

Access Bedford
Unaudited Financial Statements
31 March 2024

Access Bedford
Financial Statements
Year ended 31 March 2024

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Access Bedford
Trustees' Annual Report
Year ended 31 March 2024

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Access Bedford
Charity registration number	1162947
Principal office	40 Kimbolton Road Bedford Beds MK40 2NR

The trustees

Mrs R James	(Appointed 3 May 2023)
Mrs H Bolton	
Mrs C Wright	
Mrs E McAllister	(Resigned 20 May 2023)

Structure, governance and management

Access Bedford is a deaf-lead unincorporated charity managed by a board of trustees with the assistance of a part-time paid charity manager and a volunteer committee. The committee is made up of deaf and hard of hearing individuals from the Bedfordshire area whom have a wealth of relevant experience and help the trustees understand the needs of the local deaf community in order to determine the services on offer.

Objectives and activities

The objectives of the charity are to empower the local deaf community, reduce local isolation and improve physical and mental wellbeing through events, support, training and the provision of free access to qualified interpreters. We also aim to improve inclusivity within Bedford by working with individuals and service providers in the hearing community, to improve deaf awareness and understanding through training, education and the creation of inclusive events and activities.

Access Bedford

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Achievements and performance

Access Bedford has been a dedicated champion for change, inclusion, and equality for the deaf and hard of hearing community for over a decade. We address the marginalisation and discrimination faced by deaf individuals in all aspects of life within our region. Through our Deaf Space Support provision, we regularly work with families in the local area, providing support in all areas of life, from booking travel and job seeking to accessing health care and filing HMRC tax returns.

We continue to work with any relevant, appropriate, and engaged partners from all sectors to open doors, remove barriers, and empower our community to thrive. By leveraging these collaborations and referral processes, Access Bedford ensures that our community receives comprehensive and effective support, enhancing their quality of life and promoting inclusively.

Our deaf-led fitness club continues to thrive and helps improve the physical and mental wellbeing of our deaf community and also promotes inclusion through welcoming hearing people to the activities.

The Deaf Space service provides information, advice and guidance (IAG) through the provision of free IAG support workers and interpreters.

We are working with hearing parents of deaf children to support and encourage families to learn BSL and empower deaf children to access their primary language. Through funding received from The Harpur Trust, we have set up a funded Family BSL course, providing free BSL classes to the hearing families with children.

We continue to deliver BSL Courses & Deaf Awareness training in schools, hospitals, fire services, hospices, local government and to all GP clinical and non-clinical staff across Bedford.

We have received funding to provide wellbeing and information events focusing on sexual health, diabetes, mental wellbeing, and fitness. Through these sessions, we will develop partnerships with organisations such as iCash, Bedford Diabetes, Diabetes UK, Ceroc Dancing, DeeSigns Foundation and Healthwatch Bedford Borough. We have additional partners scheduled for the upcoming year.

Financial review

The charity's activities continue to extend as a result of increases in funding obtained. Future plans include making a substantial funding application to the National Lottery which, if approved, will expand our staffed team to support the charity to grow and become sustainable into the next decade. The funding application will include a move to permanent premises offering Access Bedford a home and allowing us to continue to provide services to support and empower our deaf service users

Access Bedford

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Trustees' responsibilities statement

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, of the charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the Trust Deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 18th December 2024 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



Mrs H Bolton
Trustee

Access Bedford

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Access Bedford

Year ended 31 March 2024

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Access Bedford ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

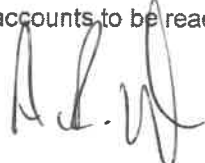
I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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



Andrew Upton FCCA
Independent Examiner

19th December 2024

Access Bedford
Statement of Financial Activities
Year ended 31 March 2024

		2024	2023		
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	4	20,516	6,019	26,535	31,575
Total income		20,516	6,019	26,535	31,575
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities	5,6	25,145	4,058	29,203	19,241
Total expenditure		25,145	4,058	29,203	19,241
Net (expenditure)/income and net movement in funds					
		(4,629)	1,961	(2,668)	12,334
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		17,649	3,865	21,514	9,180
Total funds carried forward		13,020	5,826	18,846	21,514

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 7 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

Access Bedford
Statement of Financial Position
31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		18,846	21,514
Net current assets		18,846	21,514
Total assets less current liabilities		18,846	21,514
 Funds of the charity			
Restricted funds		5,826	3,865
Unrestricted funds		13,020	17,649
Total charity funds	10	18,846	21,514

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on ~~18th December 2024~~ and are signed on behalf of the board by:



Mrs H Bolton
Trustee



Mrs R James
Trustee

The notes on pages 7 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

Access Bedford

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2024

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a registered charity in England and Wales and is unincorporated. The address of the principal office is 40 Kimbolton Road, Bedford, MK40 2NR.

2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the 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) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Charities Act 2011.

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

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

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.

Access Bedford

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are 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.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity 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.

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

Access Bedford

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Financial instruments *(continued)*

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

4. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Grants			
Grants and donations receivable	<u>20,516</u>	<u>6,019</u>	<u>26,535</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Grants			
Grants and donations receivable	<u>28,405</u>	<u>3,170</u>	<u>31,575</u>

Access Bedford

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

5. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Support costs	<u>25,145</u>	<u>4,058</u>	<u>29,203</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Support costs	<u>16,751</u>	<u>2,490</u>	<u>19,241</u>

6. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Total funds 2024 £	Total fund 2023 £
Support costs	<u>29,203</u>	<u>29,203</u>	<u>19,241</u>

7. Independent examination fees

	2024 £	2023 £
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>120</u>	<u>—</u>

8. Staff costs

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

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

9. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No salaries were paid to any of the trustees although interpreter and translation fees totalling £2,095 (2023 - £655) were paid to Mrs H Bolton.

Access Bedford

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

10. Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	At
	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>17,649</u>	<u>20,516</u>	<u>(25,145)</u>	<u>13,020</u>

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	At
	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>5,995</u>	<u>28,405</u>	<u>(16,751)</u>	<u>17,649</u>

Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	At
	£	£	£	£
Restricted Fund 1 - NHS Bedfordshire CCG	3,185	–	(1,032)	2,153
Restricted Fund 2 - Together Fund	–	1,758	(1,758)	–
Restricted Fund 3 - Deaf Coffee Club	680	1,128	(792)	1,016
Restricted fund 4 - Family signing	<u>–</u>	<u>3,133</u>	<u>(476)</u>	<u>2,657</u>
	<u>3,865</u>	<u>6,019</u>	<u>(4,058)</u>	<u>5,826</u>

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	At
	£	£	£	£
Restricted Fund 1 - NHS Bedfordshire CCG	3,185	–	–	3,185
Restricted Fund 2 - Together Fund	–	2,490	(2,490)	–
Restricted Fund 3 - Deaf Coffee Club	–	680	–	680
Restricted fund 4 - Family signing	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>
	<u>3,185</u>	<u>3,170</u>	<u>(2,490)</u>	<u>3,865</u>

Access Bedford

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

10. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

NHS Bedfordshire CCG

Grant monies were received from the NHS to provide translation of English to British sign language on videos to be used on their social media channels to provide access for the deaf community.

Together Fund - UK Deaf Sport

This fund represents grant monies received from Sport England to provide taster activity sessions for the deaf community to take part in.

Deaf Coffee Club

Funding was provided from various sources to provide space for the deaf community to meet and socialise and to provide social activities for the group.

Family Signing

Grant monies received will enable the 12-month project to deliver monthly face to face classes to families of deaf children aged 0-6. The Sessions will be open to parents and up to 2 other primary carers for each child, with a maximum of 5 children per class.

11. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Current assets	<u>13,020</u>	<u>5,826</u>	<u>18,846</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Current assets	<u>17,649</u>	<u>3,865</u>	<u>21,514</u>

Access Bedford
Management Information
Year ended 31 March 2024

The following pages do not form part of the financial statements.

Access Bedford

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 March 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
Income and endowments		
Donations and legacies		
Grants and donations receivable	26,535	31,575
Total income	<u>26,535</u>	<u>31,575</u>
Expenditure		
Expenditure on charitable activities		
Interpreter & translation fee	4,312	6,894
Purchases	3,100	3,771
Instructor fees	4,005	1,735
Room hire	2,915	1,364
Training costs	2,019	224
Administration support	10,494	2,250
Insurance	227	188
Printing, postage & stationery	103	243
Travelling costs	57	270
Accountancy	386	913
Subscription	396	216
Computer costs	240	421
Telephone	170	—
Website costs	779	545
Sundries	—	207
	<u>29,203</u>	<u>19,241</u>
Total expenditure	<u>29,203</u>	<u>19,241</u>
Net (expenditure)/income	<u>(2,668)</u>	<u>12,334</u>