

Company Number: 08611744 (England and Wales)
Charity Number: 1158878

UK DEAF SPORT

Report and Accounts

For the year ended 31 March 2023

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Report and Accounts

For the year ended 31 March 2023

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UK DEAF SPORT

Company Information

Company Number: 08611744

Charity Number: 1158878

Registered Office

4 Grovelands
Boundary Way
Hemel Hempstead
England
HP2 7TE

Honorary President

Ms J Ounsley

Trustees

Mr P A R Martin
Mr G E V Knight
Mrs L Lill
Mr P Fitton
Mr A P Mawdsley
Mr T C W Seabrook
Ms J L Traynor
Ms A Macdonald
Mr A Breeze
Mr T Burton
Mr V Pericard

Accountants

Kings Chartered Accountants
Unit 4 Grovelands
Boundary Way
Hemel Hempstead
Hertfordshire
England
HP2 7TE

Bankers

Unity Trust Bank Plc
Four Brindleyplace
Birmingham
B1 2JB

UK DEAF SPORT

Trustees' (Directors') Annual Report

For the year ended 31 March 2023

UK Deaf Sport Trustees' Annual Report

The Trustees present their report and the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the 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 (FRS 102).

UK Deaf Sport (UKDS) is the National Governing Body for deaf sport in the UK. Established in 2003, the charity is a company limited by guarantee.

This annual report for 2022-2023 looks back at the work UKDS has undertaken to inspire the deaf community to get active, increase the number of inclusive opportunities for them to do so and support elite deaf athletes to perform on the world stage.

We have continued to collaborate with our partners to engage the deaf community and ensure their continued participation and involvement in sport and physical activity from grassroots to elite level through different funding programmes both online and in person. Our staff team, the UKDS Board, Committee and Advisory Group Members have been committed to delivering our Vision and Mission in 2022-23 ensuring we implement sustainable solutions that will support the deaf community to be active at all levels for years to come.

UK Deaf Sport Strategic Objectives

There are ¹12 million deaf adults in the UK and 50,000 deaf children with some of the highest inactivity levels in our society. The Sport England Active Lives Survey 2023 shows:

- 53% of people aged 16+ with a hearing impairment were inactive (less than 30 minutes a week) compared to 15% of people without a disability.
- 33% of people aged 16+ with a hearing impairment did not participate in sport or physical activity compared to 5% of people without a disability.
- Children with a hearing impairment are just as likely to be active as those without a disability, but of those children who are less active, 43% of deaf children participate in no activity at all compared to 26% of children with no disability.

UKDS's Vision is Every Deaf Person Active and Inspired by Sport and Physical Activity. Our Mission centres on leading opportunities for more deaf people to participate in sport throughout their lives and more deaf athletes to perform on the world stage. We continue to make the deaf community aware of opportunities to be active and encourage them to take part in sport and physical activity on a regular basis.

This year, the UKDS Board agreed new definitions of 'deaf' and 'deaf community'. We now use the term 'deaf' to represent *all people who are deaf, hard of hearing or have a hearing loss, whether this is acquired or from birth*. This covers a range of definitions of deafness, including those who are profoundly deaf, have severe, moderate or mild hearing loss or are hard of hearing whether acquired or from birth. This includes the use of the terms Deaf and deaf whereby the use of a capital D in Deaf may denote those who identify as having a cultural and shared experience of being Deaf.

UKDS use the term 'deaf community' to represent *all people who are deaf, hard of hearing or have a hearing loss or anyone who has a lived experience of deafness such as family members, friends, allies, colleagues and other professionals*.

UKDS's strategy to achieve our vision of Every Deaf Person Active and Inspired by Sport and Physical Activity, is delivered through three key Strategic Objectives as follows:

- i. Leadership – providing strategic, well governed leadership for deaf sport.
- ii. Participation – getting more deaf people starting, staying, and supporting sport.
- iii. Performance – having more deaf athletes winning medals on the world stage.

¹ <https://nrid.org.uk/get-involved/research-and-policy/facts-and-figures/prevalence-of-deafness-and-hearing-loss>

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This year UKDS has developed new Operational Plans to show how we will deliver our Vision, Mission and Strategic Objectives from April 2023 – March 2027. This includes Key Results so we can measure our impact.

UKDS is grateful for the support of its partners and funders, specifically Sport England and Comic Relief. We retain our commitment to reduce the reliability on the public purse to ensure the financial sustainability of the organisation including securing commercial partnerships and sponsorship opportunities. A Growth Plan detailing our plans for this has been developed this year.

Leadership

UKDS's strategic leadership objective is to provide strategic, well governed leadership for deaf sport.

In line with the UKDS Articles of Association, the UKDS Board of Trustees ensure UKDS's long-term prosperity by collectively providing oversight and directing the organisation's affairs to achieve UKDS's Vision. The Board sets and implements the overall direction and strategy of the organisation and has ultimate responsibility and liability for the decisions it makes and the actions it takes. This includes oversight of finance, risk management, equality, diversity and inclusion, governance, Board and other appointments and remuneration.

The UKDS Board has continued to meet on a bi-monthly basis both online and face to face in 2022-23 ensuring the organisation continued to work within its set of "Vision and Values".

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year were:

Mr P A R Martin (Chair)	Mr A P Mawdsley	
Mr G E V Knight	Mr T C W Seabrook	
Mrs L Lill (Senior Independent Director) *	Ms J L Traynor	
Ms A Macdonald	Mr G Downie	(Resigned 22 March 2023)
Mr P Fitton	Mr T Burton	
Mr A Breeze	Mr V Pericard	

* Mrs L Lill (through Global Active Ltd) was appointed as a part time consultant to undertake some of the duties of the Executive Director role from September 2021 to August 2022. During this period she stepped down from her position as Trustee.

Trustees are appointed from individuals with a common interest in increasing the participation of the deaf community in sport and physical activity. Consideration is also given to the skill set each has to offer to ensure an appropriately skilled, knowledgeable Board with a diverse membership that reflects the community it serves.

None of the trustees have any beneficial interest in the company. All trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £10 in the event of a winding up.

Two new trustees were appointed in August 2022 following an external recruitment process targeting new trustees with financial expertise to strengthen the Board and its Finance, Audit, Risk and Governance Committee, in this area. A new Chair of the UKDS Board and two new trustees will be appointed later in 2023 as their terms expire.

The Board delegates day to day responsibility for the running and management of UKDS to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) who recruits staff to fulfil specific roles and responsibilities within the charity. In March 2021, UKDS was successful in securing Sport England System Partner funding for 5 years 2022-2027 which has enabled us to increase our capacity and to drive real progress in achieving our vision and mission and be the lead voice for deaf people in sport and physical activity. A new CEO was appointed in August 2022 who subsequently recruited four new members of staff in 2022-23 including a:

Trustees' (Directors') Annual Report

For the year ended 31 March 2023

-
- Partnerships Manager - Participation
 - Business Development Manager
 - Marketing and Communications Officer (Apprenticeship)
 - Governance and Insight Manager

The Board also delegates different functions to specific Committees and Advisory Groups to assist them on relevant aspects of governance. Each Committee and Advisory Group has their own purpose and responsibilities as set out in their respective Terms of Reference.

The Committees and Advisory Groups who have advised, supported and check/challenged the UKDS Board in key areas this year include the:

- Finance, Audit, Risk and Governance Committee responsible for overseeing and reporting to the UKDS Board in these vital areas.
- Nominations Committee responsible for advising the UKDS Board on succession planning for the Board, Advisory Group and Committee Members and the role of the CEO.
- Relations Advisory Group responsible for directing the strategy for relationships with UKDS organisations and National Governing Bodies of Sport within the UK and to provide representatives who reflect and promote UKDS's views to International Sport Bodies such as the International Committee of Sports for the Deaf and European Deaf Sports Organisation.
- Performance Advisory Group responsible for directing a strategy for high performance which will deliver podium success at Domestic and International performance levels including European, Worlds and Deaflympics.
- Athlete Leadership Group which provides a recognised forum for deaf athletes to come together and discuss matters affecting deaf athletes from grassroot participation to elite level and ensure the views and experiences of deaf athletes are represented in the ongoing work of UKDS.

Each Advisory Group includes a Board appointed Chair, a Board Director and independent advisors with expertise in the relevant area.

As a result of the System Partner grant from Sport England, UKDS has to meet the requirements of Tier 3 of the Code of Sports Governance. A Governance Action Plan was agreed with Sport England and work has continued at pace to meet these requirements.

UKDS is responsible for the effective and timely administration of deaf athletes across the UK wanting to take part in World and European deaf sporting competitions including selecting and managing the DeaflympicsGB Team.

Participation

UKDS's strategic participation objective is to increase the number of deaf people starting, staying, and supporting sport.

UKDS has continued to drive and increase participation of deaf people in sport and physical activity during this reporting period. The following details the key highlights of the participation work delivered by UKDS with support from our funders including Sport England and Comic Relief.

See My Voice

In November 2021, UKDS partnered with British Blind Sport and Sport Birmingham to deliver the 'See My Voice' project funded by Sport England. See My Voice is a sports leadership volunteer programme aimed at young people aged 14-19 years enabling them to get a Sports and Activity Volunteering Leadership Qualification. The project helped Young Leaders gain confidence and develop life skills, boost their self-esteem and improve their employment prospects by having a qualification they could put on their CV. It also allowed them to meet new people and become involved in their communities. To achieve this qualification, each found their own placement at places such as sport clubs, schools and local community groups volunteering in different ways such as coaching, delivering sessions, working in the school café etc.

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UKDS worked with 12 Young Leaders across the UK mentored by the UKDS See My Voice Project Officer. All our Young Leaders were deaf (6 cochlear implant, 6 hearing aid) and most of them were fluent in British Sign Language (BSL) or Sign Supported English (SSE). During 2022-23, we delivered webinars on skills and behaviours in the workplace and held a residential for all of the Young Leaders across UKDS, BBS and Sport Birmingham to come together. The project concluded at the end of November 2023 with a conference in Birmingham looking at the impact of the project, lessons learnt and best practice moving in engaging disabled young people in volunteering opportunities moving forward.

Comic Relief

Comic Relief funded our London-based project to reach out to deaf people in the greater London area and encourage higher engagement in sport and physical activity. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, work was switched online and resulted in the creation of our Deaf Active Online work. This enabled us to offer online sports and physical activities throughout the pandemic and to reduce isolation and support mental health and wellbeing. The final project report in January 2023 showed that:

- The project developed and supported the skills of 19 deaf trainers/instructors to reach out and deliver to deaf participants in their field of expertise.
- In partnership with Access Sport, 86 activity packs for deaf children and young people in schools across London were distributed. This enabled us to engage children and young people in schools during the pandemic's most challenging times.
- Deaf Active Online that shared activities accessible to deaf users, delivered to a total of 4,638 deaf people - an increase on the original target of 3,636 participants.
- Deaf Inclusive Training had 31 coaches and volunteers participating in the training provided by UKDS on how include deaf people in their sport and physical activity sessions. 100% reported that they would recommend the course to their colleagues.

The remainder of the funding has supported the development of our new Deaf People's Inclusion in Sport online training modules and a Marketing and Communications Strategy and Action Plan developed by PLMR. This strategy focuses on raising awareness of:

- Opportunities for the deaf community to get active and promoting the positive impact of sport and physical activity for deaf people.
- Deaf sport at grassroots and elite level including the Deaflympics and other world class deaf sporting events.
- UKDS as the recognised and respected leader for deaf sport across the UK and internationally.
- The DeaflympicsGB Team.

Women and Girls Project

In 2021 UKDS partnered with Women in Sport, funded by Sport England, to support deaf girls (13 years plus) and women around the UK to become more involved in sport. The aim was to understand and address any barriers to accessing sport due to gender or disabilities as well as any additional barriers, for example, if they were also Black or Asian and develop their confidence and skills in order to become volunteers, coaches and leaders within their local areas. Delivery included deaf women and girls attending focus groups to identify barriers for deaf women and workshops focussed on empowerment, confidence building, leadership skills and coaching delivered in BSL to ensure they were fully accessible.

This year, UKDS and Women in Sport published the report detailing the key results of the research on the specific barriers that deaf teenage girls face in participating in sport and physical activity. The barriers identified by deaf teenage girls included finding it hard to find appropriate activities outside of school, feeling intimidated about starting a new activity, feeling left out in a hearing environment, bias against deaf girls in sport and physical activity and a lack of communication support. The report provided a series of recommendations on how the identified barriers to participation for deaf teenage girls could be addressed.

Based on these recommendations, UKDS has implemented several actions already this year and will deliver more in 2023-24 to enable their participation moving forward. This includes a new Deaf People's Inclusion in Sport Online Training Programme designed to help hearing coaches and volunteers understand the barriers faced by deaf people to be active and how they can break down these barriers in their sessions, signposting girls to activities through a new activity finder (more detail on both of these is provided below) and promoting deaf role models to teenage girls through our social media channels and those of our partners.

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Together Fund Phase 4

Following on from the Tackling Inequalities Fund, UKDS were awarded Sport England National Lottery funded Together Fund Phase 4 funding in 2022 to be spent by March 2023. Phase 4 funding was committed to help the groups that, from Sport England's insight, were being disproportionately affected by the pandemic, significantly impacting their ability to be physically active. It

enabled priority audiences including disabled people and people with long-term health conditions to continue to exist and engage with their communities and was used by UKDS to support deaf people to be engaged and active.

UKDS funded a wide range of deaf and deaf sport organisations to deliver activities that supported deaf people to optimise their opportunities to participate in sport and physical activity. This included funding to find new ways of keeping deaf people engaged and active, advice and training support to increase the resilience, capacity, and capability of delivery bodies, equipment hire/purchase, hire of facilities and coaches' fees/expenses. For example, fun days giving deaf people the opportunity to try different sports, training volunteers as sport 'activators' to get more deaf people engaged, offering activities that are tailored to and accessible by, deaf participants. Deaf sports supported by UKDS included swimming, football, tennis, netball and golf.

Together Fund Final Phase

In late 2022, UKDS was successful in applying for Together Fund Final Phase funding with an aim to increase the resilience, capacity and capability of delivery bodies delivering sport and physical activities to the deaf community. After a bidding process, in early 2023, funding was awarded to thirteen projects across a variety of providers to deliver sport and physical activity sessions and upskill deaf coaches. These projects include a South Asian Deaf Women's Walking Group being delivered by Bolton Deaf Society, upskilling a deaf rowing coach to deliver sessions to the deaf community through the ELREM Foundation and an Armchair Aerobics session with Access Bedford.

Delivery of these projects will take place later in 2023 and each project has been asked to complete a case study to show the impact their funding has had on tackling inactivity. This will give UKDS a library of case studies to be able to share with other deliverers and partners and enable UKDS to be able to share learning and best practice.

As well as onward funding awarded to partners, UKDS received resilience funding to support sustainability and capacity building within deaf sport organisations. This funding will be used by UKDS to deliver the following through to September 2023:

- A Training Needs Analysis with deaf sport organisations and providing a series of training sessions to meet their needs.
- Support selected Deaf Sport Governing Bodies to meet the requirements of Tier 1 of the Code for Sport Governance.
- Create a volunteer finder platform for deaf sport organisations to recruit volunteers and grow their internal capacity. England Deaf Golf, England Deaf Basketball and England Deaf Football have been asked to pilot the system to ensure it meets the needs of deaf sport organisations.
- Appoint an Activity Support Officer to identify deaf friendly sport and physical activity opportunities and populate them into an Activity Finder function to ensure deaf friendly activities can be found by activity or geography.
- Resources to be distributed to audiology centres, Deaf Centres and with other non-traditional partners to promote UKDS and raise awareness of deaf sport and physical activity opportunities.
- Host a networking day for deaf sport organisations to share best practice and learn from each other's methods of engaging the deaf community into activity.

London Sport

The Sensory Alliance is a strong partnership between three charities: British Blind Sport (BBS), SENSE and UKDS. It aims to target those with a sensory impairment or more complex disabilities in partnership. The Sensory Alliance was successful in securing Sport England Tackling Inequalities funding from London Sport. This funding was to address the impact of COVID-19 on the services/programmes we deliver to our communities and also our partners who have endured outreach activities being reduced/stopped and vital support being restricted for those who are deaf, blind/visually impaired and/or may have complex disabilities. The aim was also to engage those at risk of social isolation in London due to the impacts of the coronavirus pandemic.

The project focussed on older people aged 55 plus and the Sensory Alliance worked with key contacts and partners in four London Boroughs to identify groups through which we could engage those with a sensory impairment in greatest need. Delivery included the development and delivery of health activity packs (in partnership with MIND and AGE UK) and online accessible sport and

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physical activity videos. In 2022-23, the Sensory Alliance partnered with Oomph who manage residential and care homes across the UK, to provide them with 10 accessible physical activity videos which will be made available on their platform which delivers in their care settings to engage older people (aged 65+) with sensory impairments in physical activity. These include stretch and relaxation, tai chi seated yoga and dance.

Swim England – The Ripple Effect

Swim England launched a new programme called The Ripple Effect. The aim is to get disabled volunteers into technical and official roles around the pool including swimming, diving and artistic swimming. The programme funds their training and Swim England Membership. UKDS have provided deaf participants for this programme for focus groups to identify and address the barriers to participation and to go on to complete their volunteer training later in 2023.

Other Partnership Work

Throughout 2022-23, UKDS has continued to address inequalities in sport and physical activity whilst also tackling inactivity within the deaf community. To do this, we have engaged with a wide range of partners from both the sport and non-traditional sectors.

Through our new CEO and Participation Partnerships Manager, UKDS have continued to create and develop partnerships with National Governing Bodies (NGBs), Active Partnerships, deaf charities such as RNID and NDCS, BBS and Sense (as the Sensory Alliance), National Disability Sporting Organisations (NDSOs), London Sport and other deaf specific sport organisations such as England Deaf Golf, England Deaf Basketball, GB Deaf Athletics and GB Deaf Football.

UKDS has continued to work with our partners to develop their working practices to be more inclusive for deaf participants. This has included the development of a new Deaf People's Inclusion in Sport eLearning course in collaboration with Accelerate Sport and eCoach, designed to help hearing coaches and volunteers understand the barriers faced by deaf people to be active and how they can break down these barriers in their sessions. This training will support increased engagement and participation and highlight adaptations or considerations needed for deaf participants. Through the Together Fund Final Phase, UKDS funded 200 places on this course for our partners. It is available for coaches and volunteers of any sport to access [here](#).

Feedback on this training includes:

“It was really interesting to do as there were a lot of details in there that I was not aware of and that I can put into practice. I have realised some things that I have done wrong and would know not to do in the future when communicating with deaf individuals.”

“We did the online training together this morning, it looks fantastic and was very engaging. We both feel our knowledge and confidence in this area has increased following the training.”

Further examples of our partnership work to increase participation includes:

- Manchester FA Just Play Sessions - UKDS has been working with Manchester Football Association (MFA) to create FA Just Play sessions with Deaf Centres in their local area. This pilot will see Manchester Deaf Centre given an equipment bag and £200 funding to deliver football activity within the deaf centre. This is a new model of delivery for UKDS and allows activity to take place in areas the deaf community may already access services, rather than expecting inactive participants to attend sport sessions specifically.

There will also be opportunities for members of the deaf centre to be upskilled in the FA Playmaker course, meaning the sessions will be sustainable and delivered by peers. This will also help to address the workforce gaps and representation issues that currently exist in deaf sport. Once this programme has been delivered, UKDS will share these learnings with The FA and other County FAs so that this can be upscaled and replicated across the country. The aspiration is to create more teams to participate in the England Deaf Football League competition to support the growth of the game.

- Working with RNID and SignHealth

UKDS has continued to create partnerships with other deaf charities who have additional contact points with the deaf community and can help to promote the work of UKDS and engage deaf participants. RNID are committed to sharing UKDS's new volunteer platform and activity finder services through their Knowledge Hub, newsletters and local community groups. SignHealth will share opportunities to get active through their therapy and domestic abuse services.

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Working with these organisations will help UKDS reach wider audiences to ensure the wider deaf community are aware of opportunities to be active to improve both their physical and mental health.

- British Triathlon

UKDS has been working with British Triathlon to understand the barriers that deaf people face in accessing triathlon. After listening to individual deaf participants, British Triathlon are now hosting focus groups for deaf athletes and those who have never taken part in a triathlon to understand the challenges and barriers that exist to them participating. From this, British Triathlon will look to make adaptations to make their sport deaf friendly and inclusive.

- England Netball

UKDS is currently working with England Netball in Greater Manchester to create the first deaf netball session in the County. The sessions will be led by a current participant who will be upskilled to deliver deaf friendly sessions and will be promoted through Deaf Centres in the local area. The team will then look to compete in England Netball's Deaf National Cup Competition whilst UKDS work with England Netball to create a more formalised deaf competition pathway with the aspiration to create a deaf netball league.

- Workforce Training Pilot with The Football Association (FA)

Working with all the National Disability Sport Organisations, UKDS have committed to lead on a workforce pilot to address the underrepresentation of disabled people in the sporting workforce. Working with The FA, UKDS are looking to deliver regionalised Introduction to Coaching Football courses tailored for disabled people. This is currently being discussed within the FA Education Team. If successful, this is a model UKDS would hope to replicate with other National Governing Bodies.

- Wales Deaf Sport Strategic Plan 'Growing Together'

UKDS was consulted on the Wales Deaf Sport Strategic Plan 'Growing Together.' The plan outlined a vision to 2030 and the ways in which the vision will be delivered. Overall, Wales want to grow opportunities for deaf people to actively participate in community sport and physical activity. Supporting, promoting and advocating are key features of their objectives which UKDS wholly supports.

UKDS Plans for 2023-24

Plans to increase participation levels in 2023-24 include:

- Developing a Stakeholder Strategy outlining UKDS's key stakeholders, priority working areas and sports to improve the engagement of inactive deaf participants. This will include developing, nurturing and formalising our partnerships with National Governing Bodies, Active Partnerships and deaf sport organisations through our new Participation Partnership Manager.
- Undertaking a survey with the deaf community to understand further the barriers for participants with different levels of hearing loss and understand how intersectionality, age and geographical factors impact on participation.
- Launching the new UKDS Membership Programme which will contain different offers for deaf athletes, deliverers and deaf sport organisations. This will include accessing learning and development opportunities and capacity building resources.
- Continuing to identify and work with nontraditional partners who have regular access to the deaf community to ensure they are aware of opportunities to be active in their local communities.
- Measuring the impact of our work on increasing levels of participation.

UKDS will continue to be a member of, and work in partnership with, the Activity Alliance and the Sport and Recreation Alliance.

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Performance

UKDS's strategic performance objective is getting more deaf athletes winning medals on the World stage.

UKDS is the recognised National Governing Body for deaf sport in the UK and has been a member of the International Committee of Sports for the Deaf (ICSD) since March 2006 and a member of the European Deaf Sport Organisation (EDSO) since 2006.

The ICSD is the international federation for deaf sport responsible for organising World deaf sporting events including the International Olympic Committee sanctioned, Deaflympics. EDSO organises European deaf sport championships under the auspices of ICSD. UKDS continue to be an active member of the ICSD and EDSO and attended both the ICSD and EDSO Congress in person in 2022 representing GB.

UKDS is responsible for the effective and timely administration of deaf athletes across the UK wanting to take part in World and European deaf sporting competitions in the sports that fall under the remit of ICSD including selecting and managing the DeaflympicsGB Team. This includes responsibility for entering all deaf athletes and ensuring they meet the ICSD criteria for eligibility (a hearing loss of at least 55dB in the better ear - 3 tone frequency average of 500, 1,000 and 2,000 Hertz, ANSI 1969 standard).

In 2022-23 UKDS entered teams into the following international deaf sport championships:

- Deaf Champions League, June 2022, Greece. St John's came third overall.
- World Deaf Sailing Championships, August 2022, Poland.
- World Deaf Golf Championships, October 2022, Hawaii. England Women came third overall.
- European Futsal Championships, October 2022, Italy. England Women won the tournament.
- Deaf Champions League Futsal, February 2023, Sweden.

There is a full calendar of international deaf sport championships taking place in 2022-23. The UK will have athletes competing in events across a range of deaf sports including:

- Deaf Champions League, June 2023, Poland.
- EDSO Golf Championships, July 2023, Finland.
- ICSD World Swimming Championships, August 2023, Argentina.
- EDSO Athletics Championships, August 2023, Poland.
- EDSO Athletics Youth Championships 2023 Poland.
- World Deaf Football Championships, September 2023, Malaysia.
- World Tennis Championships, September 2023, Greece.
- World Youth Tennis Championships, September 2023, Greece.
- World Futsal Championships, November 2023, Brazil.
- Winter Deaflympics, March 2024, Turkey.

Our Performance Advisory Group directs our overall strategy for elite performance with the aim of delivering podium success at European and World level and the Deaflympics.

Unlike other disabilities, elite deaf athletes continue to be neither recognised nor supported by the Government. UKDS have requested a policy change that would see parity for elite deaf athletes in line with their Olympic and Paralympic counterparts. Work in this area has included UKDS submitting an evidence-based proposal (developed by Wharton Consulting) to Government detailing what a sustainable deaf sport performance ecosystem could look like, and an estimate of the funding required to implement this and send a GB Team to the Deaflympics in Tokyo in 2025. £3m has been requested over four years (0.5% of the budget of UK Sport). Discussions with the Department for Digital Media, Culture and Sport have continued throughout 2022-23 to end this discrimination against elite deaf athletes and are still continuing in 2023-24.

Financial Review

The charity has been successful in delivering activities to support the participation of the deaf community in sport and physical activity primarily through funding from Sport England. The result for the year shows a surplus of £143,751 (2022: £62,500 deficit).

Restricted funds stand at £155,394, with a surplus in general reserves of £28,089.

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It is the Reserves Policy of the charity to have unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use at a level equivalent to three month's immediate closure expenditure. The trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised or if necessary, support a managed closedown. This level of reserves has not yet been achieved and efforts are continuing to secure funding to be able to meet this level of reserves.

Principal Sources of Income

The principal source of income for the year has been the System Partner funding awarded by Sport England. Additionally, Sport England has funded the Women and Girls Project, See My Voice and Together Fund. Funding from Comic Relief has supported the development of our Deaf People's Inclusion in Sport online training and Marketing and Communications Strategy and Action Plan.

Risk Assessment

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed. A Risk Management Strategy and comprehensive Risk Register is in place which clearly identifies the major risks facing the charity. It describes and evaluates the steps to be taken to manage and mitigate those risks and provides an action plan to address any improvements required. The Finance, Audit, Risk and Governance Committee lead and advise the UKDS Board on this area of work.

Our Future Plans for 2023-2024

Throughout 2022-23, UKDS continued with mainly online delivery to inspire and support deaf people to be active. Our key plans for 2023-24 include:

- Continuing our discussions with DCMS and work needed to end the discrimination against elite deaf athletes.
- Reviewing and relaunching a new UKDS Membership offer.
- Introducing new criteria for recognising National Deaf Governing Bodies.
- Implementing a new survey to provide further detailed insight on the participation of the deaf community in sport and physical activity including intersectionality factors.
- Implementing a new Stakeholder Satisfaction Survey.
- Strengthening our relationship and partnership working with the Activity Alliance and the other National Disability Sports Organisations.
- Securing commercial partnerships and sponsorship to grow the organisation and ensure financial sustainability.
- Setting up a Deaflympics Organising Committee to develop our plans for the Deaflympics in 2025.
- Developing a new International Strategy to strengthen our position on the World stage and support developments in international deaf sport governance.

Our plans to extend our reach and impact in 2023-2024 are challenging but will help ensure that more deaf people participate in sport throughout their lives and more deaf athletes perform on the world stage.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees, who are also the directors of UKDS for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees, to prepare accounts for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these accounts the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

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The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure the accounts have been properly prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The Directors have taken advantage of section 477(2) of the Companies Act 2006 which exempts the company from the requirement to have the accounts audited.

The Company is required to have an Independent Examination in accordance with the provisions in the Charities Act 2011. Accordingly, Ian Stacey FCA, of Kings CAP Ltd, Chartered Accountants, was appointed Independent Examiner.

By Order of the Board:



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Mr P A R Martin

Trustee and Director

Date: 17 October 2023

Independent Examiner's Report

To The Trustees of UK DEAF SPORT

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of UK Deaf Sport

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2023, charity number 1158878, company number 08611744 which are set out on pages 10 to 18.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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 accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

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

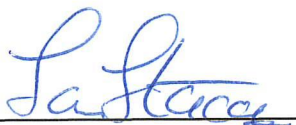
Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe 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 accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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

Signed



Ian Stacey FCA
Kings Chartered Accountants
Unit 4 Grovelands
Boundary Way
Hemel Hempstead
Hertfordshire
HP2 7TE

Date

17 October 2023

UK DEAF SPORT

Statement of Financial Activities

For the year ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	2023 Unrestricted Funds £	2023 Restricted Funds £	2023 Total Funds £	2022 Unrestricted Funds £	2022 Restricted Funds £	2022 Total Funds £
Incoming resources from:							
Donations and legacies	2	3,819	-	3,819	55	-	55
Charitable activities	3	2,000	440,492	442,492	1,876	235,667	237,543
Total Incoming Resources		<u>5,819</u>	<u>440,492</u>	<u>446,311</u>	<u>1,931</u>	<u>235,667</u>	<u>237,598</u>
Resources expended from:							
Costs of charitable activities	4	(6,961)	(295,599)	(302,560)	(3,533)	(296,565)	(300,098)
Total resources expended		<u>(6,961)</u>	<u>(295,599)</u>	<u>(302,560)</u>	<u>(3,533)</u>	<u>(296,565)</u>	<u>(300,098)</u>
Net movements in funds	11 & 12	(1,142)	144,893	143,751	(1,602)	(60,898)	(62,500)
Total Surplus at 1 April 2022		23,208	16,524	39,732	24,112	78,120	102,232
Transfer between funds		6,023	(6,023)	-	698	(698)	-
Total Surplus at 31 March 2023		<u>28,089</u>	<u>155,394</u>	<u>183,483</u>	<u>23,208</u>	<u>16,524</u>	<u>39,732</u>

The Statement of Financial Activities has been prepared on the basis that all operations are continuing operations.

UK DEAF SPORT

Balance Sheet

As at 31 March 2023

	Notes	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets					
Tangible Assets	8		604		1,122
			<u>604</u>		<u>1,122</u>
Current Assets					
Debtors	9	2,141		4,298	
Cash at bank and in hand		188,832		72,400	
		<u>190,973</u>		<u>76,698</u>	
Creditors:					
Amounts falling due within one year	10	(8,094)		(38,088)	
		<u></u>		<u></u>	
Net Current Assets			182,879		38,610
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities			<u>183,483</u>		<u>39,732</u>
Net Assets			<u>183,483</u>		<u>39,732</u>
Funds of the Charity					
Restricted Funds	12		155,394		16,524
Unrestricted Funds	11		28,089		23,208
Total Charity Funds			<u>183,483</u>		<u>39,732</u>

The company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for:

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

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on ...17 October 2023. and were signed on its behalf by:

P. Mark

.....
Mr P A R Martin – Trustee and Director

The notes on pages 14 to 18 form part of these accounts.

UK DEAF SPORT

Notes forming part of the Accounts

For the year ended 31 March 2023

1 Principal Accounting Policies

Company Information

UK Deaf Sport is a private charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England & Wales. The registered office is at Unit 4 Grovelands, Boundary Way, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, England, HP2 7TE.

Accounting Convention

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with; the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and Charities Act 2011. The accounts include the results of the company's operations, which are described in the Trustees' Annual Report, all of which are continuing. The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

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

Going Concern

The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis which assumes that the charitable company will continue to operate for the foreseeable future. The Trustees and Directors consider that the available reserves and the availability of continued financial support, including securing funding for a five-year term from Sport England from 1 April 2022, will ensure the required working capital be in place for the company to continue operations for the foreseeable future. This is based on the Trustees and Directors opinion that the activity will continue to grow with increased publicity and support of their charitable activities.

Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the company is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Income from charitable trading activities is recognised when the related goods and services have been completed and dispatched.

Income from grants and other donations which are of a voluntary nature are recognised when the charitable company has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date and receipt is probable. Grants received for future accounting periods are deferred.

Income from grants, and similar income where conditions for payment are linked to performance, are recognised to the extent that the charity has met the conditions.

Income from donated facilities is recognised when the charitable company utilises the facilities with the fair value being recognised as incoming resources and expended resources simultaneously, as appropriate.

Resources Expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis, recognised when a liability is incurred, and classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

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

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are basic financial assets and include cash in hand and deposits held with banks.

Basic Financial Assets

Basic financial assets, which include bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction cost and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

UK DEAF SPORT

Notes forming part of the Accounts

For the year ended 31 March 2023

4 Resources Expended: Charitable Activities

	Sport England £	Comic Relief £	See My Voice £	Tackling Inequalities £	London Sport £	Together Funds £	Other £	2023 £	2022 £
Staff costs	128,652	58	9,418				108	138,236	178,176
Research and partnership	7,977							7,977	415
Training								-	1,982
Website and IT costs	6,066							6,066	5,066
Travelling costs								-	643
Interpreters	14,991	1,530		540	168	720		17,949	15,334
Support services	48,464						450	48,914	43,513
Affiliations and subscriptions							2,166	2,166	
Other charitable expenditure	3,154	3,512		18,552	8,200	38,348	7,686	79,452	5,748
Independent examiner's fees	1,800							1,800	47,421
	<u>211,104</u>	<u>5,100</u>	<u>9,418</u>	<u>19,092</u>	<u>8,368</u>	<u>39,068</u>	<u>10,410</u>	<u>302,560</u>	<u>300,098</u>

5 Net movement in funds:

Net movement in funds is stated after charging:

	2023 £	2022 £
Independent Examiner's remuneration	<u>1,800</u>	<u>1,800</u>

6 Trustees

A Trustee, Mrs L Lill (through Global Active Ltd) was remunerated in her capacity as a part time consultant to undertake some of the duties of the Executive Director role for the charity from September 2021 to August 2022 as approved by The Board and in accordance with the charity's memorandum and articles of association and governing document. As agreed by The Board the remuneration was agreed at £500 per day which was considered appropriate for the nature of the role and level of skill involved.

None of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year in their capacity as Trustees.

UK DEAF SPORT

Notes forming part of the Accounts

For the year ended 31 March 2023

7 Employees

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

	2023 Number	2022 Number
Administrative staff	4	6
	<u>4</u>	<u>6</u>

The aggregate remuneration comprised:

	2023 £	2022 £
Salaries	91,816	120,256
Social security costs	3,494	6,729
Pension costs	2,743	3,251
Contractors and Chair fees	40,183	47,940
	<u>138,236</u>	<u>178,176</u>

No individual employee's total benefits exceeded £60,000 during the year (2022: None).

8 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Office Equipment £
Cost	
As at 1 April 2022	1,553
Additions in the year	-
At 31 March 2023	<u>1,553</u>
Depreciation	
As at 1 April 2022	431
Charge for the year	518
At 31 March 2023	<u>949</u>
Net book value	
At 31 March 2023	<u>604</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>1,122</u>

9 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	-	2,474
Other debtors and prepayments	2,141	1,824
	<u>2,141</u>	<u>4,298</u>

UK DEAF SPORT

Notes forming part of the Accounts

For the year ended 31 March 2023

10	Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	2023 £	2022 £
	Trade Creditors	3,689	34,754
	Other Creditors	2,204	874
	Accruals	2,201	2,460
		<u>8,094</u>	<u>38,088</u>

11 Unrestricted Funds

	At 1 April 2022 £	Transfer between funds	Net Movement in Funds £	As at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted Funds – General Fund	23,208	6,023	(1,142)	28,089

12 Restricted Funds

	At 1 April 2022 £	Transfer between funds	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2023 £
Sport England	(33,437)	4,000	305,368	(211,049)	64,882
Together Fund – Final Phase			74,296	(2,220)	72,076
Comic Relief	4,383		7,220	(5,100)	6,503
Together Fund – Phase 4		(4,600)	46,000	(36,848)	4,552
Ringfenced Reserves		5,570			5,570
Women & Girls Project	9,757	(6,757)		(3,000)	-
Tackling Inequalities	24,116	(4,970)		(19,146)	-
London Sport	10,454			(8,643)	1,811
Dan Maskell	1,100		(1,100)		-
See My Voice	-	710	8,708	(9,418)	-
International Competitions	151	24	-	(175)	-
	16,524	(6,023)	440,492	(295,599)	155,394

13 Called up share capital

The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. Under the provisions of the company's memorandum of association, each member would be required to contribute a sum not exceeding £1 for the payment of debts of the company in the event of a deficiency of assets on a winding up of the company.

14 Control

The charity has been controlled throughout the year by the trustees, whom are identified in the company information.

15 Transactions with Trustees and Related Parties

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from employment with the Charity or any related entity, unless otherwise disclosed.