



TOUCHSTONES CHILD BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2023

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER 1168091
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE REGISTRATION NUMBER 07858769

TOUCHSTONES CHILD BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT
(a company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2023

COMPANY INFORMATION:

Registered Charity Number:	1168091
Company Registration no:	07858769 (England and Wales)
Trustees:	Wendy Townsend Lee Frances Wedgbury Sharon Forrest Star-Louise Robbins Dr. Adele David (Appointed – 27/11/23) Victoria Quarton (Clinical Lead) Robert Quarton
Registered Office:	5 Church Lane Cookhill Alcester Warwickshire B49 5JS
Bankers:	HSBC UK Church Green West Redditch Worcestershire B97 4EA
Independent Examiner:	
Website	http://touchstones-support.org.uk

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TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2023 (cont.)

The trustees, who are also directors of the charitable company for the purposes of the Companies Act, submit their annual report and the financial statements for the year ended 30 November 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP): Accounting and Reporting by Charities (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (in delivering community benefit)

The charity's objects are set out in the Company's Memorandum and Articles of Association and are:

To relieve the mental, and physical sickness of children and young people resident in North East Worcestershire suffering from bereavement or loss by the provision of counselling and support for such persons.

Arising from this, Touchstones Child Bereavement Support's mission is to help the children cope with the pain of their bereavement, to reduce their isolation and to enable them to develop strategies to move forward with hope, such that their emotional, social and educational development is not impeded and that they are not disadvantaged by their loss. Our work directly improves young people's mental health, wellbeing and safety and is both supportive and preventative.

Touchstones works with children and young people aged 5-21 years old, who have suffered the loss of a mum or dad, brother or sister, grandparent, friend or any other significant person in their lives. Touchstones delivers a completely free programme of bespoke one to one support for any child or young person living in or attending school in any part of North East Worcestershire. Our referrals predominately come via Children Services, GPs, CAMHS and particularly from schools observing children with deteriorating behaviour, performance and attendance. Many of the children we see are at risk of exclusion, of failing in their education or failing in their social interactions/ friendships - with many also suffering severe psychological bullying and isolation.

Each child receives as many one-to-one sessions as they need to get to as good a place as possible, and on average this is around eight. In these sessions, feelings of guilt, anger and confusion/ misunderstanding, are explored, as well as strategies to deal with sadness and anxiety about the future. Children have assessment scores at the start and end of support which show great improvement, and which is also reported by families and schools as well.

Touchstones also runs group Memory and Feeling Days, where children and young people meet and get to share challenges, fun and feelings with other children who have had a similar life-changing loss, and begin to realise that they are not alone, strange, or different. This sharing is transformational, and years later, children and young people who have attended one of these days, often talk about it being a turning point in their lives.

Additional to the direct work with, and support of the referred children and young people Touchstones also offers advice and training to families, carers and professionals, including;

- advice to families and schools on how to support young people through bereavement, including pre-school children who are best supported by their own family

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TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2023 (cont.)

- training packages, tailored to the needs of individual schools
- advice and support to schools in the event of a sudden death in the school community

The support is provided at no cost to any user – thereby enabling full accessibility to anyone in the community. Given that most of our referrals come from schools, the service is available to all their children. Those who are often hard to reach by other organisations and services are regularly amongst those who receive service. Such families are often wary of engaging with statutory bodies like Children's Services and schools, but welcome support from an independent agency. Consequently, many referrals come from areas and families with greater than average levels of social deprivation.

Service is initiated when a referral is received from schools, GPs, Children's Services, school nurse, CAMHS and families themselves. On occasions children refer themselves because they know they need help, but their family is not coping.

The key elements of the service journey/ provision are:

1. Referral management
2. Initial assessment – with guardian/ carer and child contacts
3. One to One counselling support – usually within School
4. Group Memory, Feelings and Activity Days

There is an initial assessment visit at home with the guardian/carers to evaluate the child's needs and offer immediate advice and support. An appropriate support pathway is then decided on which will probably be one to one support, but a referral to other services may be made where they appear appropriate.

This is followed by a brief 'tea stop' to allow the child/young person to meet with the support provider.

Contact will then be made with the school to gather information about the child's coping ability at school and to arrange a date for the commencement of support which is generally provided in the school setting. School has been found to be the most successful place for one-to-one sessions as young people can be sure that they are not being heard by a carer listening at the door and their session is contained within the boundaries of the school timetable which is helpful. At the end of the session, 10 minutes of recovery time can be given if necessary, and then the distractions of a normal school day carry the child forward. However, for some young people, home is the most suitable place, and in these instances, sessions are given at home.

Support within the one-to-one sessions is tailored to the age and the needs of the child, with greater or lesser amounts of talking, worksheets, craft, stories etc.

Additional to the one-to-one support, Touchstones also run group Memory and Feelings Days with around 20 children / young people at a time. The benefits of bringing young people together are great as it helps them realise that they are 'normal' and not alone. Experienced, trained volunteers from within the local community staff these days which are a transforming experience for the young people involved.

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The organisational outcomes for Touchstones are all based on the professionally recognised Childhood Bereavement Network (CBN) Outcome Framework – these being:

- a) *The improved emotional and mental well-being of the bereaved young people, with the attendant improvement in their physical health.*
- b) *Improved school attendance/concentration/participation*
- c) *Raised levels of self-esteem (which is usually damaged through bereavement), including identifying and helping to stop any bereavement bullying that has occurred.*
- d) *Reduced feelings of isolation*
- e) *Improved levels of self-care. Bereaved young people often fail to care for themselves properly and may exhibit problems with eating/sleeping/drinking/self-harming. They may even have thoughts about wanting to die to be with their loved one. Also reduced drinking of alcohol and likelihood of other addictions*
- f) *Improved family relationships with families able to share their pain and grieve together, rather than as individuals which leaves children isolated and alone.*
- g) *A decrease in fear and a greater hope in their future for young people, so that they can move forward in confidence*

The main Bereavement Clinical lead has 17 years of experience in this field. She has completed a research project for the University of Nottingham on how best to support children after parental suicide - as part of her now completed MA in Counselling Children & Young People.

OPERATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

During the period between 1st December 2022 and 30th November 2023 Touchstones received 137 new referrals for work with children and young people all of whom either reside or attend schools or colleges in North-East Worcestershire. Many of these referrals involve more than one child impacted by a bereavement. During this review period we worked in over 80% of all the First, Middle and Secondary schools in the catchment area.

The children referred to Touchstones receive different levels of support depending on their specific needs. Being non-statutory, means we can be child-led, and tailor our support package to each individual. For some, it may be sufficient to provide telephone support and guidance to the parent/carer. However, the majority have gone on to receive more support, starting with an assessment visit in the home, when more support to the carer is also given. Usually this leads to a bespoke package of one-to-one support for the child, which normally means fortnightly one-to-one sessions in school. The engagement will be for a varying length of time as the need is always child led and the service is tailored to the needs of each individual child. Even within a family, different children will often require support for varying lengths of time.

In the review period, referrals covered the full age range of 5 years to 21 years of age. We find that children below school age are unused to working with strangers, so rather than conducting one to one support, we help parents to find ways to support their young children. Nearly all our young

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people are of school age, but in this period, we did support a small number of young adults that were still very vulnerable and assesses to potentially benefit from the service offering.

We held our usual Touchstones Feeling and Memory Days in April and October when we brought bereaved young people together for days of sharing fun, exploring feelings and honouring memories. We were also able to hold our much-loved Lantern Walk in December, where families supported by us, together with many others from across the local communities, were so grateful to be able to gather again before Christmas.

Key Data

The loss of a parent remains the primary cause of referral during the period, with grandparental death also extremely high. For Touchstones, whether children receive support is determined by their need and bereavement problems rather than by the person who died. In some families, the death of a grandparent is catastrophic, as they may be acting in a parental role, or may just be holding the family together. Without them things fracture, and children struggle. The same can be true for aunts and uncles.

The number of suicides never ceases to shock and sadden us, and it remains the main cause of death this year.

We find that we have become the local service of choice for support for children following a sudden and traumatic death. Our clinical lead made this the subject of her research project for her MA degree because the impact on a family is immense and the complicated grief issues that often follow makes supporting these families a longer term and more challenging task. children we support.

Outcomes and Feedback

That the children benefit hugely from support is undeniable, but this is difficult to fully quantify. We see children change from initially finding some relief for their pain to becoming able to integrate their loss into their lives and feel hopeful about the future. However, many of our children have multiple other problems in their lives as they come from families with varying levels of deprivation and recognising that we cannot change everything is hard to accept but essential. However, they are all in a much better place when we conclude our work with them.

To quantify support, and to help us understand where they are so that we can better help them, all children complete a basic self-assessment in the first and last sessions. They score a whole number of factors / emotions and problems out of ten – with 10 being the worst score – so the higher the total the more troubled they are.

Additionally, we also collect direct feedback and comments from children, families and professionals that also validates our service, and is continually used to assess and seek improvements.

Future Operational Plans

Mid-term operational plans are focussed on maintaining the level, content and quality of the service provision that is currently offered to all those who call upon our service across North-East Worcestershire. As part of this focus, consideration continues to be given to the potential of increasing the counselling resource to match a growing referral rate, and to prevent the development of excessive waiting times for clients, together with seeking to build-in some potential for succession planning.

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FINANCIAL REVIEW

Touchstones had an operating surplus of £11,573 for the year ending November 30th 2023, compared to a surplus of £14,395 in 2022.

Total income for the year was £55,287 (2022 £59,066).

Touchstones' service offering is provided completely free of charge, and consequently all income is raised through voluntary donations, including a mixture of grants, fundraising events, sponsorship from individuals, community organisation and local companies.

The principal sources of income during the year were;

- Donations from supporters and fundraisers of £28,287 (2022 £16,633)
- Grants of £27,000 (2022 £33,200)
- Organisation led fundraising was £0 – as there was no internally managed Charity Ball within year. In 2022 this was £9,233

One-off donations were received from many individuals and supporters. £3,416 of income was also received through regular monthly donations.

Grants were received from;

- The Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management (ICCM),
- OpenWorks

Touchstones is profoundly grateful to all the numerous businesses, organisations and many individuals that generously provide these vital funds.

Total expenditure for the year was £43,714 (2022 £44,671)

The principal items of expenditure were;

- Staff costs of £20,000 (2022 £20,000)
- Contracted service provision costs of £17,323 (2021 17,155)
- Memory Days and general craft / supporting materials £3,486 (2022 £943)
- Operating Costs - including insurance, subscriptions, and accounting fees of £1886 (2022 £2,009)
- Administration and fundraising – including telephone, computing, and printing costs of £590 (2022 £4,540)

Touchstones had net assets at year-end of £72,357, which is an increase of £11, 573 from £60,784 at 30th November 2022.

As of 30th November 2023, there were no monies in restricted funds.

The trustees have set Touchstones' reserve policy based on the Charity Commission's guidance (CC19) and accounting standards (SOP 2005). The trustees' reserve policy is to aim to ensure long term sustainability of the service offering, and therefore aims to achieve unrestricted operational reserves that represents at least twelve months' worth of expenditure. Based upon the current and forecast expenditure, it is therefore the view of the trustees' that this requirement is met, and that it is appropriate to draw up these accounts on the going concern basis.

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STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, originally incorporated as a Community Interest Company on 23 November 2011 – and named Touchstones Support CIC.

The charity was re-established under a Memorandum of Association which confirmed the objects and powers of a charitable company on 10 June 2016 and is now governed under its Articles of Association. Its name was changed at that point to Touchstones Child Bereavement Support.

The company was registered as a charity on 7 July 2016.

The trustees of the charity are also directors for the purpose of company law, and are appointed by invitation of the existing trustees, subject to a satisfactory interview, suitability, and Enhanced DBS checks. Each trustee is fully committed to the aims of Touchstones and the importance of its work within the local communities it serves.

As part of trustee induction, new trustees attend training in order to understand the general roles and responsibilities of a trustee, the articles of association and governance model for Touchstones, and the specific operational values, principles, practices and culture of the charity. As part of their induction, new trustees would also be expected to attend some appropriate part of a Touchstones Memory and Feelings Day

Governance of the charity is vested in the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees meets at least two times per year as per the Charity's Articles of Association. The charity trustees are responsible for the general control and management of the charity. The trustees ensure the charity is well run, spends its income wisely and appropriately, and meets all company and charity requirements.

Day-to-day management and operations are delegated to the (employed) Clinical Lead Director, the sub-contracted staff member, and the (volunteer) Business Lead – all under the supervision of the trustees.

Robert Quarton and Victoria Quarton have held office as Company Directors during the whole period since the Company was incorporated as a CIC on 23 November 2011 and Wendy Townsend since 20 April 2015.

Wendy Townsend, Fran Wedgbury and Sharon Forrest have held the position of Charity Trustees from 7 July 2016. These appointments were made on the conversion of Touchstones Support CIC to this current Charitable Company. Star-Louise Robbins was appointed as a Trustee on 13th July 2021. Wendy Townsend and Star-Louise Robbins are also bereavement support volunteers for the charity. Dr Adele David was appointed a trustee in November 2023. Adele has been a longstanding volunteer for Touchstones, providing bereavement support on our Touchstones Memory and Feelings Days. Adele has a Doctorate in Clinical Psychology and is experienced in many therapeutic models, including CFT (Compassion Focused Therapy), CBT (Cognitive Behavioural Therapy), EMDR (Eye Movement Desensitisation and Reprocessing) and ACT (Acceptance and Commitment Therapy) – we are so grateful to have Adele join the Board of Trustees.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2023 (cont.)

All trustees and company directors (other than Victoria Quarton as the employed principal bereavement services provider) give their time voluntarily and received no paid benefits from the charity. Any expenses reclaimed from the charity are set out in the notes to the accounts.

Volunteers

Touchstones has a group of around 17 experienced and dedicated volunteers that are an intrinsic part of the offering that Touchstones can deliver – particularly on the Memory and Feelings Days. We are constantly amazed by the skill in which these volunteers work with, and massively assist many of our children and young people on their bereavement journey. We are immensely proud of our volunteers, and so grateful for their commitment, enthusiasm, and skill.

Our volunteers are adults from all backgrounds and ages. Most have their own bereavement experiences. The volunteers have been recruited through contact with our service as professionals or families, and from our sister organisations and Samaritans. We are delighted that several of the current volunteer cohort are adults who have previously been children and young people who have been through the Touchstones service offering – now bringing with them the unique perspective of 'being on the other side of the service offering'.

All volunteers have enhanced DBS checks. Most volunteers are highly experienced, but we also have some new and generally younger volunteers too. and within the team we also have an experienced worker with challenging children, a PhD qualified psychologist, and several teachers.

All new volunteers undertake training to familiarise them with an understanding of child bereavement and grief, and on the operating principles and practices of the charity, and specifically on the Touchstones Memory and Feelings Day, and on the key role of the volunteer within these days.

Volunteers are key to running Touchstones Memory and Feelings Days, as we need high adult/child ratios to ensure a great experience and safety for these vulnerable children. Volunteers' key characteristic is their ability to get alongside children, but they also need careful training plus a level of personal emotional resilience.

Our volunteers are passionate about what they do, knowing how transformational these days are for children. They count it as a great privilege to do this work and they are brilliant at it. It takes unusual strength and sensitivity to support a small crying child, without trying to stop them shedding those vital tears.

The volunteers also help run the annual Lantern Walk of Remembrance and other occasional fund-raising or educational activities as they choose. Touchstones provides volunteers with refresher and development training, to ensure they are always properly equipped to deliver their important role.

Supervision

Supervision is required for all employed and freelance staff. The permanent bereavement lead has regular supervision with a BACP Supervisor. Sub-contracting staff have supervision meetings with the Bereavement Director

Following each Touchstones Memory and Feelings Days, the volunteers have debriefing and supervision meetings with the bereavement lead.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2023 (cont.)

Networking/ professional bodies

Touchstones Child Bereavement Support is a member organisation of BACP (The British Association of Counsellors and Psychotherapy).

Touchstones is also a member of the Childhood Bereavement Network (CBN) which links us into a national network of professionals working with bereaved children and young people, and provides access to information updates, key resources, support and other networking opportunities.

Touchstones has also developed many effective networks and relationships with similar bereavement organisations in neighbouring areas.

Locally, we work alongside/with numerous professionals – including CAMHS, Children's Services, Early Help, Family Support Workers, schools, and GPs to ensure joined up support for children. These links enable us to reach as wide a range of bereaved children as we can. Additionally, we support these other professionals with bereavement, grief and trauma training, and we refer back to them when children require additional support with non-bereavement issues. We are often contributors to multi-disciplinary support meetings like Child in Need meetings.

Touchstones are members of BARN (Bromsgrove and Redditch Network for voluntary sector organisations) and we have taken advantage of numerous training / development courses provided by them.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2023 (cont.)

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also directors for the purpose of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and UK Accounting Standards.

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

In preparation of these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the charities SORP
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures and explained in the financial statements and
- Prepare the accounts on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume the charity will continue its activities.

The trustees are responsible for ensuring proper accounting records are kept that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to comply with the Companies Act 2006. 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.

This report has been prepared in accordance with The Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and in accordance with the special provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

This report was approved by the trustees on 10th July 2024 and signed on their behalf by



Sharon Forrest
Trustee

TOUCHSTONES CHILD BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT
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**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE
TRUSTEES OF TOUCHSTONES CHILD BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT**

I report to the trustees (who are also Directors for the purpose of company law) on my examination of the financial statements of Touchstones Child Bereavement Support ('the charitable company') for the year ended 30 November 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in this report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for my work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of charitable company, 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 charitable company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charitable company's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('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 2011 Act.

An independent examination does not involve gathering all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently does not cover all the matters that an auditor considers in giving their opinion on the financial statements. The planning and conduct of an audit goes beyond the limited assurance that an independent examination can provide. Consequently, I express no opinion as to whether the financial statements present a 'true and fair' view and my report is limited to those specific matters set out in the independent examiner's statement.

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:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the charitable company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the financial statements give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or

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**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF TOUCHSTONES CHILD
BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT - continued**

- 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 financial statements to be reached.

Name / Details

Robert Stephen Williams ACIB

15 Ridge View Drive
Birkby
HUDDERSFIELD
HD2 2EX

Signature.....



Date.....

19TH JULY 2024

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**DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2023**

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds- 2023	Prior year - 2022
		£	£	£	£
Income					
Donations		28,287		28,287	16,633
Grants	Note 2	27,000		27,000	33,200
Charitable Activity		-		-	-
Fundraising		0		0	9,233
Total		55,287		55,287	59,066
Expenditure					
Charitable Activities	Note 3	41,238		41,238	38,122
Operating Costs	Note 4	1,886		1,886	2,009
Administration	Note 5	590		590	4,540
Total		43,714		43,714	44,671
Net income for the reporting period		11,573		11,573	14,395

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BALANCE SHEET
30 NOVEMBER 2023

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Total this year - 2023 £	Total last year - 2022 £
Current assets				
Cash at bank and in hand (Note 7)	72,357	-	72,357	60,784
Prepayments	0		0	0
Total current assets	72,357	-	72,357	60,784
Less Current liabilities				
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (Note 8)	0	-	0	0
Net current assets	72,357	-	72,357	60,784
Funds of the Charity				
Net income this reporting period	11,573	-	11,573	14,385
Retained income brought forward	60,784	-	60,784	46,389
Total funds	72,357	-	72,357	60,784

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2023

For the year ended 30 November 2023 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 30 November 2023 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

(a) ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and

(b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the 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.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies' regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006, and in accordance with FRS102 SORP

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 10th July 2024 and signed on their behalf by



Sharon Forrest
Trustee

TOUCHSTONES CHILD BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2023 (cont.)

1. Accounting Policies

Accounting convention

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective January 2015). The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. There has been no change in accounting policies since last year. No changes have been made to the accounts for previous years.

Going concern

The trustees are satisfied that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the resources, it is more likely than not that the trustees will receive the resources and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Grants and donations

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

Expenditure and liabilities

Expenditure is recognised on the accrual basis as the liability is accrued. Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay the resources and the resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Taxation

As a charity the organisation is generally exempt from income tax but not from VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the cost of those items to which it relates.

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

Exemption has been taken from preparing a cash flow statement on the grounds that the company qualifies as a small company.

Fund accounting

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

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor. There are currently no restricted funds to account for.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2023 (cont.)

2. Grants

	2023 Unrestricted funds £	2023 Restricted funds £	2023 Total Funds £	2022 Total Funds £
Grant Worcestershire County Council	0		0	1,200
Open Works Charity Grant	15,000		15,000	-
Grants Other - ICCM	12,000	-	12,000	27,000
Grantham Yorke Trust	0	-	0	5,000
	<u>27,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,000</u>	<u>33,200</u>

3. Charitable Expenditure

	2023	2022
Gross salary – director	20,000	20,000
Sub-contractor costs	17,323	17,155
Supervision and Training	429	24
General Expenses and Materials	1,169	842
Memory Days	2,317	101
	<u>41,238</u>	<u>38,122</u>

There was one part-time employee during the year (as in 2022). Additionally, the services of one part-time, sub-contracted counsellor were utilised during this financial year.

4. Operating Costs

	2023	2022
Insurance, Subscriptions, and Memberships	978	1,087
Audit and Accountancy	834	848
Bank Charges	74	74
	<u>1,886</u>	<u>2,009</u>

TOUCHSTONES CHILD BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT
(a company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2023 (cont.)

5. Management and Administration

	2023	2022
Telephone and Internet	82	-
IT and Consumables	428	308
Fundraising (Ball Expenses)	80	4,232
General Expenses	-	-
	<u>590</u>	<u>4,540</u>

6. Trustee's expenses

During the year, Victoria Quarton as a director of the company, received remuneration for her employment as the principal, qualified, and experienced bereavement clinical services provider.

None of the other trustees have claimed any expenses during the year – including for travel, subsistence, and accommodation costs.

7. Cash at bank and in hand

	2023	2022
HSBC Current account	72,357	60,784
	<u>72,357</u>	<u>60,784</u>

8. Creditors and accruals

	2023	2022
Accrual for sub-contractor service provision	-	-
Accrual for expenses	-	-
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>