

Company registration number: CE012364

Registered charity number: 1174878

# **Annual Report and Accounts**

**New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS)**  
**For the year ended 27 March 2022**

Prepared by CBA Services Limited

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# Reference and Administrative Details

## New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS) For the year ended 27 March 2022

### Registered Charity Number

1174878

### Company Registration Number

CEO12364

### Trustees

Neil Kernon, Chair

Jennie Fellowes, Treasurer

Rebecca Dawson (resigned 31 March 2022)

Dr Neil Scott (resigned 31 March 2022)

Sharon Cripps

Byron Quayle

Angela Potter (appointed 9 November 2022)

### Principal Address

27 Salisbury Street, Blandford Forum, Dorset, GBR, DT11 7AU

### Bankers

Lloyds Bank Plc

7 Carter Street, Uttoxeter, Staffordshire, ST14 8HD

### Independent Examiners

CBA Services Limited

45 East Street, Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 7DX

# Trustees' Report

## New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS) For the year ended 27 March 2022

### Objectives and Activities

#### Purpose

The promotion of social inclusion for the public benefit of people in Dorset who are socially and economically excluded on grounds of their autism spectrum condition (ASC), including Asperger syndrome; or mental ill-health, who experience high levels of social anxiety and difficulties with social interaction, by providing the objects. In this context 'socially excluded' means being excluded from society, or parts of society, including access to employment, as a result of disability (autism spectrum condition) or mental ill-health.

#### Activities

1. Structured opportunities to develop and gain social and communication skills through the medium of games in a range of weekly clubs open to all. This year this includes online games, support, advice and engagement for those struggling with CoVid19 lockdowns in addition to their everyday needs. These were run as both one to one as well as group sessions, as needed. An on-demand service was provided for our most vulnerable members.
2. A drop-in centre with facilities to socialise and develop friendships, and from which to access information on local services and support with job seeking.
3. Volunteering and employment opportunities.
4. Outreach work in the community.

#### Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

#### Volunteers

Volunteers continue to make a significant contribution to the charity's ability to meet Object 1 as the clubs rely upon the support and contribution of our volunteers. They also all agree and partake in specialised training.

A special mention needs to be given to Joseph Hampson for his absolute dedication and work for the charity. Joe rarely misses a session and is the go-to for many members, volunteers and leaders alike.

All clubs require at least 2 adults who have successfully completed enhanced DBS checks, have been certified in Health and Safety at Work, First Aid and Safeguarding Level 2. All volunteers complete the training ahead of volunteering. Online support continues to be important for the community to maintain itself whilst trying to recover from the CoVid19 pandemic.

A huge thank you to Neil Guest, Francoise Henon-Lees and Kieran MacDonald for their ongoing time and efforts to help re-establish the community.

The clubs continue to be the main setting for development and maintenance of social skills. This is done through the playing of games that require cooperation, competition, paired, small group or role playing rules. The rules ensure that everyone is clear about what is acceptable. During this financial period the clubs ran 4 times a week, including at the weekend and drop in, more one to one work has taken place throughout the remaining opening hours.

Our links with local groups such as Equine Assisted Learning ensured we continued to have NEET engagement. Volunteers also supported the drop in sessions for Object 2. Drop ins took place from Monday to Saturday inclusive throughout the day. Drop ins were an opportunity for new members to find a quiet time to start interacting safely with other people and also for other members to come in, in order to talk, meet new people, develop new friendships etc.... Several members became volunteers through the development programme which led to employment and developed confidence, helping NEETs etc... move into employment, satisfying Object 3.

Outreach in the community continued during this period with Francoise Henon-Lees playing a significant part in her role as coordinator for volunteers.



## Achievements and Performance

- This year we are thrilled to announce that we have achieved the Charity Quality Mark, working with the DYA. This has really helped us to identify our strengths and those areas that need further development. We have also had a fair amount of input on the website and social media and expect to be able to make some useful changes to those in this coming year. The year began with our two key leaders completing training and risk assessing for Covid and other potential infections. Consequently we are applying for funding from the Jubilee Fund for 'hands-free' soap dispensers and towels to minimise infection potential. The application will also be made for refurbishment to help give ownership of the premises to our budding new members, who have been queuing out the door! There has also been a marked increase in the number of new female members, which is great news. Although lockdowns ended in the first half of the year, the knock on effect can still be felt through the increased negative mental health and members reaching out in serious crisis. It has been a very difficult time for everyone but for those already struggling with social anxiety, deprivation and Asperger's it continues to be very difficult to trust.
- Our volunteers and leaders have worked extremely hard to revitalise the charity following Covid changes and we are so glad that we are achieving this, not least as members and visitors continue to find us and make good use of the support and community provided.
- NOCS continues to provide new opportunities and the Noc's Box element continues to be an essential key gateway and route to ensure a good mix of both beneficiaries and the wider community. It has continued, when possible, to enable development experience of punctuality, patience, clarity and general employment skills. Work experience opportunities have necessarily dwindled whilst training and development have occurred but with our expected new hands free facilities we really look forward to this starting again in the new financial year.
- Our NEET members have had to deal with some difficult challenges this year, not least the loss of council support. NOCS are really pleased to report that our NEET members continued to fare well with another realising the importance of education and so joining further education. He reports that the as a result of the activities that he developed with the charity he has been able to create secure and positive links within education that are helping to motivate his continued learning. Another NEET member has started working and despite the unexpected demands, such as the company having to withdraw from their apprenticeship scheme, has successfully remained in post. It became clear that without the council support some NEET members struggled and so we are now available for NEET focus throughout the week.
- In terms of the clubs we are very pleased to report that all of our clubs continue to thrive with volunteers and leaders actively engaged face to face. We have successfully maintained the Young Gamers' Role Play Club, Young Gamer' Skirmish Club and Young Gamers' Board and Card Game Club along side a family session and over 16s session. In fact we have had to open a second young gamers role play club due to demand.
- Last year we reported that we intended to develop our website and were making bids to set up a broader range of technologies. Sadly, but understandably, funding has not been made for this type of activity. Nonetheless we have worked with the Dorset Youth Association to make developments and will continue to do so over the next year.
- Throughout, Noc, NOCS and Noc's Box have continued, when possible, to engage with and signpost many other charities and facilities in the local community and they continued to return the favour. This ensures our beneficiaries are able to start developing successful interactions with the broader community, feeling more confident. For some this is the first time that they have experienced positive interaction with e.g. the police and felt safe enough to take part in activities in local pubs/restaurants and to include their family in their friendship group. New partnerships have been established including a Pokemon group for our younger members, which also encourages physical exercise.
- We started the year with the continued and very welcome help of the National Lottery Community Fund and the support of Children in Need. These 2 funders have been particularly important in enabling us to use our premises, to employ our general manager, special needs facilitator hours and volunteer coordinator. Funding this year has been very different with a significant drop in income due to the change of funding focus both locally and nationally. Our charitable objectives, linking to emotional wellbeing and positive mental health, have not met the criteria for the majority of funders which has proved to be very difficult, especially considering the increased needs of our membership and other drop-in visitors.

### Financial Review

Please refer to the End of Year Accounts to see our financial position and list of assets. We are not in deficit and all allocated funds will be/are in the process of being spent on the allocations specified.

### Structure, Governance and Management

NOCS Charity is a CIO and is governed by its constitution which is available to read on the Charity Commission website. Trustees are selected by matching potential new trustees to the needs of the Charity. No one person is entitled to appoint one or more trustees. All undergo interview by a designated selection of current trustees, undergo a DBS check and are then formally invited to the role if successful by resolution. This process is legal and outlined in our constitution.

### Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and accounts in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. In addition the trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and to disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. The 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.

### Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

### Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees



Neil Kernon

Chair

Date 19/12/2022

# Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of

## New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS)

### For the year ended 27 March 2022

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Charity") for the year ended 27 March 2022 which are set out on pages 8 to 9.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity's trustees, 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 Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all 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 no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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.

Signature.....C.Chapman .

Catherine Chapman, ATT, MIAB

CBA Services Limited

45 East Street, Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 7DX

Date.....19 December 2022 .



# Receipts and Payments

## New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS) For the year ended 27 March 2022

	NOTES	2022 UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	2022 RESTRICTED FUNDS	2022 TOTAL FUNDS	2021 TOTAL FUNDS
<b>Receipts</b>					
Grant Income		8,000	3,436	11,436	29,820
Local Project Bids		-	13,824	13,824	25,324
Other Donations		1,044	-	1,044	718
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>9,044</b>	<b>17,260</b>	<b>26,304</b>	<b>55,862</b>
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>9,044</b>	<b>17,260</b>	<b>26,304</b>	<b>55,862</b>
<b>Payments</b>					
Cost of Fundraising		-	241	241	216
Audit & Accountancy fees		1,200	-	1,200	-
Bookkeeping		819	-	819	473
Cleaning		268	-	268	94
General Expenses		24	-	24	-
Insurance		555	500	1,055	-
IT Software and Consumables		313	125	438	-
Light, Power, Heating		402	-	402	359
Pensions Costs		-	263	263	264
Printing & Stationery		-	67	67	-
Rates		492	-	492	106
Rent		3,834	6,166	10,000	10,000
Repairs & Maintenance		1,500	39	1,539	290
Resources		-	-	-	(54)
Salaries		-	21,471	21,471	19,358
Staff Training		-	132	132	501
Subscriptions		-	-	-	50
Telephone & Internet		369	-	369	705
Fund Transfer		(2,681)	2,681	-	-
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>7,095</b>	<b>31,685</b>	<b>38,779</b>	<b>32,361</b>
<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>7,095</b>	<b>31,685</b>	<b>38,779</b>	<b>32,361</b>
<b>Net of Receipts/(Payments)</b>		<b>1,949</b>	<b>(14,425)</b>	<b>(12,475)</b>	<b>23,500</b>
<b>Funds of The Charity</b>					
Cash Funds Last Period End		17,646	19,022	36,668	13,167
Cash Funds This Period End		19,596	4,597	24,192	36,668



# Statement of Assets and Liabilities

## New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS) As at 27 March 2022

	NOTES	27 MAR 2022	27 MAR 2021
<b>Cash Funds</b>			
Bank Account		24,117	36,568
Petty Cash		76	100
<b>Total Cash Funds</b>		<b>24,192</b>	<b>36,668</b>
<b>Total Net Assets/(Liabilities)</b>		<b>24,192</b>	<b>36,668</b>
<b>Funds of the Charity</b>			
Funds Last Period End		36,668	13,167
Net of Receipts/(Payments)		(12,475)	23,500
<b>Total Funds of the Charity</b>		<b>24,192</b>	<b>36,668</b>

These accounts have been prepared on the receipts and payments basis in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. The Receipts and Payments account recognises only money received and paid in the period and excludes the value of all other assets received in kind unless, and until, converted into money.

Fixed assets are expensed if they can be used for more than one year, are valued at cost and cost at least £500.

The CIO is registered for Gift Aid and is not registered for VAT.

	NOTES	27 MAR 2022	27 MAR 2021
<b>1. Assets retained for own use</b>			
Tables		504	504
Chairs		413	413
Fire Alarm System		845	845
<b>Total Assets retained for own use</b>		<b>1,762</b>	<b>1,762</b>

	NOTES	27 MAR 2022	27 MAR 2021
<b>2. Funds of the Charity</b>			
Unrestricted funds		19,595	17,646
Restricted funds		4,597	19,022
<b>Total Funds of the Charity</b>		<b>24,192</b>	<b>36,668</b>

### Approval

The trustees confirm, in accordance with the Charitable Incorporated Organisations (General) Regulations 2012, that at the period end the CIO did not have any outstanding guarantees to third parties nor any debts secured on assets of the CIO.

Signed on behalf of all the trustees



Neil Kernon, Chair

Date: 19/12/2022

# Analysis of funds

## New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS) For the year ended 27 March 2022

### Charity funds

	Balance at 28 March 2021 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 27 March 2022 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General	17,646	9,044	(9,776)	2,681	19,595
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Children in Need	4,542	8,824	(10,694)	-	2,672
Groundwork UK	1,166	-	(1,166)	-	-
Job Retention Scheme	103	3,436	(3,539)	-	-
National Lottery Fund	10,529	5,000	(13,604)	-	1,925
Other	2,681	-	-	(2,681)	-
Total	19,022	17,260	(29,003)	-	4,597
<b>Total funds</b>	36,668	26,304	(38,779)	-	24,192

	Balance at 28 March 2020 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 27 March 2021 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General	10,236	15,149	(7,739)	-	17,646
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Children in Need	-			-	4,542
Groundwork UK	-	1,166	-	-	1,166
Job Retention Scheme	-	14,223	(14,120)	-	103
National Lottery Fund	-			-	10,529
Other	-			-	2,681
Total	2,931	40,713	(24,623)	-	19,022
<b>Total funds</b>	13,167	55,862	(32,361)	-	36,668

*This page does not form part of the financial statements.*