



ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022



**Autism
awareness &
acceptance**



**Children's
& young
people's
activities**



**Parent
support
sessions**



**Online
resources**



**Parent &
carer
training**



**Peer
support**



A huge welcome to everyone to our annual report for 2021/22.

The whole of the AWARE staff have been very busy this year continuing to bring our members the activities, training and the support that they need.

The newsletter goes from strength to strength informing families of what is on offer both from us and from other charities and agencies.

The Facebook group now has 674 members who all support each other virtually, with members making some amazing connections with people that they would not have met any other way. It is amazing to see some really strong friendships being forged.

We have welcomed a lot of new families along to Youth Club, Saturday Club and Stay & Play sessions. It is lovely to see so many families enjoying their time together and with other families in a safe, accommodating space. It has been so nice to get our children and young people's clubs back to being face to

face this year. Everyone is so happy to be back seeing their friends properly again and interacting like they used to. Our Project Worker, Tracey Firth, is doing an amazing job with our team of support staff working with both families and young people at all of our clubs.

We are very happy to have been able to bring Stay & Play closer to families in Bradford, both in Cottingley and more recently at Green Lane Primary School, where we are very lucky to have use of the building and playgrounds in a location so close to the city centre. It has been fantastic to see so many families there that could not access our sessions out at Addingham.

We have a small group of volunteers who help out on a regular basis at all of our clubs but we are always happy to have more. We couldn't continue to do what we do without their help and dedication.

The BEAT Project, funded by the NHS, continues to grow steadily and we now have three family support workers: Kizzi, Rakhshandah & Javaria, who all work closely with families.

Nikki and Lillie are presenting the EarlyBird courses, whilst Nikki and Margaret deliver the EarlyBird+ course. These are both via Zoom, which is working very well for families. Margaret and a small team of trainers are the faces of the

BEAT training course, which is for our members who do not have a diagnosis for their child. We will soon be bringing back the Cygnet PSR (Puberty, Sexuality & Relationships) course which will be face to face with parents. All of our training is going extremely well and I would like to say a huge thank you to all who are involved.

The AWARE committee, chaired by Geoff Winnard, continue to support the staff in everything that they do. I would like to say a massive thank you on behalf of the whole team and our members for the committee's continued support.

Project Manager, Rachel Miller





Welcome to AWARE's 2021/22 annual report.

After a prolonged period of Covid lockdowns and restrictions it is great to see that the AWARE team have worked hard over the last year to return, when safe, to a normal programme of activities and events to support children and families affected by autism.

We should also remember that throughout the period of the pandemic restrictions AWARE has never stopped striving to achieve its mission statement even when face-to-face events and some of our traditional fundraising activities have not been possible

During the last year our dedicated AWARE team started to reintroduce events, clubs, trips and meetings (initially with reduced numbers of children) whilst also retaining some of the new ways to support our members, such as holding regular Zoom sessions with guest speakers.

We have continued to work on improving our communications with members by developing further our monthly newsletter, regular e-updates

and our presence on Facebook. We know that different families have different needs and like to engage with us in different ways.

The support AWARE offers has continued to receive positive feedback from our members and service users; however, we are always open to suggestions of how we can better deliver our services and activities so please get in touch if you have any feedback or ideas.

In terms of activities I would highlight in particular the successful World Autism Awareness Day event at Bradford City's football ground which was a great success that enabled AWARE to work alongside a number of important stakeholders to provide advice and support to families affected by autism.

I never cease to be impressed by the range of activities that AWARE continues to deliver and the commitment and professionalism of our staff, volunteers and committee members.

Many thanks to Rachel Miller and Margaret Nash for their leadership of the team and to the rest of the staff for their hard work, commitment and enthusiasm in ensuring that our various services are delivered.

I am grateful to my fellow trustees for their contribution and advice over the last year – the trustees have continued to meet regularly via Zoom to ensure that AWARE continues to operate and determine its priorities in a realistic and financially-sustainable way.

We all remain committed to ensuring that AWARE continues to maintain its unique ethos as a parent-run group supporting families with children and young adults on the autistic spectrum. I would like to thank our members, volunteers, and all the organisations who have helped to fund our activities for your continued support.

***Chair,
Geoff Winnard***



Some of the feedback given by our members this year:

It's helped me embrace my children's differences and we've become a much happier fun family, who laugh and do more stuff together

AWARE do an amazing job! Where would all your families be without you

So welcoming and you can try new activities in a safe environment.

It really has helped me feel less isolated and anxious which in turn has empowered me to better support the children

My child can play and express himself openly without being judged

I find the Facebook group really helps me not feel alone

VALUING THE INDIVIDUAL

The majority of our parents and carers said being part of AWARE has helped their child feel valued as an individual

The more we as a society learn about autism, the more we realise just how different 'autism' can look from person to person.

This is why we at AWARE are determined to be a group that strives to cater for all autistic children and young people.

Whilst we cannot guarantee we can always meet every need, we



try our best and we hope that our variety of groups and events reflect this.

Our sessions attract people with many different levels and types of support needs. For example, we always ensure that there are a wide variety of activities available at our Stay & Play and Saturday Club sessions - sensory play, sports activities and crafts are just a few of the attractions on offer; some autistic children love messy play while others intensely dislike it, so we would never expect all attendees to want to do the same thing.

We ensure that we employ staff who are experienced in autism and are aware of the variety of ways it can present alongside other challenges that can go with it. For example, we have some staff who are able to use Makaton to help children who communicate this way.

We also ensure that valuing the individual is a mantra carried over into our parent support, whether on Zoom sessions, in face-to-face groups or in our member-only Facebook group. While we encourage healthy debate and discussion, we actively promote respect of each

"AWARE offers a positive, inclusive safe space where the children can just be themselves without having to mask or parents having to overly police their environment"



others' opinions and experiences to ensure that everyone feels comfortable sharing their stories or asking questions.

Our Zoom Support Group sessions go from strength to strength, with Nikki organising a wide variety of external speakers to attend.





We realise that parents' and carers' support needs can differ enormously.

Because of this, we cover a wide range of topics, such as children's mental health; their own wellbeing as carers; education issues; speech and language; benefits and finance; sleep problems, eating issues and much, much more!

We also aim to not only show awareness of, but embrace, the rich ethnic diversity of our members.

"During the stay and play my son was gently introduced to staff and volunteers and everything was done at a slower pace. Thank you for using makaton and gestures to support my child"

We have this year employed our second Urdu-speaking member of staff, Javaria, who is working alongside Rakhshandah in supporting Urdu-speaking members.

We continue to grow our



presence closer to and within Bradford itself, where some groups of

parents previously had little support and opportunities to attend events in their local area.

In our survey results last year, lots of members asked for play sessions in Bradford and the new Stay & Play sessions at Green Lane we are now running have been really well received,

"They are open to all. The events that I have seen show the diversity of the area"



VALUING THE INDIVIDUAL continued

"Previously she had locked herself away in her room and got stuck, not able to make friends. Now she knows she will hang out with people who accept her and understand her"



A PLACE TO BELONG & BE UNDERSTOOD

96% of our parents and carers said that being an AWARE member had made them feel less isolated

Research by Family Fund says that parents and carers of disabled children are almost seven times more likely to say they often or always feel lonely, compared to the general population.

We are so proud to see that the vast majority of our members feel that AWARE has helped with this.



It doesn't matter whether members come to each and every event we hold or just read our newsletters and the posts in our closed Facebook group; even just reading about others' experiences can help with feelings of loneliness.

"The support is always amazing and you never judge"

Members have commented on the fact that attending AWARE groups is the only time they and their children can truly relax as they feel they belong there. They don't feel they need to explain their child's behaviour and can - if they are lucky! - even manage a sit down and a chat with people in similar situations.



Even for children and young people who attend mainstream schools, it is really important that they are given opportunities to mix with other autistic people and our children's and young people's groups offer the perfect way to do this.



"The best thing about AWARE is the community of families in similar situations."

Being able to restart more of our children's and young people's groups has been brilliant and our Trip Club and Moving On Clubs have had some fantastic times getting to know each other again and enjoying each other's company.

The days before getting a diagnosis can be some of the most lonely and isolating - not to mention worrying - and this is where our BEAT project shines. Parents who have done our BEAT courses have said how lovely it was to finally meet people who understood how difficult those early days can be. In much the same way to our EarlyBird and EarlyBird Plus courses, the training offers a much-needed chance to gain a support network of people they can identify with.





Fulfilling our objective of 'Being in the Community' was one of the more challenging aspects of COVID, with events cancelled and restrictions in place.



We are really pleased to be able to get out and about again!

We have resumed visits to schools, with our amazing BEAT team going in to talk to staff and parents about autism and AWARE.

"Having a stall at WAAD was our first 'live' event since the start of the pandemic and the atmosphere that was created encouraged participation and networking, all in an environment of safety and security"

We have had stands at colleges and the University, allowing us to not only recruit more volunteers but also to spread awareness about autism and about what we do.

However, the highlight of the past year has to have been our WAAD - World Autism Awareness Day - event at Bradford City. We welcomed around 400 people to our event, which had stallholders from a wide range of support services and clubs, from the NHS to sports clubs to Nebula, the brilliant group for autistic girls.

It was great to be able to bring together so many different people, all in the name of autism, and the feedback from the event was overwhelmingly positive.

'It was good to have a single place to gain so much knowledge about what's available'

The main piece of positive feedback was just how useful it was to have so many useful services in one place - it truly is a one-stop-shop!

We also noticed lots of attendees chatting with each other, which was lovely to see.

BEING IN THE COMMUNITY

"We need more of these, to help those who are isolated in our community"

AWARE relies on its good relationships with other local organisations in many ways and this event was a great way of strengthening those relationships and also allowing the attendees to network with each other and find out more about other charities, groups and services.

We hope to run many more such events in future!



LEARNING FROM EACH OTHER

Our members are always at the heart of what we do, and we believe that the help they give each other is one of the very best things about AWARE.



It is wonderful to see members sharing their own experiences and coming up with useful suggestions to help each other both virtually and in person.

We were so impressed with the support for sleep issues that one member provided to others that we invited her to present a Zoom for us, which she did very successfully. She has now gone on to train to be



a sleep practitioner to help more families who are struggling.

AWARE staff are all parents of autistic people ourselves, but we are always learning too. We have recently invited one of our members to help us with the wording of our leaflet, ensuring we reflect up-to-date thinking on how to talk about autism.

"It's good to know I can get advice from people who 'get it' "

We are also immensely grateful for the members - most of whom are also parent carers - who have expertise in areas of interest to our families and who freely share their wisdom.

Our parent training always gets booked up quickly and for good reason: families tell us they really appreciate being able to learn from each others' experiences.

Our BEAT programme goes from strength to strength. Parents and carers have found it so useful that we now have

face-to-face meet ups as well as the training course and WhatsApp groups, including a separate group for Urdu-speakers

"The best thing about AWARE is the kindness and support shown by its members"

While some of our groups may be primarily for children and young people, it is nice to see parents making connections and having a rare chance to chat, share problems and give each other advice and help.

We love seeing our children and young people learning from each other, whether it is a teenager with a challenging activity on residential or younger children doing Lego at Stay & Play.

Friendships are not always straightforward for our children and having a safe place to form relationships, where there is no judgement and they can truly relax, is - for us - one of the most important aspects of AWARE.



AWARE would not be where we are today if it wasn't for the many, many people who help us by volunteering their time, raising money, donating money and providing us with room hire free of charge and much, much more!

We apologise if we have not managed to name each and every one of you individually but please know how very grateful we are: you're all awesome.

We have been able to kick start Stay & Play sessions in Bradford thanks to Green Lane Primary, who have so kindly let us use their premises free of charge!

Karen Mitchell - a massive thank you to you for all that you do, both in organising and running stalls for us at galas throughout the area. Another member mention: this time Ben Phillips from Universal who is taking on the Yorkshire Three Peaks challenge for us in July to raise money - good luck from all of us, Ben!

A big shout out for The Hive in Silsden for letting us hold Cook Club and the fashion show there but also generally being amazingly supportive.

Thank you so much to everyone who helped at Ilkley Round Table's Beer festival, Santa Float and Ilkley half marathon - we know your time is very precious and we really appreciate it. Thank you so much Ilkley Round Table for your continued support for AWARE.

Thank you to each and every one of our volunteers, including those who volunteered at WAAD and helped make the event the success that it was.

Last but not least, we are so grateful to everyone who added a donation on to their membership at such a financially hard time for everyone.

We would like also to thank:...

Adamson Trust, Arnold Clark, Awards for All, Baily Thomas, Ben Phillips and Universal Live, Bradford Metropolitan District Council, Chip N Ern, Co-op, Great Universal, Jump, the Lightowler family, The Lodge, NHS, Reaching Communities and Sovereign Health Care.

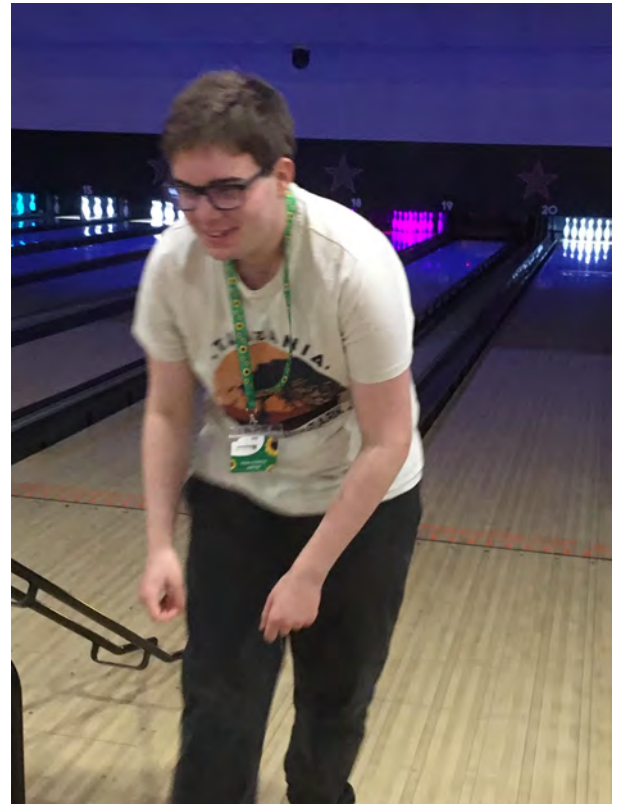
Plus everyone who helped us raise money and donated to us via Amazon Smile, Easy Fundraising, Local Giving, One Lottery and PayPal Giving Fund.



LOTTERY FUNDED









THANK YOU!

THE ADAMSON
TRUST

The Baily Thomas
Charitable Fund

JOIN US:
MOVE.
PLAY.



City of
BRADFORD
METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource

Charity number 1172753

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2022



West Yorkshire Community Accounting Service

Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2022

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Prepared by West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2022

Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors

The trustees during the financial year and up to and including the date the report was approved were:

Name	Position	Dates
Geoff Winnard	Chair	
Rebecca Smith	Treasurer	
Lorna Gray		
Karen Mitchell		Resigned 6 July 2021
Nathan Randell		
Lynne Fryer		
Laura Bolton		
Ann McKercher		
Jas Baxter		

Charity number	1172753	Registered in England and Wales
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Registered and principal address

2 Royd House Way
Keighley
BD21 4TY

Bankers

CAF Bank	Virgin Money plc	Shawbrook Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue	Jubilee House	Warley Hill Business Park
Kings Hill	Gosforth	Great Warley
West Malling	Newcastle upon Tyne	Brentwood
ME19 4JQ	NE3 4PL	Essex CM13 3BE

Independent examiner

Stephen Procter

West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) formed on 25 April 2017 and is governed by a constitution.

Method of recruitment and appointment of trustees

The trustees of the charity are appointed by the members at the AGM.

Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2022

Objectives and activities

The charity's objects

The objects of the CIO are:

The relief of need and the advancement of the health and wellbeing of people of all ages who have an autistic spectrum condition (and who may suffer from related conditions), whether or not formally diagnosed, and their families and carers; in particular, but not exclusively, by the provision of support and social opportunities.

The advancement of education, in particular, but not exclusively by:

(a) Increasing public awareness of the needs and challenges of people with an autistic spectrum condition (and who may suffer from related conditions) and their families and carers.

(b) By providing information and training opportunities to individuals with an autistic spectrum condition, and to people working with or supporting individuals with an autistic spectrum condition.

The charity's main activities

To relieve people of all ages who are diagnosed with an autistic spectrum disorder and in particular by the provision of support and assistance to such persons and their families and their carers.

To increase public awareness regarding the problems and circumstances of people with autistic spectrum disorders and their families and carers and to encourage acceptance in the community.

Public benefit statement

In setting our objectives and planning our activities our trustees have given serious consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular the support of families and children living with autism in the Airedale and Wharfedale areas.

Achievements and performance

After a prolonged period of Covid lockdowns and restrictions it is great to see that the AWARE team have worked hard over the last year to return, when safe, to a normal programme of activities and events to support children and families affected by autism. We should also remember that throughout the period of the pandemic restrictions AWARE has never stopped striving to achieve its mission statement even when face-to-face events and some of our traditional fundraising activities have not been possible.

During the last year our dedicated AWARE team started to reintroduce events, clubs, trips and meetings (initially with reduced numbers of children) whilst also retaining some of the new ways to support our members, such as holding regular Zoom sessions with guest speakers. We have continued to work on improving our communications with members by developing further our monthly newsletter, regular e-updates and our presence on Facebook.

We know that different families have different needs and like to engage with us in different ways. The support AWARE offers has continued to receive positive feedback from our members and service users; however, we are always open to suggestions of how we can better deliver our services and activities so please get in touch if you have any feedback or ideas.

I would highlight in particular the successful World Autism Awareness Day event at Bradford City's football ground which was a great success that enabled AWARE to work alongside a number of important stakeholders to provide advice and support to families affected by autism.

I never cease to be impressed by the range of activities that AWARE continues to deliver and the commitment and professionalism of our staff, volunteers and committee members. Many thanks to Rachel Miller and Margaret Nash for their leadership of the team and to the rest of the staff for their hard work, commitment and enthusiasm in ensuring that our various services are delivered.

Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2022

Achievements and performance (continued)

I am grateful to my fellow trustees for their contribution and advice over the last year. The trustees have continued to meet regularly via Zoom to ensure that AWARE continues to operate and determine its priorities in a realistic and financially-sustainable way. We all remain committed to ensuring that AWARE continues to maintain its unique ethos as a parent-run group supporting families with children and young adults on the autistic spectrum. I would like to thank our members, volunteers, and all the organisations who have helped to fund our activities for your continued support.

Geoff Winnard, Chair

Financial review

Net expenditure for the year was £12,908, including net expenditure of £18,914 on unrestricted funds and net receipts of £6,006 on restricted funds.

Reserves policy

The charity's free reserves at the year end were £30,282.

AWARE has a wish to have between 3 and 6 months running costs in cash reserves in case of a major issue such as loss of funding.

This policy will be considered again during the current year to ensure it is still appropriate.

Signed on behalf of the board of trustees on 25/07/2022

Rebecca Smith (Trustee)

Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the CIO for the year ended 31 March 2022, which are set out on pages 6 to 9.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the CIO's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. 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 CIO as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

Stephen Procter

25/07/2022

West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource

Receipts and payments account for the year ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	2022 Unrestricted funds £	2022 Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
Receipts					
Grants and donations	(2)	7,701	105,210	112,911	125,418
Fees and subscriptions		11,528	-	11,528	10,058
Fundraising		4,913	-	4,913	488
Refreshments		-	-	-	96
Bank interest		698	-	698	242
Total receipts		<u>24,840</u>	<u>105,210</u>	<u>130,050</u>	<u>136,302</u>
Payments					
Staff costs		24,392	74,920	99,312	85,570
Travel and other staff costs		1,612	17	1,629	692
Staff training		86	-	86	796
Volunteer and committee expenses		598	181	779	183
Rent and office space		1,182	180	1,362	962
Maintenance		23	-	23	11
Administration, postage and stationery		734	22	756	392
Telephone and broadband		764	403	1,167	1,141
Insurance		1,011	-	1,011	1,004
Books, publications and subscriptions		921	363	1,284	524
Independent examination		744	-	744	744
Equipment and materials		1,174	1,648	2,822	573
Activities and events		7,850	2,529	10,379	2,302
Health and safety		22	-	22	337
IT costs		881	-	881	814
Business development		171	-	171	-
Training		1,061	18,941	20,002	21,320
DBS checks		302	-	302	131
Bank charges		226	-	226	156
Other payments		-	-	-	28
Total payments		<u>43,754</u>	<u>99,204</u>	<u>142,958</u>	<u>117,680</u>
Net income / (expenditure)		<u>(18,914)</u>	<u>6,006</u>	<u>(12,908)</u>	<u>18,622</u>
Fund balances brought forward		<u>49,196</u>	<u>87,617</u>	<u>136,813</u>	<u>118,191</u>
Fund balances carried forward	(3)	<u>30,282</u>	<u>93,623</u>	<u>123,905</u>	<u>136,813</u>

Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource

Statement of assets and liabilities

as at 31 March 2022

	2022	2022	2022	2021
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cash funds				
Cash at bank	29,072	93,623	122,695	136,309
Cash in hand	1,210	-	1,210	504
Total cash funds	<u>30,282</u>	<u>93,623</u>	<u>123,905</u>	<u>136,813</u>

Assets retained for the charity's own use

The charity retains a full list of all equipment and resources

Liabilities	£
HMRC	6,054
Pension	421
Independent examination	744
	<u>7,219</u>

The financial statements were approved by the board of trustees on 25/07/2022

Rebecca Smith (Trustee)

Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2022

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The trustees have taken advantage of section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 and have prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

There has been no change to the accounting policies since last year.

No changes have been made to the accounts for previous years.

Taxation

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

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 or through the terms of an appeal.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the accounts.

Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource

Notes to the accounts continued for the year ended 31 March 2022

2 Grants and donations	2022 Unrestricted funds £	2022 Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
Awards for All	-	9,960	9,960	-
Bradford MDC Early Years Grant	-	5,250	5,250	15,000
Groundworks (Tesco)	-	-	-	1,000
Local Giving	-	-	-	190
Lottery Community Fund	-	90,000	90,000	30,500
NHS Pre-Diagnosis (BEAT)	-	-	-	61,732
UK Youth Fund	-	-	-	10,906
Other donations	7,701	-	7,701	6,090
	<u>7,701</u>	<u>105,210</u>	<u>112,911</u>	<u>125,418</u>

3 Restricted funds	Balance b/f £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance c/f £
BMDC - Early Years Grant	14,155	5,250	5,929	-	13,476
Adamson Trust	1,000	-	-	-	1,000
Awards for All	-	9,960	9,052	-	908
Bailey Thomas	8,000	-	-	-	8,000
Ilkley Round Table	6,118	-	3,813	-	2,305
Jump	1,465	-	359	-	1,106
Lottery Community Fund	3,426	90,000	55,279	-	38,147
NHS Pre-Diagnosis (BEAT)	48,453	-	22,450	-	26,003
Sovereign Healthcare	5,000	-	2,322	-	2,678
	<u>87,617</u>	<u>105,210</u>	<u>99,204</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>93,623</u>

Fund name	Purpose of restriction
BMDC - Early Years Grant	Towards the costs of parent training and running the Saturday Club.
Adamson Trust	Towards the costs of residentials.
Awards for All	Towards the costs of parent training.
Bailey Thomas	Towards the costs of residentials.
Ilkley Round Table	Towards the costs of residentials.
Jump	To deliver sports themed activity days.
Lottery Community Fund	Towards salaries and all other general running costs.
NHS Pre-Diagnosis (BEAT)	To fund pre-diagnosis support for parents and carers.
Sovereign Healthcare	Towards the costs of residentials.

4 Related party transactions

Trustee expenses

No trustee received any expenses during this year or the previous year.

Trustee remuneration and benefits

No trustee received any remuneration or benefit during this or the previous year.

Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource

Charity number 1172753

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Rebecca Smith	Treasurer	
Lorna Gray		
Karen Mitchell		Resigned 6 July 2021
Nathan Randell		
Lynne Fryer		
Laura Bolton		
Ann McKercher		
Jas Baxter		

Charity number 1172753 Registered in England and Wales

Registered and principal address

2 Royd House Way
Keighley
BD21 4TY

Bankers

CAF Bank	Virgin Money plc	Shawbrook Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue	Jubilee House	Warley Hill Business Park
Kings Hill	Gosforth	Great Warley
West Malling	Newcastle upon Tyne	Brentwood
ME19 4JQ	NE3 4PL	Essex CM13 3BE

Independent examiner

Stephen Procter

West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) formed on 25 April 2017 and is governed by a constitution.

Method of recruitment and appointment of trustees

The trustees of the charity are appointed by the members at the AGM.

Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2022

Objectives and activities

The charity's objects

The objects of the CIO are:

The relief of need and the advancement of the health and wellbeing of people of all ages who have an autistic spectrum condition (and who may suffer from related conditions), whether or not formally diagnosed, and their families and carers; in particular, but not exclusively, by the provision of support and social opportunities.

The advancement of education, in particular, but not exclusively by:

(a) Increasing public awareness of the needs and challenges of people with an autistic spectrum condition (and who may suffer from related conditions) and their families and carers.

(b) By providing information and training opportunities to individuals with an autistic spectrum condition, and to people working with or supporting individuals with an autistic spectrum condition.

The charity's main activities

To relieve people of all ages who are diagnosed with an autistic spectrum disorder and in particular by the provision of support and assistance to such persons and their families and their carers.

To increase public awareness regarding the problems and circumstances of people with autistic spectrum disorders and their families and carers and to encourage acceptance in the community.

Public benefit statement

In setting our objectives and planning our activities our trustees have given serious consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular the support of families and children living with autism in the Airedale and Wharfedale areas.

Achievements and performance

After a prolonged period of Covid lockdowns and restrictions it is great to see that the AWARE team have worked hard over the last year to return, when safe, to a normal programme of activities and events to support children and families affected by autism. We should also remember that throughout the period of the pandemic restrictions AWARE has never stopped striving to achieve its mission statement even when face-to-face events and some of our traditional fundraising activities have not been possible.

During the last year our dedicated AWARE team started to reintroduce events, clubs, trips and meetings (initially with reduced numbers of children) whilst also retaining some of the new ways to support our members, such as holding regular Zoom sessions with guest speakers. We have continued to work on improving our communications with members by developing further our monthly newsletter, regular e-updates and our presence on Facebook.

We know that different families have different needs and like to engage with us in different ways. The support AWARE offers has continued to receive positive feedback from our members and service users; however, we are always open to suggestions of how we can better deliver our services and activities so please get in touch if you have any feedback or ideas.

I would highlight in particular the successful World Autism Awareness Day event at Bradford City's football ground which was a great success that enabled AWARE to work alongside a number of important stakeholders to provide advice and support to families affected by autism.

I never cease to be impressed by the range of activities that AWARE continues to deliver and the commitment and professionalism of our staff, volunteers and committee members. Many thanks to Rachel Miller and Margaret Nash for their leadership of the team and to the rest of the staff for their hard work, commitment and enthusiasm in ensuring that our various services are delivered.

Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2022

Achievements and performance (continued)

I am grateful to my fellow trustees for their contribution and advice over the last year. The trustees have continued to meet regularly via Zoom to ensure that AWARE continues to operate and determine its priorities in a realistic and financially-sustainable way. We all remain committed to ensuring that AWARE continues to maintain its unique ethos as a parent-run group supporting families with children and young adults on the autistic spectrum. I would like to thank our members, volunteers, and all the organisations who have helped to fund our activities for your continued support.

Geoff Winnard, Chair

Financial review

Net expenditure for the year was £12,908, including net expenditure of £18,914 on unrestricted funds and net receipts of £6,006 on restricted funds.

Reserves policy

The charity's free reserves at the year end were £30,282.

AWARE has a wish to have between 3 and 6 months running costs in cash reserves in case of a major issue such as loss of funding.

This policy will be considered again during the current year to ensure it is still appropriate.

Signed on behalf of the board of trustees on 25/07/2022

Rebecca Smith (Trustee)

Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the CIO for the year ended 31 March 2022, which are set out on pages 6 to 9.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the CIO's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. 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 CIO as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

Stephen Procter

25/07/2022

West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource

Receipts and payments account for the year ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	2022 Unrestricted funds £	2022 Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
Receipts					
Grants and donations	(2)	7,701	105,210	112,911	125,418
Fees and subscriptions		11,528	-	11,528	10,058
Fundraising		4,913	-	4,913	488
Refreshments		-	-	-	96
Bank interest		698	-	698	242
Total receipts		<u>24,840</u>	<u>105,210</u>	<u>130,050</u>	<u>136,302</u>
Payments					
Staff costs		24,392	74,920	99,312	85,570
Travel and other staff costs		1,612	17	1,629	692
Staff training		86	-	86	796
Volunteer and committee expenses		598	181	779	183
Rent and office space		1,182	180	1,362	962
Maintenance		23	-	23	11
Administration, postage and stationery		734	22	756	392
Telephone and broadband		764	403	1,167	1,141
Insurance		1,011	-	1,011	1,004
Books, publications and subscriptions		921	363	1,284	524
Independent examination		744	-	744	744
Equipment and materials		1,174	1,648	2,822	573
Activities and events		7,850	2,529	10,379	2,302
Health and safety		22	-	22	337
IT costs		881	-	881	814
Business development		171	-	171	-
Training		1,061	18,941	20,002	21,320
DBS checks		302	-	302	131
Bank charges		226	-	226	156
Other payments		-	-	-	28
Total payments		<u>43,754</u>	<u>99,204</u>	<u>142,958</u>	<u>117,680</u>
Net income / (expenditure)		<u>(18,914)</u>	<u>6,006</u>	<u>(12,908)</u>	<u>18,622</u>
Fund balances brought forward		<u>49,196</u>	<u>87,617</u>	<u>136,813</u>	<u>118,191</u>
Fund balances carried forward	(3)	<u>30,282</u>	<u>93,623</u>	<u>123,905</u>	<u>136,813</u>

Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource

Statement of assets and liabilities

as at 31 March 2022

	2022	2022	2022	2021
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cash funds				
Cash at bank	29,072	93,623	122,695	136,309
Cash in hand	1,210	-	1,210	504
Total cash funds	<u>30,282</u>	<u>93,623</u>	<u>123,905</u>	<u>136,813</u>

Assets retained for the charity's own use

The charity retains a full list of all equipment and resources

Liabilities	£
HMRC	6,054
Pension	421
Independent examination	744
	<u>7,219</u>

The financial statements were approved by the board of trustees on 25/07/2022

Rebecca Smith (Trustee)

Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2022

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The trustees have taken advantage of section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 and have prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

There has been no change to the accounting policies since last year.

No changes have been made to the accounts for previous years.

Taxation

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

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 or through the terms of an appeal.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the accounts.

Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource

Notes to the accounts continued for the year ended 31 March 2022

2 Grants and donations	2022 Unrestricted funds £	2022 Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
Awards for All	-	9,960	9,960	-
Bradford MDC Early Years Grant	-	5,250	5,250	15,000
Groundworks (Tesco)	-	-	-	1,000
Local Giving	-	-	-	190
Lottery Community Fund	-	90,000	90,000	30,500
NHS Pre-Diagnosis (BEAT)	-	-	-	61,732
UK Youth Fund	-	-	-	10,906
Other donations	7,701	-	7,701	6,090
	<u>7,701</u>	<u>105,210</u>	<u>112,911</u>	<u>125,418</u>

3 Restricted funds	Balance b/f £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance c/f £
BMDC - Early Years Grant	14,155	5,250	5,929	-	13,476
Adamson Trust	1,000	-	-	-	1,000
Awards for All	-	9,960	9,052	-	908
Bailey Thomas	8,000	-	-	-	8,000
Ilkley Round Table	6,118	-	3,813	-	2,305
Jump	1,465	-	359	-	1,106
Lottery Community Fund	3,426	90,000	55,279	-	38,147
NHS Pre-Diagnosis (BEAT)	48,453	-	22,450	-	26,003
Sovereign Healthcare	5,000	-	2,322	-	2,678
	<u>87,617</u>	<u>105,210</u>	<u>99,204</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>93,623</u>

Fund name	Purpose of restriction
BMDC - Early Years Grant	Towards the costs of parent training and running the Saturday Club.
Adamson Trust	Towards the costs of residential.
Awards for All	Towards the costs of parent training.
Bailey Thomas	Towards the costs of residential.
Ilkley Round Table	Towards the costs of residential.
Jump	To deliver sports themed activity days.
Lottery Community Fund	Towards salaries and all other general running costs.
NHS Pre-Diagnosis (BEAT)	To fund pre-diagnosis support for parents and carers.
Sovereign Healthcare	Towards the costs of residential.

4 Related party transactions

Trustee expenses

No trustee received any expenses during this year or the previous year.

Trustee remuneration and benefits

No trustee received any remuneration or benefit during this or the previous year.