

Registered Company Number: CE011355 (England and Wales)
Registered Charity Number: 1173881

Age Connects Wales
Unaudited Financial Statements
Year ended 31st March 2023



Age Connects Wales

Trustees' Annual Report

Year ended 31 March 2023

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name Age Connects Wales

Charity registration number 1173881

Company registration number CE011355

Principal office and registered office Unit 10
Sbectrwm.
Bwlch Road,
Fairwater,
Cardiff,
CF5 3EF

The Trustees

Mr D A Richards
Ms A Price
Ms A Reed
Ms K Crane
Ms R Rowlands
Mr J Hawkins

Age Connects Wales

Trustees' Annual Report (*continued*)

Year ended 31 March 2023

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 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 2023

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** – Assist older people to access appropriate, affordable and accessible housing and housing support that meets their immediate and ongoing needs and aspirations.
4. **Transport** – Support older people to access 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 or hub location. Throughout this reporting period, service delivery has continued to be remodelled to ensure that services were delivered safely and efficiently to continue supporting local older people.

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 2023

Achievements and performance

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 continues to establish 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.

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 and delivered and facilitated a range of physical activity sessions to further reduce falls and contribute to the prevention and early intervention 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.
- To maximise the ability of each member organisation to fulfil their role of promoting the well-being of older people.
- 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 2023

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.

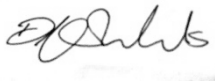
During the financial year the charity reported a deficit of £4,423 (2022: surplus of £4,671).

The unrestricted reserves on 31 March 2023 were £11,236 (2022: £10,741) and restricted reserves were £0 (2022: £4,918)

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 18th December 2023 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



Mr D A Richards
Trustee

Age Connects Wales
Statement of Financial Activities
Year ended 31 March 2023

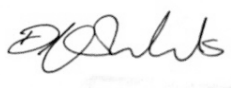
Age Connects Wales Annual Accounts 2022/23

Statement of Financial Activities	<u>2022/23</u>	<u>2021/22</u>
Income and Endowments		
Donations and legacies	0	372,583
Total Income	<u>0</u>	<u>372,583</u>
Expenditure		
Expenditure on raising funds: Costs of raising donations and legacies	0	497
Expenditure on charitable activities: Winter Pressures Project	0	362,150
Expenditure on charitable activities: Support Costs	4,423	5,265
Total Expenditure	<u>4,423</u>	<u>367,912</u>
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds	-4,423	4,671
Reconciliation of Funds		
Total funds brought forward	15,659	10,988
Total Funds Carried Forward	<u>11,236</u>	<u>15,659</u>

Age Connects Wales
Statement of Financial Position
Year ended 31 March 2023

Statement of Financial Position	<u>2022/23</u>	<u>2021/22</u>
Current Assets		
Cash at bank and in hand	11,236	129,930
Creditors: Amounts Falling Due within One Year		
Trade creditors	0	111,187
Accruals and deferred income	<u>0</u>	<u>3,084</u>
	<u>0</u>	<u>114,271</u>
Net Current Assets	11,236	15,659
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities	11,236	15,659
Net Assets	<u><u>11,236</u></u>	<u><u>15,659</u></u>
Funds of the Charity		
Unrestricted funds	<u><u>11,236</u></u>	<u><u>15,659</u></u>

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 18th December 2023, and are signed on behalf of the board by:



Mr D Richards
Trustee



Rachel Rowlands
Trustee

Age Connects Wales

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2023

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 Unit 10, Sbectrwm, Bwlch Road, Fairwater, Cardiff, CF5 3EF.

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 2023.

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 projects or commitments.

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.

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.

Age Connects Wales

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

Resources expended

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

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

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

Financial instruments

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. Staff costs

Age Connects Wales does not directly employ any employees. Any incurred wages or salary costs are from re-charges from other Age Connects charities.

The average head count of employees during the year was Nil (2022: Nil). No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2022: Nil).

5. Trustee remuneration and expenses

There were no remuneration or other benefits for the year ending 31st March 2023.