

Age Connects Wales
Unaudited Financial Statements
31 March 2022

ELLIS LLOYD JONES AUDIT LIMITED

Chartered accountants
11 Park Square
Newport
South Wales
NP20 4EL

Age Connects Wales

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2022

	Page
Trustees' annual report	1
Independent examiner's report to the trustees	8
Statement of financial activities	9
Statement of financial position	10
Notes to the financial statements	11

Age Connects Wales

Trustees' Annual Report

Year ended 31 March 2022

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Age Connects Wales
Charity registration number	1173881
Principal office	The Maltings East Tyndall Street Cardiff CF24 5EZ
The trustees	Mr D A Richards Ms A Price Ms A Reed Ms K Crane Ms R Rowlands Mr J Hawkins
Independent examiner	Kara Williams BSc BFP FCA Ellis Lloyd Jones Audit Limited 11 Park Square Newport South Wales NP20 4EL

Age Connects Wales

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2022

Structure, governance and management

Age Connects Wales is a national Charity made up of six local, independent Age Connects organisations, which have over 45 years' experience supporting older people and their Carers in Wales. Age Connects Wales was registered in July 2017. The charity has a legal governing document, to which the Board of Trustees adheres. The Board of Trustees facilitates an annual general meeting and meets at least four times a year, overseeing the governance of the charity, making decisions about the charity's finances, safeguarding, health and safety, project development and activities to ensure they are meeting the charity's aims and objectives.

Recruitment and appointment of board members

Each appointing body (local/regional Age Connects Organisation) may appoint one Trustee each. Articles 9 to 17 of the constitution of Age Connects Wales constitution set out the procedures for recruitment and appointment to the Board of Trustees. Members are elected to serve for a period of three years, after which term, they are eligible to seek re-election. We aim to ensure that our Board is both representative of the people and communities with whom we work and has the necessary combined skills and experience to effectively govern the organisation.

Induction and training of new trustees

Age Connects Wales Trustee induction process is underpinned by a Trustee handbook, includes an informal interview, taking up references, and where policy necessitates, a Disclosure and Barring (DBS) check. New trustees also meet existing trustees/directors to explore the role and responsibilities in further detail. Given the role has extensive legal responsibilities, new board members may receive additional informal training, based on a trustee/director welcome pack, which includes topics such as Charity Commission guidance and Age Connects Wales portfolio of business plans.

Age Connects Wales

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2022

Objectives and activities

Age Connects Wales Charitable Objects:

'To relieve the suffering of older vulnerable people in Wales by working with Age Connects charitable bodies, liaising with charities, government agencies and other groups to provide such charitable support as the trustees deem fit'.

Corporate Priorities 2021 - 2024

- 1. Decision making** - Ensure older people have access to free, independent information and advice and independent advocacy to help them make their own decisions and be involved in decision-making around the challenges and opportunities associated with ageing.
- 2. Wellbeing and independence** - ensure older people have the tools and support to maximise independence, feel supported in their community and have increased access to and knowledge of physical activity/exercise, nutrition and lifestyle choices.
- 3. Housing** - Ensure older people have access to appropriate, affordable and accessible housing and housing support that meets their immediate and ongoing needs and aspirations.
- 4. Transport** - Ensure older people have access to sustainable and accessible transport to enable increased access to healthcare and basic humanitarian needs
- 5. Digital inclusion** - Assist older people to access digital technology (including broadband) as well as the means and training to utilise it effectively.

Public Benefit

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and have continued to focus our activities on providing a range of accessible services that facilitate social inclusion, while promoting a healthy and active retirement and continuing independence for older people across Wales. We also work closely with all our partners to address identified needs within local and regional strategies and those of the Welsh Government.

Delivery strategy

Through our marketing efforts and outreach delivery strategy, we aim to make our services as accessible as possible to older people across Wales. Information from individual and collective content management systems/databases is cross referenced and analysed extensively, providing a firm basis for forward planning.

We operate in some of the most socially and economically deprived areas in Wales and offer differing levels of support according to individual need and regional demands/pressures. This ranges from the provision of information and advice through telephone helplines, neighbourhood information points, websites, social media platforms, special events and talks, through to robust community-based activity programmes, specialist dementia programmes, hospital discharge services, foot care, befriending services and on-going welfare benefits and advocacy casework. Service users can access our services through home visits, one to one appointments, drop-in services, social media platforms, website, online communication platforms and/or by visiting a local community outreach location. Please note that during the previous two years, many of our face-to-face services were suspended in line with government guidelines surrounding the COVID19 Pandemic. Throughout this reporting period, service delivery has continued to be remodelled to ensure that services were delivered safely

Age Connects Wales

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2022

and efficiently in order to continue supporting local older people.

COVID19 overview

The COVID19 pandemic has brought with it extremely uncertain times for the whole population and has had an immediate and longer lasting impact on older people. Throughout this period, Age Connects Wales has delivered and helped local Age Connects Organisations deliver multiple front-line services to directly improve emotional and physical wellbeing, ensuring some of the most vulnerable in the community received appropriate support, whilst also enabling older people to begin making positive steps to resuming pre-covid lifestyles and activity levels.

Whilst this has been an extremely difficult period for our service users, it is also important to note that remodelled services have also contributed to improved confidence, increased social networks, built resilience, increased independence and facilitated a greater ability to maintain choice and control in people's lives, during an extremely challenging period. We continue to learn from our local, regional and national provision and adapt to ensure it is as accessible and user friendly as possible. Moving forward into next year, we will continue to provide robust services and hope to engage further with service users to understand the challenges faced through periods of extended isolation and what support is now required to maintain physical and emotional wellbeing.

Age Connects Wales

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2022

Achievements and performance

Winter Pressures - Home from Hospital

This major project funded by Welsh Government was delivered between October 2021 and March 2022. The project was developed to help relieve winter pressures by providing short term practical, emotional and liaison support to ensure medically fit patients could be discharged from hospital. The project has helped service users regain and maintain their independence, reduce adverse events, build resilience, contribute to reducing bed blocking, improve wellbeing and helped to prevent further risks of readmission to hospital. Services have enabled older people to live healthier, engaged and more independent lives with less need for statutory services support/intervention.

In line with general winter pressures and ongoing/re-emerging restrictions surrounding COVID19, the need for practical support was vital, and this was provided through this project via the following:

- Assistance with transport home from hospital and to vital monitoring appointments
- Assistance with ordering, collecting, delivery and putting away of shopping and essential items
- Escorted shopping
- Prescription collection/delivery
- Preparation of light snacks
- Basic cleaning, tidying and refuse collection
- Laundry and bed linen change
- Companionship/emotional support
- Support to participate in prescribed exercise/physical activity sessions
- Support with pets/dog walking
- Doorstep wellbeing checks
- Telephone befriending to support the most isolated
- Liaison work with health and social care services and family members
- Information around welfare benefits and ongoing support options.
- Support with housing applications
- Support with accessing and securing home adaptations
- Foot care provision - community based and home visiting provision
- Energy/fuel poverty support because of the current energy crisis

Feedback has clearly indicated that this service has not only provided vital practical support, but also reduced loneliness and isolation through increased social contacts. Following increased resource allocation and services becoming more established, with increased awareness from local partners, significant increases in front line support provision have been achieved. The project and community benefitted from an average of 830 hours per week of staff resource. 82.5% (685 hours) of this staff resource was dedicated to front-line support, with 17.5% (145 hours) utilised on coordination efforts to develop, monitor and manage project related activities.

HOPE Advocacy Project

We have continued to work with Age Connects Organisations, Age Cymru and Age Cymru Brand partners to deliver a HOPE advocacy projects across Wales. HOPE delivers advocacy support at a community level through a range of advocacy models by recruiting, training and supporting project volunteers. HOPE supports service users at an early stage in their issues/concerns to help prevent them reaching crisis points. This is of particular importance due to the impact that the COVID19 pandemic has had on the lives of older people and the potential need for increased support to reengage with their communities. HOPE is establishing a training programme which will enable advocates across Wales to further develop their skills and knowledge, whilst also offering training opportunities and workshops to other professionals who would benefit from greater awareness of advocacy.

Age Connects Wales

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2022

Older Persons Awards

Age Connects Wales inaugural Older Person's Awards was launched on 1st October 2021 and was supported by the Older Persons Commissioner for Wales. We wanted to celebrate the fantastic achievements of older people in communities across Wales, in categories including Later Life Hero and Ageing Well Award.

The launch of the Awards coincided with International Day of Older Persons, and the winners were announced in November, during a streamed one-hour award event supported by Eddie Butler. The awards were publicised through a national PR campaign, digital advertising, social media campaign and community-based promotion. Nominations were sought from people and communities throughout Wales with six regional winners in the following five categories progressing to the awards night:

- **Later Life Hero** - Given to an individual who has made a huge impact on the lives of older people, by providing support, friendship or helping an older person in their hour of need;
- **Ageing Well Award** - For an individual who has worked to combat ageism, promote social justice, or engaged with their community to support ageing well initiatives;
- **Good Neighbour Award** - Recognising neighbours that are one in a million, making a real difference to the lives of their neighbours;
- **Community Volunteer Award** - Celebrating the difference that, a volunteer aged 50+ has made to their local community; and
- **Personal Development Award** - For an individual who has overcome barriers, learnt a new skill, or faced a new challenge in their later life, helping to improve self-confidence, resilience, and personal growth.

Given the success of the awards and their ability to raise awareness of vital services for older people across Wales, the Older Persons Awards will be delivered in next year (2022/23).

Falls Prevention Partnership

We have worked in partnership with Age Cymru and Care and Repair Cymru to deliver a campaign to highlight the need and support for falls prevention work. As well as digital campaigns, case studies and website/social media awareness raising activities, this partnership has worked with professionals who work with older people to help prevent falls and provide appropriate support to those who have suffered a fall.

In addition to this campaign, Age Connects Organisations have provided a robust Foot Care and Nail Cutting Service across Wales to further reduce falls and contribute to the preventative agenda.

Age Alliance Wales

We are members of Age Alliance Wales, which is a powerful alliance of 25 national voluntary organisations committed to working together to develop the legislative, policy and resource frameworks that will improve the lives of older people in Wales. Our involvement within this alliance ensures that we contribute to achieving the following key aims:

- to represent the concerns and further the interests of older people in Wales to policy makers, strategic planners, and funders;
- maximise the ability of each member organisation to fulfil their role of promoting the well-being of older people; and
- to work with, and for older people, through the co-operative use of the knowledge and expertise contained within the membership of Age Alliance Wales.

Age Connects Wales

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2022

Financial review

During the course of the year, we have continued to maintain a tight fiscal policy, which has enabled us to operate in accordance with our aims and objectives and maintain planned service provision. We have been successful in securing significantly increased funding for specific project work with dedicated management costs incorporated into project budgets.

During the financial year the charity reported a surplus of £4,671 (2021: deficit of £1,165).

We are pleased to report that 98.6% of expenditure was utilised directly on charitable activities, with the remainder on governance and income generation.

The unrestricted reserves on 31 March 2022 were £10,741 (2021: £10,988) and restricted reserves were £4,918 (2021: £nil)

Reserves policy

The board has examined the charity's requirements for reserves in respect of the main risks to the organisation and established a policy whereby unrestricted funds held by the charity should be between three and six months of the resources expended. The Trustees are also committed to continue to build reserves in future years to enable the Charity to maintain and expand service provision.

The trustees' annual report was approved on Nov 24, 2022 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



Mr D A Richards
Trustee

Age Connects Wales

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Age Connects Wales

Year ended 31 March 2022

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Age Connects Wales ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2022.

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

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

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.

Kara Williams

Kara Williams (Nov 24, 2022 19:19 GMT)

Kara Williams BSc BFP FCA
Independent Examiner

Ellis Lloyd Jones Audit Limited
11 Park Square
Newport
South Wales
NP20 4EL

Nov 24, 2022

Age Connects Wales

Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 March 2022

		Unrestricted funds	2022 Restricted funds	Total funds	2021 Total funds
	Note	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	4	250	372,333	372,583	—
Total income		<u>250</u>	<u>372,333</u>	<u>372,583</u>	<u>—</u>
Expenditure					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Costs of raising donations and legacies	5	497	—	497	—
Expenditure on charitable activities	6,7	—	367,415	367,415	1,168
Total expenditure		<u>497</u>	<u>367,415</u>	<u>367,912</u>	<u>1,168</u>
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds		<u>(247)</u>	<u>4,918</u>	<u>4,671</u>	<u>(1,168)</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		10,988	—	10,988	12,156
Total funds carried forward		<u>10,741</u>	<u>4,918</u>	<u>15,659</u>	<u>10,988</u>

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

The notes on pages 11 to 16 form part of these financial statements.

Age Connects Wales

Statement of Financial Position

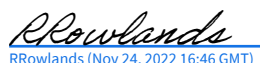
31 March 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		129,930	10,988
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>114,271</u>	<u>–</u>
Net current assets		<u>15,659</u>	<u>10,988</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>15,659</u>	<u>10,988</u>
Net assets		<u>15,659</u>	<u>10,988</u>
Funds of the charity			
Unrestricted funds		<u>15,659</u>	<u>10,988</u>
Total charity funds	13	<u>15,659</u>	<u>10,988</u>

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on ~~Nov 23, 2022~~ Nov 24, 2022, and are signed on behalf of the board by:



Mr D A Richards
Trustee



RRowlands (Nov 24, 2022 16:46 GMT)

Ms R Rowlands
Trustee

The notes on pages 11 to 16 form part of these financial statements.

Age Connects Wales

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2022

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 The Maltings, East Tyndall Street, Cardiff, CF24 5EZ.

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.

The financial statements have been prepared on the accruals basis for the year ended 31 March 2022. The financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 were prepared on the receipts and payments basis. Although this represents a change in accounting policy, it has not been necessary to adjust any of the balances for the year ended 31 March 2021, since there were no fixed assets, debtors or creditors at that date. No adjustment to the brought forward reserves at 1 April 2021 was necessary, as a result of the change in basis of preparation of accounts.

Going concern

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

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.

Age Connects Wales

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2022

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.

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.

Age Connects Wales

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2022

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Financial instruments

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

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

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.

Defined contribution plans

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

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

4. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Grants			
Grants receivable	–	372,333	372,333
Sponsorship			
Sponsorship	250	–	250
	<u>250</u>	<u>372,333</u>	<u>372,583</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
Grants			
Grants receivable	–	–	–
Sponsorship			
Sponsorship	–	–	–
	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>

Age Connects Wales

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2022

5. Costs of raising donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
Costs of raising donations and legacies				
- Sponsorship	497	497	—	—

6. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Winter Pressures Project	—	362,150	362,150
Support costs	—	5,265	5,265
	—	367,415	367,415

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
Winter Pressures Project	1,113	—	1,113
Support costs	55	—	55
	1,168	—	1,168

7. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Grant funding of activities £	Support costs £	Total funds 2022 £	Total fund 2021 £
Winter Pressures Project	6,796	355,354	—	362,150	1,113
Governance costs	—	—	5,265	5,265	55
	6,796	355,354	5,265	367,415	1,168

8. Independent examination fees

	2022 £	2021 £
Fees payable to the independent examiner for:		
Independent examination of the financial statements	2,160	—

Age Connects Wales

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2022

9. Staff costs

Age Connects Wales does not directly employ any employees. The charity has incurred wages and salaries costs from re-charges from other Age Connects charities.

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

	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	221,602	—
Social security costs	1,174	—
Employer contributions to pension plans	2,284	—
	<u>225,060</u>	<u>—</u>

The average head count of employees during the year was Nil (2021: Nil).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2021: Nil).

10. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees.

11. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors	111,187	—
Accruals and deferred income	3,084	—
	<u>114,271</u>	<u>—</u>

12. Pensions and other post-retirement benefits

Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £2,284 (2021: £Nil).

Age Connects Wales

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2022

13. Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	10,988	250	(497)	4,918	15,659

	At 1 April 2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	12,156	—	(1,168)	—	10,988

Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Winter Pressures Project Fund	—	372,333	(367,415)	(4,918)	—

	At 1 April 2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Winter Pressures Project Fund	—	—	—	—	—

The Winter Pressures Project Fund relates to grants received to help relieve winter pressures by providing short term practical, emotional and liaison support to ensure medically fit patients could be discharged from hospital.

14. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£
Current assets	129,930	129,930
Creditors less than 1 year	(114,271)	(114,271)
Net assets	15,659	15,659

	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2021
	£	£
Current assets	10,988	10,988
Creditors less than 1 year	—	—
Net assets	10,988	10,988