Anglia) Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Ace (Anglia) Limited

Year ended 31 March 2024

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account), balance sheet, statement of cash flows and the related notes.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements 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 company's financial statements 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

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

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements 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 financial statements 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.

 17/10/24

L Thurston FCCA
Independent Examiner

Lovewell Blake LLP
Chartered accountants
First Floor Suite
2 Hillside Business Park
Bury St Edmunds
IP32 7EA

Ace (Anglia) Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 March 2024

		2024		2023
		Unrestricted	Total funds	Total funds
	Note	funds		
		£	£	£
Income and endowments				
Donations and legacies	5	347,084	347,084	288,191
Charitable activities	6	212,266	212,266	223,102
Investment income		1,108	1,108	531
Total income		<u>560,458</u>	<u>560,458</u>	<u>511,824</u>
Expenditure				
Charitable activities	7	<u>698,224</u>	<u>698,224</u>	<u>584,653</u>
Total expenditure		<u>698,224</u>	<u>698,224</u>	<u>584,653</u>
Net expenditure and net movement in funds		<u>(137,766)</u>	<u>(137,766)</u>	<u>(72,829)</u>
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		<u>438,717</u>	<u>438,717</u>	<u>511,546</u>
Total funds carried forward		<u>300,951</u>	<u>300,951</u>	<u>438,717</u>

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

The notes on pages 24 to 31 form part of these financial statements.

Ace (Anglia) Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Balance sheet

31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	10		17,047		18,297
Current assets					
Debtors	11	61,020		115,344	
Cash at bank and in hand		236,939		318,845	
		297,959		434,189	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	12	(14,055)		(13,769)	
Net current assets			283,904		420,420
Total assets less current liabilities			300,951		438,717
Net assets			300,951		438,717
Funds of the charity					
Unrestricted funds			300,951		438,717
Total charity funds	14		300,951		438,717

For the year ending 31 March 2024 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

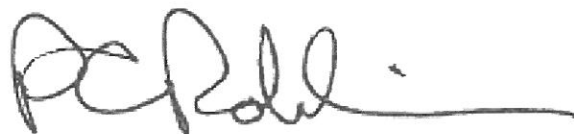
Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

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

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 8/10/2024 and are signed on behalf of the board by:

P Robbins
Trustee



Company registration number: 08436073

The notes on pages 24 to 31 form part of these financial statements.

Ace (Anglia) Limited
Company Limited by Guarantee
Statement of cash flows
Year ended 31 March 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net expenditure	(137,766)	(72,829)
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	7,406	5,771
Other interest receivable and similar income	(1,108)	(531)
Accrued (income)/expenses	(396)	804
<i>Changes in:</i>		
Trade and other debtors	54,324	(75,058)
Trade and other creditors	682	(2,866)
Cash generated from operations	(76,858)	(144,709)
Interest received	1,108	531
Net cash used in operating activities	(75,750)	(144,178)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of tangible assets	(6,156)	(13,925)
Net cash used in investing activities	(6,156)	(13,925)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(81,906)	(158,103)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	318,845	476,948
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	236,939	318,845

The notes on pages 24 to 31 form part of these financial statements.

Ace (Anglia) Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2024

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is Red Gables, Ipswich Road, Stowmarket, Suffolk, IP14 1BE.

2. Statement of compliance

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. 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 issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

Income

Income is included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity, it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.

Year ended 31 March 2024

Ace (Anglia) Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Defined contribution plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

4. Limited by guarantee

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and does not have share capital. Every member of the charity undertakes to contribute such amounts, not exceeding £10 as may be required in the event of a winding up.

5. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024
Grants			
Suffolk County Council	149,000	–	149,000
NHS Ipswich & East Suffolk CCG	192,532	–	192,532
Other Grants	5,552	–	5,552
	<u>347,084</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>347,084</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023
Grants			
Suffolk County Council	187,320	–	187,320
NHS Ipswich & East Suffolk CCG	68,575	–	68,575
NHS England & NHS Improvements	16,175	–	16,175
Essex County Council	11,200	–	11,200
Other Grants	4,921	–	4,921
	<u>288,191</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>288,191</u>

Ace (Anglia) Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

6. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Advocacy and other services	212,266	212,266	223,102	223,102

7. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Staff costs	587,544	587,544	468,200	468,200
Staff travel expenses	17,611	17,611	9,334	9,334
Staff and advocate training	3,600	3,600	3,909	3,909
Staff recruitment	4,122	4,122	3,169	3,169
Transport costs	1,713	1,713	1,646	1,646
Finance charges	1,919	1,919	2,214	2,214
Venue hire	3,975	3,975	3,161	3,161
Professional fees	2,060	2,060	14,213	14,213
Support costs	75,680	75,680	78,807	78,807
	<u>698,224</u>	<u>698,224</u>	<u>584,653</u>	<u>584,653</u>

Analysis of support costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Rent	14,124	13,065
Telephone	9,107	6,530
Postage and stationery	2,935	2,472
Insurance	3,562	2,581
Computer costs	29,972	37,474
Sundry expenses	4,772	7,536
Depreciation	7,406	5,771
Independent examination fee	2,724	3,378
Bad debt write off	1,078	—
	<u>75,680</u>	<u>78,807</u>

Ace (Anglia) Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

8. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	529,266	417,245
Social security costs	42,355	39,815
Pension costs	10,799	9,284
Other employee benefits	5,124	1,856
	<u>587,544</u>	<u>468,200</u>

The average head count of employees during the year was 29 (2023: 23).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2023: Nil).

Key management personnel

Key management personnel include all persons that have authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the charity. The total compensation including employer pension contributions paid to key management personnel for services provided to the charity was £59,503 (2023: £55,472).

9. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No trustee received any remuneration during the year (2023: £Nil). No trustee was reimbursed expenses during the year (2023: £Nil).

10. Tangible fixed assets

	Office equipment £
Cost	
At 1 April 2023	51,385
Additions	6,156
At 31 March 2024	<u>57,541</u>
Depreciation	
At 1 April 2023	33,088
Charge for the year	7,406
At 31 March 2024	<u>40,494</u>
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2024	<u>17,047</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>18,297</u>

Ace (Anglia) Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

11. Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade debtors	49,754	105,826
Prepayments and accrued income	11,266	9,518
	<u>61,020</u>	<u>115,344</u>

12. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	917	1,314
Accruals and deferred income	2,442	2,838
Social security and other taxes	10,696	9,617
	<u>14,055</u>	<u>13,769</u>

13. Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to the defined contribution plans was £10,799 (2023: £9,284).

Ace (Anglia) Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

14. Analysis of charitable funds

Year ended 31 March 2024

General funds

	At 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2024 £
General Funds	<u>328,302</u>	<u>561,448</u>	<u>(698,224)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>191,526</u>

Designated funds

	At 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2024 £
Contingency Funds	70,525	–	–	–	70,525
Big Messages	9,090	–	–	–	9,090
Accessible Information	<u>30,800</u>	<u>(990)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>29,810</u>
	<u>110,415</u>	<u>(990)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>109,425</u>
Total funds	<u>438,717</u>	<u>560,458</u>	<u>(698,224)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>300,951</u>

Year ended 31 March 2023

General funds

	At 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2023 £
General Funds	<u>401,261</u>	<u>501,764</u>	<u>(574,723)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>328,302</u>

Designated funds

	At 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2023 £
Contingency Funds	70,525	–	–	–	70,525
Big Messages	9,090	–	–	–	9,090
Accessible Information	<u>30,670</u>	<u>10,060</u>	<u>(9,930)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>30,800</u>
	<u>110,285</u>	<u>10,060</u>	<u>(9,930)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>110,415</u>
Total funds	<u>511,546</u>	<u>511,824</u>	<u>(584,653)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>438,717</u>

Purposes of designated funds:

Contingency Funds - this fund represents amounts set aside in a separate bank account, adopted as a formal designated fund under a previous annual review. The fund aims to cover contingency expenses such as redundancy and wages should the charity need to cover such costs for closure or winding up. The designated fund is reviewed periodically.

Big Messages – income designated to promote SCC services for people with learning disabilities.

Accessible Information – production of accessible information conforming to the accessible information standards.

Ace (Anglia) Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

15. Analysis of net assets between funds

As at 31 March 2024

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	17,047	–	17,047
Current assets	283,904	–	283,904
Net Assets	300,951	–	300,951

As at 31 March 2023

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	18,297	–	18,297
Current assets	420,420	–	420,420
Net Assets	438,717	–	438,717

16. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 Apr 2023 £	Cash flows £	At 31 Mar 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	318,845	(81,906)	236,939

17. Operating lease commitments

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

	2024 £	2023 £
Not later than 1 year	1,440	1,440
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	–	1,440
	1,440	2,880

18. Related parties

The Charity made payments in respect of related party transactions to Thinklusive amounting to £Nil (2023: £1,680) which M Clark operates as a sole trader. M Clark is the son of A Clark who is a key management personnel of the Charity.

The Charity also made payments in respect of transactions amounting to £25,248 (2023: £29,667) to I Akers who is also a close relation to A Clark.

These transactions were made on normal commercial terms. The Charity had no other related party transactions in this or the prior year.