THE MAGPIE PROJECT

England & Wales · Charity number 1176267

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2017-12-13
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Grassroots Centre Memorial Avenue London E15 3DB
Phone	07561180825
Email	themagpieprojecte7@gmail.com
Website	www.themagpieproject.org

Activities

Objects: THE PREVENTION AND RELIEF OF POVERTY FOR FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN LIVING IN TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION OR AT THREAT OF HOMELESSNESS IN NEWHAM AND ADJACENT BOROUGHS - IN PARTICULAR PROVIDING A SPACE TO PLAY AND LEARN, AND FOR PARENTS AND CARERS TO GAIN PROFESSIONAL ADVICE AND FORM A SOCIAL NETWORKS IN ORDER TO ALLEVIATE IMMEDIATE DIFFICULTIES, SEEK SOLUTIONS TO ADDRESS THEIR NEEDS AND RE-INTEGRATE INTO EXISTING UNIVERSAL SERVICES.

Activities: We provide practical support and advice to mothers and children under five in temporary or insecure accommodation in Newham.We believe all children have a right to a secure, safe place to play, healthy food, engaged parents, and access support no matter what their family circumstances.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty
- **Who:** Children/young People, Other Defined Groups

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Geography

- Newham

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£625,512	£564,278	£215,789	13
2024-08-31	£457,130	£479,177	-	-
2023-08-31	£429,907	£446,580	-	-
2022-06-30	£246,135	£310,791	-	-
2021-06-30	£368,388	£244,944	-	-
2020-06-30	£288,785	£168,379	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Maria Iglesias	Chair	2025-12-05
Christy Isaac		2025-04-01
Dr Sveta Alladi		2021-03-12
Freya Stock Jones		2025-05-01
Paula Reily		2021-03-12
Samantha Ward		2022-07-12
Theodore Harrison		2025-04-01
Therese Radhika Bynon		2021-03-12

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THE MAGPIE PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1176267

Accounts

The Magpie Project

Trustees Annual Report and Unaudited Financial Statements Year ended 31 August 2025

Charity registration - 1176267

Contents

Legal and administrative information 4

Trustees annual report 5

- Objectives and activities 5
- Achievements and performance in the year 6
- Partnerships and collaborations 11
- Organisational development 13
- Plans for the future 15
- Structure, governance & management 17
- Financial review 17
- Statement of Board of Trustees' responsibilities 18

Independent examiner's report 20

Statement of financial activities 22

Balance sheet 23

Statement of cash flows 24

Notes to the financial statements 25

Legal and administrative information

Charity name

The Magpie Project

Charity registration no.

1176267

Registered office and contact details

Grassroots Centre
Memorial Avenue
London
E15 3DB

Trustees

Sveta Alladi-Sekidde	
Therese Bynon	
Paula Reily	
Samantha Ward	(Interim chair until December 2025)
Amy Ross	(appointed September 2024, resigned September 2025)
Christy Isaac	(appointed April 2025)
Theodore Harrison	(appointed April 2025)
Freya Stock Jones	(appointed May 2025)
Maria Iglesias	(appointed December 2025, appointed chair December 2025)

Chief executive officer

Jane Williams

Finance and operations manager

Rosie Harries	(resigned September 2025)

Director of operations

Connie Cullen	(appointed October 2025)

Independent examiner

Enaid Accountancy Ltd
Platform 10 Engine Rooms
Hood Road
Barry
CF62 5QL

Bankers

HSBC Bank plc
15 The Mall
Stratford
E15 1XL

Trustees annual report

The Board of Trustees submit their annual report and the financial statements of The Magpie Project for the year ended 31 August 2025.

The Board of Trustees confirms that the annual report and financial statements of the Charity comply with current statutory requirements, including the Charity Act 2011, as well as the requirements of the Society's governing document and the provisions of the 'Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 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) second edition (effective 1 January 2019)', and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Objectives and activities

Objectives

The objects of the Charity are: The prevention and relief of poverty for families with young children living in temporary accommodation or at threat of homelessness in Newham and adjacent boroughs – in particular, providing a space to play and learn, and for parents to gain professional advice and form social networks in order to alleviate immediate difficulties, seek solutions to address their need and reintegrate into existing universal services.

We support insecurely or temporarily housed women with pre-school children living in Newham and surrounding boroughs, who on entry to our project are subject to the hostile immigration environment. Our mission is to make life better – materially, socially, financially, and emotionally – for the families coming to the project and to ensure that pre-school children do not suffer long-term negative consequences of the poor housing and destitution they are experiencing. We know that we are not able to resolve for each mum and child the structural issues of housing, the hostile immigration environment, the cost of living, and entrenched poverty that form a complex web of barriers to their wellbeing. For each family, we aim to reduce the risk to their immediate wellbeing and mitigate the long-term risks to their health and development that these interconnected issues pose. We do this by offering a continuum of care including practical and material help, peer to peer support, play, joy and celebration, belonging and reassurance – while our family support teams try to advocate and navigate the services to which our mums are entitled. This year, our Reach team built on the launch of a campaign "No Child in a Home without a Kitchen", empowering mums to advocate for the structural change which their experience makes clear is essential.

Our vision is for happier, healthier children, being positively parented by well-supported and well-informed mums who feel more in control of their situation.

Activities

Our activities include the provision of services from our building at the Grassroots Centre in West Ham, to families with pre-school children who are subject to the hostile immigration environment on entry, and campaigning on the policy and practical issues which affect them. Our full timetable of regular events can be seen below (see Performance: Service Delivery).

At the centre of the open access sessions is our stay and play session, where mums and minis have space and time to play together, spend time with peers and enjoy the toys and variety of themed activities designed by our play team to ensure bodies and minds can relax and develop.

We offer mums and minis freshly prepared breakfast and lunch alongside our open access sessions every week; making use of fresh food delivered to us by partners City Harvest to create nutritious and delicious meals.

During the play session, mums can talk with our casework team, who connect them with services and provide small grants for emergencies and essential items. Our baby bank provides essential items such as nappies, wipes, clothes and maternity bags for new mums, on site.

Alongside our regular sessions we are able to offer our mums and minis one-off events either in our workshop sessions or through outings with visiting organisations and partners. We also organise trips to local parks, Discover Story Centre and Westfield's Christmas grottos. This year we have continued to offer SEND provision on a Thursday and a Maternity Listening Circle for mothers who have recently given birth to talk through their experiences.

Our REACH team campaign, No Child in a Home Without a Kitchen, aims to end the use of hotels without kitchens to house families with children under five.



Fig 1. The Magpie Project Intervention Pyramid

Public Benefit Statement

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

Achievements and performance in the year

Numbers supported

Over the past year we supported 513 mums and 790 pre-school children (2023-24: 541 and 557. 2022-23: 495 and 537). This slight decrease in the number of families attending over the course of the year was due to several factors, first and most importantly our move to a new building in September 2024. We found our number of visitors from September to December 2024 was significantly lower than it had been the previous year, though since that period the number of families has again increased. The second reason for this slight decrease in numbers is due to the closure of one Home Office hotel housing families in Newham in 2024, and a general decrease in the number of families placed in contingency hotels. We regularly monitor our numbers and review our eligibility criteria.

Service Delivery

This year we concentrated on embedding our services in our new base, while adding only a few new programmes and partnerships. Our schedule continues to offer a range activities for mums and minis throughout the week during term-time:

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Drop-in stay-and-play session with breakfast, lunch, play, baby bank, and casework Workshops on accessing housing, benefits, banking services	Specialist advice session in partnership with Shelter, Praxis, and UCL Centre for Access to Justice	Drop-in stay-and-play session with breakfast, lunch, play, baby bank, and casework Workshops on specific topics such as potty training, safe sleeping, children's development	'Pathways' project for children with emerging SEN Form Filling partnership with UCL and Clyde and co. 'Music, Motherhood, and Me' project – concluded December 2024.	Singing and music-making Steering committee meetings REACH campaign group fortnightly meeting

<u>Supported stay and play</u>

Our stay-and-play sessions on Mondays and Wednesdays continue to be the keystone of the week. This year 433 families accessed a stay and play session with there being 2,514 individual family visits.

Whereas until September 2024 we were operating out of a single room, our new building has enabled us to offer much more focused and deep play in a dedicated space where food is separate, and we do not have to set up and pack down to enable other meetings, or workshops to take place. This has transformed the quality of our play.

New families come to register with us, and those who are already members of the project enjoy:

- Quality indoor and outdoor directed developmentally aware play
- Healthy breakfast and lunch
- Access to our baby bank of nappies, clothes, toiletries and other essential items
- Casework and family support
- Dance and movement artists supporting child development
- English conversation drop-in
- Togetherness and joy within a safe and familiar space

To make sure that we have understood and mitigated the barriers that families face trying to access help we:

- Run a strictly drop-in service with no appointments
- Give £3.50 towards the cost of travel
- Ensure that there are free breakfast and lunch available at all these sessions
- Offer nappies and clothes where needed
- Provide an interpretation service for all casework
- Create a safe and welcoming space which is trauma-informed, child-centred, and designed to offer a safety net for families during their time in crisis

Food offer

Our new building's kitchen enabled us to extend the quality of our food offer to families – allowing them to access a healthy breakfast all morning in a dedicated café area, as well as enabling a more extensive vegetarian lunch menu cooked on site from scratch. All attending families (513) accessed food at every visit and we estimate that we have provided 9,930 nutritious meals for our mums and minis, staff and volunteers during the year. We have also offered 440 special occasion meals at Christmas, Iftar at Eid and summer parties and estimate that we have been able to provide 1,500 bags of take-home fresh ingredients after sessions.

Taster and information workshops

We use workshop sessions from 1pm to 2pm on Mondays and Wednesdays in three distinct ways. Firstly, to discuss internal organisation – we organize termly 'mothers' meetings' to hear about what mothers want from the project, we also discuss and update our shared behaviour agreements and values. Secondly, we use these sessions to introduce the offers of our own wider programme (e.g., Motherhood listening circles, information sessions on our graduation workshops; or other local organisations local keep fit groups offering taster sessions, partners such as Discover Story showcasing their offer). Thirdly, we use the workshop sessions to discuss and give information and discuss parenting concerns such as dental health, potty training, sleep and safety in the home. A total of 101 unique families have attended one or more post-session workshops.

Family Support

Every new mum is offered a welcome meeting with our casework team which is intended to make sure the family is plugged into the support services they need and to which they are entitled including; food banks, health GP, midwives, and other local charities. Every year our two-person casework team offers placements to two social work students a year to increase capacity on referrals and recording data. As well as listening, providing navigation, advocacy, and a sense of welcome and belonging our referrals have included:

- 223 food bank referrals
- 104 referrals to our sister project Newham Nurture for ante-natal care
- 92 referrals to our partner Praxis for immigration advice
- 40 referrals to Shelter for housing advice and advocacy
- 78 referrals to health visitors
- 57 to local children's centres
- 15 to domestic violence
- 18 multi-agency safeguarding hub referrals

Alongside regular referrals our case work team provided benevolent grants for 137 families totalling £29,422 alongside specialist DV funds, emergency moving funds, and on the day micro-grants of £20 a time.

Specialist advice clinic

The team untangle complex situations around immigration, domestic abuse and housing which can take months of regular check-ins and many referrals to external organisations, legal support, and advocacy charities. These referrals to outside organisations have been challenging as our families struggle to get to external appointments for legal, immigration, and housing advice due to childcare, travel or other issues. For this reason we have worked to create an on site advice clinic so that mums can access these professionals in a familiar, supported environment with travel paid, food available, childcare and interpreters on hand, as well as a familiar caseworker doing a warm handover so that mum does not have to start from scratch telling her story over again.

Tuesdays see our visiting partners Praxis (immigration advice and casework), Shelter (housing advice and casework) and UCL Centre for Access to Justice (legal advice and casework) working with families referred

to them by our family support team. In addition to these internal referrals, our family support team refer externally to organisations such as Ashiana Network, Hestia, NHS talking therapies, Project 17, The Unity Project, Together with Migrant Children, Maternity Action, London Black Women's Project and others.

Our inbound referrals come from health visitors, midwives, social workers and organisations such as Hestia and Care4Calais, who work directly in local Home Office contingency hotels. We are proud to say personal recommendation from current and ex-Magpie mothers continues to be our largest single referral route.

SEND pathways project

This year, Pathways, our specialist SEND project continued: the project is aimed at supporting our families who have children with emerging needs at the same time as working alongside health, SEND, and early years professionals to unpick the barriers and facilitators to accessing help and support. This two-year project is based around a specialist stay and play provision for families who are identified as having children with emerging needs. Led by our Play Lead and supported by specialist volunteers with SEND, Autism, and psychology training, the stay and play has also welcomed the Flying Seagull Circus who used the sessions to create and test a 'sensory suitcase' show to meet the needs of children with emerging needs in their own national and international work.

Alongside this stay and play, five chosen mums and professionals have attended workshops which have resulted in the creation of a report on their and their children's experience of accessing SEND. The themes that this report addresses are better provision of play for those waiting for a diagnosis or intervention, mapping of existing Newham services, prepared health professionals who are aware of the barriers facing our families, and finally suggestions for changes to service provision, policies or procedures.

We have been happy to work with consultants Just Ideas to facilitate these workshops. As with all our co-creation work, we are careful to create equity and a fair exchange for mothers who share their time and expertise with us – so we also provide one to one support and advocacy for participating mums in their individual journeys to find support for their children. The SEND report written in collaboration with sector specialist Megan Pacey will be published in 2026.

Advocacy and Voice

Having set out to simply meet the basic needs of families experiencing homelessness or insecure housing, we quickly uncovered recurring and systemic issues faced by successive families which compelled us to address the wider environment in which our families were seeking and being blocked in accessing, or being denied, support.

Our advocacy work is grounded in the relationships of trust built through months and years of being alongside mums on each step of their journey through homelessness and the hostile environment. It is through these relationships that we earn our legitimacy to speak on the issues affecting mums' lives and - where possible and safe to do so – to support them to tell their stories in spaces where decisions about issues affecting their lives are made.

Our Rights, Experience, Advocacy, Change (REACH) team, which campaigns to end the use of hotels without kitchens to house families with children under five is led by a former Magpie Mum who has graduated from the project. Our REACH Co-ordinator is co-chair of the Newham Temporary Accommodation Action Group (TAAG) and participates in the steering group on Lived Experience for all London TAAGs. We are also invited to share best practice and influence ways of working across a multitude of organisations and sectors including early years, health and housing. We have worked closely with the Trust for London Better TA alliance, and 4 in 10 (child povert group) to take the concerns of our mothers London wide, and address national policy for the provision of food in hotel accommodation. We have contributed to the following committees and reports this year:

- Feeding into the Homelessness Select committee call for evidence
- Monthly meetings with LB Newham Public Health and Housing team on the subject of food access for families in hotels and other temporary or emergency accommodation
- Monthly meeting with LB Newham Housing team to address issues arising for our mothers
- Hosting a visit from the European Commissioner for Human Rights resulting in his call to review NRPF as a driver for child poverty in the UK

- Peter Apps' book 'Homesick' which features the stories of three mums from our leadership group
- End Furniture Poverty 'More than a Roof' report
- The Childhood Trust report 'Housed but not Homed' on furniture poverty
- 'Debt Trap' by Katherine Brickell includes interviews with Magpie mums on the role debt plays in homelessness
- 4 in 10 'Lives on Hold' report on child poverty

During this year the REACH campaign has hosted Tom Copley Deputy Mayor of London for housing, Joanna McCartney Deputy Mayor of London for families, local MPs James Asser, Uma Kumaran and Sir Stephen Timms, the Mayor of Newham, and the Council of Europe Commissioner, all coming to separate information sessions to hear about our campaign. We have also worked with organisations in Oxford, Redbridge and Westminster as well as national organisations such as Sustain and Migrants Organise to share how we have been making change. The campaign has had press coverage in the Guardian and the Metro newspapers.

Advocacy and campaigning wins during this period have included:

- A writing off of £175,000 of debt incurred through daily service charges being wrongly applied to Newham families housed in commercial hotels under Newham's emergency duty
- A reduction of the number of families placed by Newham in hotels without cooking facilities
- A change in caterer, and the provision of specialist Ramadan and toddler meals in the main contingency hotel in Newham housing those seeking asylum
- Involvement of Public Health team and Newham Food Alliance in supporting community kitchen offers to families living with cooking facilities

Despite these achievements there have been challenges with our advocacy work. We are permanently recruiting for REACH as the nature of our mums' lives means that their capacity to contribute can come and go, and the blight of out-of-borough placements means that key members can be moved away with 24 hours' notice.

Graduation pathways

Our graduation pathways for mothers who get their refugee status or leave to remain are continuing to evolve. We were running eight-week courses three times a year including workshops on banking, housing entitlement, benefits, budgeting and computer literacy, however, we have found that the extremely difficult housing situation means that mothers are moved out of borough within 28 days of gaining their status, making it impossible for them to undertake the pathway in its original form.

In a further evolution this year we moved towards a rolling session of graduation workshops that mothers can join on gaining their status, and choose from a menu of 8 or 9 workshops including budgeting, financial products and banking, housing entitlement, goal setting, welfare entitlements, and digital skills. We relaunched these sessions in the last term of the reporting period and 7 mums have already graduated from these courses.

Our graduation and form filling pathways are currently undertaking an learning partnership with the large scale study Healthier Wealthier Families in East London. We are welcoming two volunteer researchers who work alongside our mothers to create a template for a co-designed, community embedded advice service – the template for which can be used elsewhere to ensure that families are getting the advice they need to improve the health outcomes of their children.

Partnerships and collaborations

Form filling partnerships

In the previous year, we were seeing immense need for navigation, support and form filling for mums who at the point of gaining their immigration status suddenly needed to apply for housing, benefits etc. On surveying the advice, support and form-filling capacity in Newham, and its accessibility to our mums (travel costs, food, crèche, interpreters, a safe and understanding space) we realized that there are very few alternatives for our families who face a wall of paperwork on gaining their status.

Although we have a policy of pushing back on local and statutory organisations where they have capacity or a contract to provide a service – rather than duplicating it internally – we believed we had no option but to extend and deepen our Tuesday volunteer form filling sessions through a partnership with UCL Centre for Access to Justice, and Clyde & Co, a City law firm. This reporting year we have trained more than 50 Clyde & Co employees to volunteer to help our mums complete homelessness applications, Universal Credit claims and Child Benefit forms. Families are referred internally to this service held at UCL Centre for Access to Justice's offices in Stratford.

In November 2024 the partnership won a LAWSTOP award as best new pro bono partnership. The service has helped 122 unique families through 176 appointments, covering Universal Credit applications, homelessness applications, benefit applications such as Housing Benefit, Child Benefit and Child Tax Credits, housing register applications, HC1 form, bank account applications and school or nursery registrations.

Professional support to deliver our activities

As described above, we start from a position of not wanting to duplicate services that exist within our community. We only look to bring a service in house when those services either do not exist, or where barriers such as travel, or fear of judgement, lack of childcare make them impossible to access. Over the past year we have partnered with the following organisations:

- Shelter, Praxis and UCL Centre for Access to Justice who deliver our weekly advice sessions
- Local health visitors who attend our drop-in sessions once a fortnight to meet families, answer questions, and identify children who may need additional support
- Clyde & Co law firm where 50 volunteers have been trained to attend sessions to support with form-filling, applications, and to provide advice
- University of East London who place social work students with us for placements within our services over a period of five months, during which they support with casework and learn from the way we deliver our work
- The Financial Conduct Authority, Shelter and others who help to deliver our graduation workshops
- Newham Family Navigators who run an information session within our service weekly

Our Praxis worker's time is covered by funding from The Access to Justice Foundation secured in a joint bid with Praxis, which is led by Praxis.

Creative collaborations

We believe joy and creativity are vital to the work we do. We find the very best artists, musicians and other professionals to work with our families to improve their resilience, confidence, and sense of community, as well as providing positive and empowering opportunities for voice and storytelling. This year we have worked with the following creative partners:

- London Rhymes musicians have delivered weekly singing and music-making sessions with our families, including writing, performing, and recording several new songs which are available on YouTube
- Louise Klarnett has continued to bring her therapeutic dance and movement practice into our weekly sessions to work with mums and children whose bodies are impacted by trauma, stress, and housing

- Breakfast Club Quartet have come to perform for our families

- Music Motherhood and Me team have been working with mums to map their motherhood journeys in music

- Nell Hardy Theatre director and Melissa Kitty Jarram on the capturing of stories and creation of a mural for our new building

- The Discover Story Centre has delivered story time sessions within our play sessions throughout the year, as a taster for families to encourage them to take up the free memberships Discover make available to Magpie families

Donated items and experiences

Over the past year we have received donations from local businesses and community members which have helped us meet families' basic needs for food, clothes, toiletries, baby equipment, and other essentials:

- **Food**: We receive twice-weekly deliveries of surplus food from City Harvest that we turn into delicious, freshly prepared breakfasts and lunches for our families

- **Clothes**: Donations of new clothes came from Westfield London, Knit for Peace, and Children's Salon, Phase Eight, 52 Lives and high quality pre-loved clothes from Little Village, Care4Calais, and countless community members, that we distributed to families at our regular 'Clothes Clubs'. We have given clothes to 342 unique families during our 'Clothes Clubs', we have given out around 900 bundles of children's clothes (a mix of new and second hand) during clothes clubs and 95 in emergency 'on the day' support to children attending for the first time. These have an approximate value of £40 each bundle and add up to more than £39,800. Phase Eight's donation of 120 brand new women's coats for our families represented a value in excess of £20,000

- **Household**: Christmas gifts and hampers for 250 families were donated by local community members – more than £50 per family

- **Toiletries**: Basics and luxury toiletries came from Waitrose, Marks & Spencer, Bancroft Rugby Club, West Ham Supporters Foodbank, Clapton Community Football Club, Hygiene Bank, local schools, and community members

- **Mums' maternity bags**: We put together and distributed 97 bags for mums going into hospital – these included all baby and mother essentials for the first few days with an estimated cost of £50 if bought

- **Hotel toy bags**: Volunteers and staff sourced, sorted and distributed 35 toy bags to give to children living without toys in hotels and B&Bs

- **Toys and books**: Donations came from Westfield Stratford London, Hasbro, Newham Bookstore, local mosques, and community members

- **Nappies**: We provide nappies and wipes to all those attending on a fortnightly basis

- **Experiences**: We were provided with 15 weekly tickets for Magpie families to attend a 'Story Sandwich' at Discover Centre Stratford, free tickets for Westfield Stratford's 'Breakfast with Santa' event and tickets for 15 families to see the Christmas pantomime at Stratford Theatre Royal. Our partner Westfield also laid on two afternoon teas for 70 families with an approximate value of £4,900

Equipping our new home

We are very grateful to Westfield Stratford London, MUF Architecture, local businesses, and a local nursery for donating office equipment, cafe equipment, play equipment, to furnish our new building. Westfield also offered repairs and cleaning services pro bono, and our corporate partner Weil gave us four printers. We have benefited from a generous donation of second-hand items from Taylor Wessing that has included chairs and storage to the value of approximately £6,000. We also worked with Westfield Stratford and Buglife UK to seed a green roof on our premises, as well as Axis UK to help with repairs and improvements.

Partners and supporters

We would like to thank the following organisations and individuals for their pro bono, in-kind support during this reporting period: Active Newham, Alternatives Trust, Peter Apps, Ashiana Network, Axis UK, Bancroft Rugby Club, Beauty Banks, Bonny Downs Community Centre, Buglife UK, Care4Calais, Clapton Community Football Club, Clyde and Co, Compass Wellbeing, Discover Story Centre, Dr Sophie Doswell, Enabled Living, Feed the Streetz, Flying Seagull Circus, Gainsborough Quilters, the GLA, Hadley, James Asser MP, Just Life, Laura Jackson, Lush, Kilnbridge, Knit for Peace, Little Village, London School of Paediatrics, Lush, Maternity Action, Mayor of Newham Rokhsana Fiaz, Museum of Homelessness, Newham Bookshop, Newham Food Alliance, Newham Nurture, Newsteer, Number 8 Emporium, Olia Hercules, Papier, Jessica Paliza at Abra Reiki, Right to Remain, Salvation Army, Shelter, Louise Klarnett and Roselle Gillam at Starling Clinic, St Antony's, St Bonaventure's, Sir Stephen Timms MP, Taylor Wessing, The Unity Project, Tower Hamlets Law Centre, Trust for London Funder Plus, Uma Kamaran MP, Wanstead and Forest Gate WIs, Weil, West Ham Supporters Foodbank, Westfield Stratford London, Ziipline.

Organisational development

Co-creation and mums' voice

The project was built through co-production, and we continue to do this through daily, weekly and termly conversations with mums and minis using the service. We formalise this process through the creation of a steering committee of mums who work with our CEO to make key decisions around internal governance. Committee members are offered re-imbursement for their time, and all meetings offer lunch and creche to enable access.

This year our steering committee have reviewed their terms of reference, helped to plan our summer, Christmas and Eid celebrations, and reviewed of our behaviour agreement – adding in agreement around privacy and photography. The group has provided feedback on menus for our meals, provision of Clothes Club, and eligibility criteria for the project. We have given our steering committee mums red T shirts to wear to the project so that they are clearly visible for all our community to talk to, and bring complaints and suggestions. The steering committee also made videos in several languages to put on our mums' WhatsApp group to let mums know that they exist for everyone to bring suggestions or concerns to. On top of this, members of this team were given decisions on how to spend a grant given to mums for our 'Mums' Takeover' during the summer holidays which involved budgeting for, organizing, carrying out and reporting on weekly park meet-ups with mums and minis in parks around Newham while the project took its August break. The takeovers were enormously successful in August 2025 with an average attendance of more than 20 families at each meet up.

Difficulties in training, deepening the skills, and maintaining the numbers in the steering committee arise from the fact that both the Home Office and local authority housing departments frequently place families out of borough with little to no notice. This means that we are constantly having to recruit, inform and train this committee. We also continue to make efforts to ensure that all communities of mums (be it communities of language, religion or culture) are represented on the steering committee.

Team updates

The year 2024/5 saw significant shifts in our staffing, as we grew and understood the new benefits and challenges of having our own building. At the end of the previous reporting period (August 2024) we said goodbye to our Chief Financial Officer and welcomed a new Finance & Operations Manager who, alongside financial management oversaw the lease and management of our new premises. We also added a standalone part time fundraiser post.

In April 2025 – on realizing that the Finance & Operations role was far too broad, we brought in a standalone finance manager, and hived off our HR and H & S function to an external partner.

In the summer of 2025 we took on three part time staff who had all graduated from being mothers accessing our services, through volunteering routes and into paid employment. These roles have been instrumental in allowing us the flexibility to work safely in our new building with its additional kitchen, café and play-room staffing needs. We were also – with funding from Children in Need – able to recruit a Play Assistant to help our Play Lead create consistent and deep play offer two days a week.

We also continue to prioritise our reflective practice at the end of each drop-in session, where staff and volunteers are supported to process anything particularly challenging that has happened that day to minimise the build-up of residual stress.

Performance against strategic goals

The project's six strategic objectives remain a guiding tool for all that we undertake.



Child-Centred: We wish to remain child-centred in all that we do – this year we have been able to create a much more welcoming and enriching environment for our children through a clean, safe and well-equipped indoor and outdoor play-space; including children's toys and spaces in all of our family support rooms, continuing to advocate for children with SEND, and focusing on play as an end in itself.

Consolidate: After a period of rapid growth we have consolidated our structure, staffing and services this year. Outsourcing essential functions such as HR and H&S, refining staff roles, recruiting to senior leadership.

Cocoon: Moving in to a self-contained building means that we are able to create safety and belonging in a controlled environment for our mums and minis. The stability and opportunities for growth this represents are only just unfolding – including being able to make space available to community partners such as Discover Story Centre, Casework Solidarity Forum and Gainsborough Quilters, as well as offer evening events such as Iftar meals.

Community: We are determined to embed ourselves within our community and be led by them through curiosity, and constant listening. Our community-first recruitment policy means that the majority of our staff had previously volunteered at the project, and four of our staff are ex-Magpie Mums.

Change Work: The Magpie Project does not rest at service delivery. Our change work involves being alive to the evolving needs of our families through regular case work and advocacy, spotting structural or systemic issues, exploring them with our families and then advocating for change on a wider scale – not just family by family. We do this through our REACH team, but also by regular attendance at Local Authority meetings including with Newham Housing and the Newham CYPS team. Projects such as our SEND Pathways and Maternity Listening Circles create a template through which we offer immediate relief and engagement over certain issues, uncover and record wider issues, and then decide how we will advocate for our families on these issues – through a written report in the case of SEND pathways, and through research and professional development with Maternity Listening Circles.

Codify our Learning

As we have grown it has become increasingly important to discuss and record our vision, mission and values, our policies and practices and how we seek to meet the needs of our families in an agile and deeply relational way. To that end - in November 2024 we held a whole-project meeting facilitated by Just Ideas in which staff, trustees, volunteers and families honed our goals, beliefs and values. These now form a prominent part of our decision making and success measures. We have also engaged with UCL through the Healthier Wealthier Families in East London research project to capture our practices around co-producing culturally and trauma aware services, and with LSE to rewrite our original theory of change. These reports will be published in 2026.

Challenges

This year was characterized by staffing and organizational challenges created by our rapid growth. To ameliorate these we took advantage of some Funder Plus money from Trust for London in order to pay for an external consultant to study and recommend staffing structures that would work for us as we grow. This work was undertaken during the year and we are implementing many of the suggestions given including delegating line-management; working towards more self-managing teams with the charity and recruiting for more senior leadership.

Our capacity has also been affected by the long-term sickness of two key staff members. In a small organization this can severely affect operations and – while we have been able to cover essential frontline services – our ability to strategise and plan has been adversely affected.

The decrease in accessible face-to-face services from children's social care, children's centres, housing, domestic violence services, and problems accessing GP and health visiting services, has continued to be a factor in a significant amount of additional work for our casework staff.

We continue to be affected by reduced capacity among some of our key referral partners, especially immigration services, housing solicitors and children's centre family support workers. The impact of this is that families end up stuck in crisis for longer, as there is not the capacity in the wider system to take on their casework. We have been working on a panel with Sir Stephen Timms MP and others to address the lack of legal advice in Newham which will result in the creation of a Newham Law Centre in the borough in the coming year.

To mitigate the lack of immigration advice we have worked with Praxis to secure funding for a dedicated immigration advisor to support our families. They have worked well with us since September 2023, seeing an average of three families a week and unlocking complex cases to the benefit of many families. We are concerned that this Access to Justice Foundation funding from the Ministry of Justice was to end in March 2025, and though it has been extended, we will need to find further funding for what has become a vital partnership.

Plans for the future

We continue to be guided by the following strategic priorities for the year ahead:

FOCUS ON UNDER FIVES: Avoid 'mission creep' by making sure the day-to-day lived experience of our children is considered first in any undertaking.
How: Developmentally-led and trauma-informed play sessions; serving healthy nutritious food; providing essentials via our baby bank and vouchers; offering creche, or play alongside any workshops, form filling or family support, ensuring our casework informs and resources women to thrive as parents; and bringing a sense of joy, celebration and belonging.

BUILDING A BASE: Co-create a space alongside the mums, minis, volunteers and staff which works, is welcoming, accessible and promotes shared power and safety.
How: We will continue the work we started this year, focusing on the function of spaces within our building, and flow between areas to make sure mums and minis are comfortable. We will allow the building to inform new timetables, working patterns and the possibility for deeper partnerships with community partners and mums.

COMMUNITY, TRANSPARENCY AND CO-CREATION: Build the Magpie Project as a co-produced, transparent, sustainable, well-governed, organisation with confident staff alive to the changing needs of the mothers and minis whose needs we are meeting.
How: We will work with our steering group of mums to understand what is working well within the project and where we can improve our offering or approach. We will take the next steps in developing our infrastructure, with a particular focus on staff, volunteers, and our finance and HR functions.

ADVOCATING FOR ACCESS: Work to bring families into discussion with local authority and health partners to identify and remove structural barriers to accessing and navigating statutory and specialist services.
How: We will do this by sitting on working groups such as the Temporary Accommodation Action Group and the Anti-poverty Alliance, through our own projects such as Pre-school Pathways which enable conversations between parents and professionals, and by offering training to frontline workers from other areas (London School of Paediatrics, Newham Early Years practitioners).

POLICY: Ensure mums' voices, and experiences are heard in spaces where decisions are being made about their lives.
How: We will do this through the REACH team campaigns, by supporting other organisations' campaigns - where relevant - and by providing evidence to national reports.

LEARNING: Work as a test bed for radical and imaginative practice around working with our community and share this with others.

How: We will do this by recording and codifying our learning around trauma, safety, psychologically informed work, and somatically informed organisations, inviting researchers and external professionals to observe ways of working.

SWOT Analysis

Strengths	Weaknesses
• Experienced and growing staff team • Permanent building now fit for purpose • Positive funding and financial position • Strong community engagement (Magpie mum community and wider community) • Growing policy work • Strong professional partnerships • Skilled board members • Form-filling partnership with Clyde and Co • REACH team campaign gaining support across London and nationally	• Succession planning – mitigated by codifying learning and recruiting to senior leadership • Data and impact measurement through Salesforce - mitigated by internal training with external support • Loss of volunteers - mitigated by recruitment, and training and support of Magpie mum volunteers, increased relationships with corporate supporters to include volunteer days • Increasing requests for collaboration and sharing learning is a strain resources - mitigated by codify learning in shareable format • Staff sickness is high – mitigated by generous vacations, occupational health assessments, staff wellbeing focus • Amount of Risk we hold due to the hostile environment and safeguarding systems that do not recognize the impact of structural harm - mitigated by including analysis of Risk in all training and safeguarding protocols, advocate with local and national bodies on potential harms to our children of poor housing and hostile immigration environment
Opportunities	**Threats**
• New building • Increasing requests for Corporate partnerships • Consolidating lived-experience in policy area through Trust for London funding and our REACH team • Offering space and opportunities to aligned organisations in exchange for engagement with our families • Further embedding in to the new neighbourhood of Canning Town	• Increasing demand and complexity of need - mitigated by understanding of the remit of our work. Continued mapping of the support network of organisations to be referred on to. Training on housing law, immigration law etc. for our family support workers • Movement of families out of borough - mitigated by continuing to work with Newham Housing, and the Better TA initiative from Trust for London to raise the issue of out of borough placements • Impact of moral injury and vicarious trauma on staff working with and supporting families in crisis - mitigated by staff wellbeing, mental health days, support and supervision, psychologist on call • High numbers of children with SEN - mitigated by Pre-school pathways project supporting those with emerging needs through specialized play and advocacy • Rise in anti-immigration rhetoric - mitigated by concentrating on countering with love, play, moments of joy, belonging and safety

Structure, governance & management

The Magpie Project (the "Charity") was constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 13 December 2017, when it was registered with the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales as Charity No. 1176267.

Organisational Structure

Trustees delegate the day-to-day running of the Charity to the Chief Executive Officer ("CEO"). The operational structure consists of a Founder/CEO, Finance & Operations Manager, Fundraising Lead, Finance Lead, Family Support Manager, Family Support Worker, Play Lead, Play Assistant, Graduation Manager, REACH Coordinator, Administrative Assistant, Kitchen Manager, Donations Assistant. A steering committee of women who use or have used the charity actively participates in discussions and decision-making around internal governance and external advocacy, alongside the CEO.

Selection and appointment of Trustees

Trustee recruitment is an open process conducted by existing charity trustees through public advertising. Apart from the first charity trustees, each trustee is appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the Trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as charity trustees, the Trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the Charity. The Charity has been working with Reach Volunteering to recruit a permanent Chair.

Trustee Induction and Training

The Trustees make available to each new charity trustee, on or before his or her first appointment: a) a copy of the current version of the constitution, b) a copy of the Charity's latest Annual Report and statement of accounts, and c) a copy of the Charity Commission's trustee welcome pack and guidance (CC3) on the responsibilities of a charity trustee.

Risk management

The Trustees regularly review the key financial, operational, strategic, reputational, and safeguarding risks facing the Charity in quarterly meetings. A risk register is maintained and updated quarterly – or when a new risk is identified. Our risk register mirrors that weaknesses and threats in the above SWOT analysis. The trustees work with the CEO to put in place plans to address these risks.

Financial review

Investment and Reserves policy

The trustees aim to maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds of between three and six months of total expenditure. The trustees consider that this level of reserves will provide sufficient funds to continue delivering the core work of the charity in the case of declining income or increasing expenditure, while alternative funds are sought. The level of reserves held throughout the year is monitored quarterly, and the level of free reserves to be held will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Financial position

The charity's growth, enabled by its move into the Grassroots Centre at the beginning of this financial year, is reflected throughout our financial position for the year ending 31 August 2025.

We saw a 37% increase in total income in the last financial year compared to 2023-24, with increases in both unrestricted and restricted funding, and with a 57% increase in donations from community fundraising, corporate fundraising and benevolent grants.

Our accounts for the year ending 31 August 2025 show unrestricted funds of £168,672 (2024: £118,256) at the year end. The Trustees are pleased that we have increased our reserves in line with our reserves policy: the truly unrestricted element excluding designated funds of £7,019 is £161,653, just above our target of

between three and six months of total expenditure (3.43 months compared to 2023-24: 2.96).

We saw a 18% increase in expenditure, primarily driven by continuing to grow our staff team as a result of our move to the Grassroots Centre. As set out in last year's annual report, the move to Grassroots brought with it increased costs in operating a building of this size, but also in the level of staff and support needed to deliver services safely and to a high standard. The main increase in expenditure was in the direct support we provide to mums and minis, again the result of our increased capacity to deliver services at Grassroots.

The proportion of our funding (in £ value) which is unrestricted increased from just under to 50% of total income in 2023-24 to 52% in 2024-25. Although this is a small increase, maintaining this balance will remain a focus for the year ahead. Grants from trusts and foundations remain our single biggest source of income, at 74% of the total. In order to sustain our position following this period of growth, we intend to continue our focus on developing corporate partnerships and community giving in order to diversify our income streams and ensure our position is robust given the challenges facing the wider sector.

Funders

We would like to thank the following funders and donors:

52 Lives, Axis Foundation, Beauty Banks, Bancroft Rugby Club, BBC Children in Need, The Charities Trust, City Bridge Trust, the funding arm of The City of London Corporation's charity, Bridge House Estates (1035628), Clapton CFC, Clapton Punks, Children's Salon, Discover Story Centre, Dominus, Hollick Family Foundation, KindLink, Ladies in Business 2024 Lady Masters Association, LB Newham, London Paediatrics, London School of Paediatrics, Masonic Charitable Foundation, Much Loved -in memory of Spike Mullings, The National Lottery Community Fund, RC London and South East region, Neil Taylor, Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Pennies, Praxis, Reflect Church, Rosa Fund, SafeLives, Smallwood Trust, St Francis School, St Bonaventure's School, Laura Jackson, South West Ham Child Welfare Society, Ten London Ltd, The Bromley Trust, The Caerlow Trust, The KPMG Foundation, The Lewin Trust, The Linbury Trust, The Lucille Foundation, The Newby Trust, The Zennor Trust, TK Maxx Homesense Foundation, Treebeard Trust, Trust for London, Tudor Trust, University of East London, Vitol Ltd, Weil, William Kessler Family Charitable Fund, Wanstead WI.

Statement of Board of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations. Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law they are required to prepare the financial statements in accordance with UK Accounting Standards and applicable law (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

Under charity law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the excess of income over expenditure for that year. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and,
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue its activities.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the Charity and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Charity's website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of

financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions. In addition, the Trustees confirm that they are happy that content of the annual review in pages 5 to 19 of this document meet the requirements of the Trustees' Annual Report under charity law.

They also confirm that the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

This report was approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 20 March 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

MARIA IGLESIAS

CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

Independent examiner's report

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Magpie Project (Charity number 1176267) for the period ended 31 August 2025 which are set out on pages 22 to 37.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act). The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and,
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

This report, including my statement, has been prepared for and only for the Charity's Trustees as a body. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees as a body for my examination work, for this report, or for the statements I have made.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company'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 & Wales, 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:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or

- the accounts 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.

ANDREW PHILIP NASH FCA

MEMBER OF THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS IN ENGLAND AND WALES – 2461833

DATED: 7 MAY 2026

Enaid Accountancy Ltd
Platform 10 Engine Rooms
Hood Road
Barry
CF62 5QL

Statement of financial activities

For the year ended 31 August 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2025 £	Restricted Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2025 £	Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2025 £	Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024 £
Income from:					
Donations & legacies	3	324,066	299,996	**624,062**	449,802
Other income		1,450	-	**1,450**	7,328
Total income		**325,516**	**299,996**	**625,512**	457,130
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	4 & 5	37,864	4,748	**42,612**	41,836
Charitable activities					
Support for mums	4 & 6	244,027	277,639	**521,666**	437,341
Total charitable activities		**244,027**	**277,639**	**521,666**	437,341
Total expenditure		**281,891**	**282,387**	**564,278**	479,177
Net income/(expenditure)		**43,625**	**17,609**	**61,234**	(22,047)
Transfers between funds		6,791	(6,791)	**-**	-
Net movement in funds		**50,416**	**10,818**	**61,234**	(22,047)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	10 & 11	118,256	36,299	**154,555**	176,602
Total funds carried forward	10 & 11	**168,672**	**47,117**	**215,789**	154,555

The notes on pages 25 to 37 form part of the financial statements.

Balance sheet

As at 31 August 2025

	Notes		**Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2025** £		Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	8		**7,019**		869
Current assets					
Debtors	9	5,534		2,770	
Cash at bank and in hand		286,934		206,349	
Total current assets			**292,468**		209,119
Creditors					
Amounts falling due within one year	10		**(83,698)**		(55,433)
Total net assets			**215,789**		154,555
Funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	11 & 12		**47,117**		36,299
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds		7,019		-	
General funds		161,653		118,256	
Unrestricted funds	11 & 12		**168,672**		118,256
			215,789		154,555

The notes on pages 25 to 37 form part of the financial statements.

These financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 20 March 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

MARIA IGLESIAS

CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 August 2025

		Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2025		Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024
		£		£
Cash flows from operating activities:				
Net income/(expenditure) for period (as per SOFA)		**61,234**		(22,047)
Adjustments for				
Depreciation charges	1,395		670	
(Increase)/decrease in trade debtors	(1,350)		-	
(Increase)/decrease in accrued income	-		3,333	
(Increase)/decrease in prepayments and other debtors	(1,414)		1,028	
Increase/(decrease) in trade creditors	2,687		-	
Increase/(decrease) in accruals	4,300		(3,667)	
Increase/(decrease) in deferred income	10,678		16,291	
Increase/(decrease) in HMRC and pension payable	10,600		-	
		26,896		17,655
Net cash used in operating activities		**88,130**		(4,392)
Cash flows from investing activities				
Purchase of fixed assets	(7,545)		-	
Net cash used in investing activities		**(7,545)**		-
Change in cash and cash equivalents in period		**80,585**		(4,392)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period		**206,349**		210,741
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period		**286,934**		206,349

The notes on pages 25 to 37 form part of the financial statements.

Notes to the financial statements

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 'Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 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) second edition (effective 1 January 2019)', the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), including Update Bulletin 1, and relevant charities law.

The effect of any event relating to the year ended 31 August 2025, which occurred before the date of approval of the financial statements by the Board of Trustees has been included in the financial statements to the extent required to show a true and fair view of the state of affairs at 31 August 2025 and the results for the year ended on that date.

Under the exemption available to smaller charities the Board of Trustees has chosen not to include a Statement of Cash Flows within the financial statements.

The functional currency of the Charity is sterling and amounts in the financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

Legal status

The Magpie Project is a charitable incorporated organisation registered in England & Wales, and meets the definition of a public benefit entity. The registered office is Grassroots Centre, Memorial Avenue, London, E15 3DB.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis as the Board of Trustees is confident that future reserves and future income is more than sufficient to meet current commitments. There are no material uncertainties that impact this assessment, and the wider econcomic environment has had no material impact on this assessment.

Fund Accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise of unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in note 11 of the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds that are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or that have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in note 10 of the financial statements.

Income

Income is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance indicators attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when entitled, receipt is probable and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Gift aid receivable is included when claimable – i.e. when the eligible donation is received.

Grant income is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier, unless the grant relates to a future year, in which case it is deferred.

1. Accounting policies (continued from previous page)

Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities. Indirect costs, including governance costs, which cannot be directly attributed to activities, are allocated between activities proportionate to the direct costs incurred in those activities. Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is conveyed to the recipient. Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of expenditure for which it was incurred.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Any assets costing more than £3,000 are capitalised. Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their residual value, over their useful life, on the following basis:

Computer equipment	20% reducing balance
Fixtures and fittings	4 year straight line

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash in hand, deposits with banks and funds that are readily convertible into cash at, or close to, their carrying values, but are not held for investment purposes.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount is applied.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party, and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Financial instruments

Basic financial instruments are measured at amortised cost other than investments which are measured at fair value.

Critical estimates and judgements

In preparing financial statements it is necessary to make certain judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts recognised in the financial statements. The treatment of tangible fixed assets is sensitive to changes in useful economic lives and residual values of assets. These are reassessed annually.

In the view of the Trustees in applying the accounting policies adopted, no judgements were required that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements nor do any estimates or assumptions made carry a significant risk of material adjustment in the next financial year.

Pensions

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is administered by an external independent pension provider. Contributions are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as they fall due.

2. Comparative statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024 £	Restricted Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024 £	Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024 £
Income from:			
Donations & legacies	221,994	227,808	449,802
Other income	5,704	1,624	7,328
Total income	227,698	229,432	457,130
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	39,933	1,903	41,836
Charitable activities			
Support for mums	224,061	213,280	437,341
Total charitable activities	224,061	213,280	437,341
Total expenditure	263,994	215,183	479,177
Net income/(expenditure)	(36,296)	14,249	(22,047)
Transfers between funds	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	(36,296)	14,249	(22,047)
Reconciliation of funds:			
Total funds brought forward	154,552	22,050	176,602
Total funds carried forward	118,256	36,299	154,555

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2025 £	**Restricted Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2025 £**	**Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2025 £**
Grants	225,899	260,206	**486,105**
Donations	98,167	39,790	**137,957**
	324,066	**299,996**	**624,062**

	Unrestricted Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024 £	Restricted Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024 £	Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024 £
Grants	174,208	187,902	362,110
Donations	47,786	39,906	87,692
	221,994	227,808	449,802

4. Total expenditure

	Direct Staff Expenditure Year Ended 31 Aug 2025	**Direct Other Expenditure Year Ended 31 Aug 2025**	**Indirect Other Expenditure Year Ended 31 Aug 2025**	**Total Expenditure Year Ended 31 Aug 2025**
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**
Raising funds	23,286	10,320	9,006	**42,612**
Charitable activities				
Support for mums	257,092	154,324	110,250	**521,666**
	280,378	**164,644**	**119,256**	**564,278**

	Direct Staff Expenditure Year Ended 31 Aug 2024	Direct Other Expenditure Year Ended 31 Aug 2024	Indirect Other Expenditure Year Ended 31 Aug 2024	Total Expenditure Year Ended 31 Aug 2024
	£	£	£	£
Raising funds	30,789	3,675	7,372	41,836
Charitable activities				
Support for mums	241,139	119,134	77,068	437,341
	271,928	122,809	84,440	479,177

4. Total expenditure (continued from previous page)

Direct costs include:

	Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2025	Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024
	£	£
Benevolent grants	**29,422**	27,665
Mums' travel	**18,362**	21,484
Mums' moving costs	**400**	-
Nappies & wipes	**5,562**	9,030
Emergency grants	**800**	-
Essential items for families	**3,316**	-
Food	**7,333**	6,468
Kitchen supplies	**2,308**	-
Play supplies	**4,927**	2,408
Events	**7,635**	-
Creche	**5,424**	-
Programme delivery partners and support	**46,425**	40,725
Clothing	**262**	-
Translating and interpreting costs	**4,930**	-
Honorarium	**3,953**	-
Grassroots (one off expense)	**11,779**	-
Grassroots (ongoing)	**1,486**	-
Other family expenses	**-**	11,354
	154,324	119,134

Benevolent grants are payments made to families in need.

Indirect costs, including governance costs, which cannot be directly attributed to activities, were allocated between cost centres proportionate to the direct staff and other costs allocated to those activities.

An analysis of costs of raising funds split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 5.

An analysis of charitable activities split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 6.

An analysis of staff costs can be found in note 7.

4. Total expenditure (continued from previous page)

Indirect costs includes:

	Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2025	Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024
	£	£
Indirect staff costs	**62,439**	28,646
Other staff costs	**4,929**	4,000
Staff travel	**243**	896
Office costs	**10,176**	12,611
Rent	**-**	8,860
Premises expenses	**21,145**	14,400
Professional fees	**6,004**	1,332
Other expenses	**7,162**	11,410
Governance costs	**7,158**	2,285
	119,256	84,440

Governance costs includes:

	Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2025	Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024
	£	£
Accountancy and bookkeeping fees	**4,243**	-
Independent examination	**2,200**	2,100
Insurance	**715**	185
	7,158	2,285

5. Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2025	Restricted Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2025	Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2025
	£	£	£
Direct staff costs	23,286	-	**23,286**
Direct other costs	8,417	1,903	**10,320**
Indirect other costs	6,161	2,845	**9,006**
	37,864	**4,748**	**42,612**

	Unrestricted Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024	Restricted Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024	Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024
	£	£	£
Direct staff costs	30,789	-	30,789
Direct other costs	3,647	28	3,675
Indirect other costs	5,497	1,875	7,372
	39,933	1,903	41,836

6. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2025	Restricted Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2025	Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2025
	£	£	£
Support for Mums			
Direct staff costs	102,089	155,003	**257,092**
Direct other costs	66,517	87,807	**154,324**
Indirect other costs	75,421	34,829	**110,250**
	244,027	**277,639**	**521,666**

	Unrestricted Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024	Restricted Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024	Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024
	£	£	£
Support for Mums			
Direct staff costs	116,288	124,851	241,139
Direct other costs	50,306	68,828	119,134
Indirect other costs	57,467	19,601	77,068
	224,061	213,280	437,341

7. Staff costs

	Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2025	Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024
	£	£
Gross salaries	**309,013**	276,328
Employer's NIC	**26,746**	19,881
Employer's pension	**7,058**	4,365
	342,817	300,574

The average headcount during the period was 13 persons (2024: 11 persons).

No employee received employee benefits above £60,000.

The total employee benefits paid to key management personnel during the period was £90,656 (2024: £93,972).

8. Tangible fixed assets

	Computer equipment	**Fixtures & Fittings**	**Total Total**
	£	**£**	**£**
Cost			
As at 1 September 2024	2,111	-	**2,111**
Additions	754	6,791	**7,545**
As at 31 August 2025	**2,865**	**6,791**	**9,656**
Accumulated depreciation			
As at 1 September 2024	1,242	-	**1,242**
Charge for year	472	923	**1,395**
As at 31 August 2025	**1,714**	**923**	**2,637**
Net book value			
As at 1 September 2024	**869**	**-**	**869**
As at 31 August 2025	**1,151**	**5,868**	**7,019**

9. Debtors and prepayments

	Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2025	Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	**1,350**	-
Prepayments	**575**	569
Other debtors	**3,609**	2,201
	5,534	2,770

10. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2025	Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	**2,687**	-
Accruals	**6,400**	2,100
HMRC creditor	**9,097**	-
Pension creditor	**1,503**	-
Deferred grant revenue	**64,011**	53,333
	83,698	55,433

Deferred revenue relates to amounts received in advance for the 2025/26 finacial year from multiple funders and can be analysed as follows:

	Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2025	Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024
	£	£
Deferred grant revenue brought forward	**53,333**	37,042
Released to grant revenue in the period	**(53,333)**	(37,042)
Grant revenue deferred in the period	**64,011**	53,333
Deferred grant revenue carried forward	**64,011**	53,333

11. Analysis of charity funds

	Funds brought forward Year Ended 31 Aug 2025 £	Income for the Year Ended 31 Aug 2025 £	Expenditure in the Year Ended 31 Aug 2025 £	Transfers in the Year Ended 31 Aug 2025 £	Funds carried forward Year Ended 31 Aug 2025 £
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	118,256	325,516	(281,891)	(228)	**161,653**
Designated funds	-	-	-	7,019	**7,019**
Total unrestricted funds	**118,256**	**325,516**	**(281,891)**	**6,791**	**168,672**
Restricted funds					
52 Lives	183	1,000	(1,183)	-	**-**
Baby bank	751	2,000	(2,751)	-	**-**
Benevolent grants - Praxis	-	11,690	(9,526)	-	**2,164**
Benevolent grants - SafeLives Circle Fund	1,300	2,000	(1,483)	-	**1,817**
Donations Manager	-	18,000	(18,000)	-	**-**
City Bridge Trust	-	50,150	(50,150)	-	**-**
Family Support Worker salary	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	**-**
Grassroots - Capital	3,265	20,000	(16,474)	(6,791)	**-**
MOPAC	7,793	-	(7,793)	-	**-**
National Lottery 2024-2029	4,167	100,000	(83,618)	-	**20,549**
Pre-school SEND Pathways	18,422	20,000	(26,850)	-	**11,572**
Play Lead salary	-	20,000	(16,360)	-	**3,640**
Tudor Trust - staff wellbeing	165	-	(165)	-	**-**
Southwest Ham Children's Fund - Benevolent Grants	100	20,100	(18,500)	-	**1,700**
Trips and Activities	153	-	(153)	-	**-**
Masonic Charitable Foundation	-	5,000	(1,291)	-	**3,709**
ROSA	-	2,056	(90)	-	**1,966**
The Newby Trust	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	**-**
Newham Festival of Stories	-	3,000	(3,000)	-	**-**
Axis Foundation	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	**-**
Total restricted funds	**36,299**	**299,996**	**(282,387)**	**(6,791)**	**47,117**
Total funds	**154,555**	**625,512**	**(564,278)**	**-**	**215,789**

Designated funds: This fund represents the net book value of fixed assets purchased. Fixed asset purchases will be added to, and depreciation will be charged against the fund.

52 Lives: Donations from 52 Lives for gifts and essential items for children.

Baby bank: Donations towards our baby bank providing essentials to mums and minis.

Benevolent grants - Praxis: Discretionary fund for mums accessing immigration advice from Praxis.

11. Analysis of charity funds (continued from previous page)

Benevolent grants - SafeLives Circle Fund: Discretionary fund providing small grants to mums affected by domestic abuse.

Discover Centre travel money: Donations by Discover Story Centre to cover the cost of mums' travel from the Magpie Project to Discover's site in Stratford.

Donations Manager: Donations from the Smallwood Trust, Women's Urgent Support Fund towards our Donations Manager salary.

City Bridge Trust: Grants from City Bridge Trust, the funding arm of The City of London Corporation's charity, Bridge House Estates (1035628), towards our Family Support Manager's salary and related costs.

Family Support Worker salary: Grant from the Smallwood Trust's Uplift Fund' towards our Family Support Worker salary.

Grassroots - Capital: Capital expenditure relating to Grassroots Centre.

MOPAC: Discretionary fund for emergency grants to Magpie families affected by domestic abuse.

National Lottery 2024-2029: Grant from the National Lottery Community Fund, RC London and South East region towards core costs including salaries.

Pre-school SEND Pathways: Grants to support Magpie children with potential special educational needs to access appropriate advice and healthcare.

Play Lead salary: Grants towards the salary of our Play Lead.

Tudor Trust: Top-up grant to support wellbeing and development of staff and volunteers.

Southwest Ham Child Welfare Society: One-off grants for Magpie families living in Newham.

Trips and activities: Grants towards providing trips and additional activities for Magpie families.

Masonic Charitable Foundation: Donations from The Masonic Charitable Foundation for core costs, specifically to strengthen HR capacity/infrastructure.

ROSA: Grants from Voices from the Frontline/Rosa towards our voice and advocacy team REACH.

The Newby Trust: Donations from The Newby Trust towards our Family Support Worker salary.

Newham Festival of Stories: Activities relating to Newham Festival of Stories.

Axis Foundation: Grant from Axis Foundation towards play equipment.

11. Analysis of charity funds (continued from previous page)

	Funds brought forward	Income for the	Expenditure in the	Transfers in the	Funds carried forward
	Year Ended 31 Aug 2024	Year Ended 31 Aug 2024	Year Ended 31 Aug 2024	Year Ended 31 Aug 2024	Year Ended 31 Aug 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	154,552	227,698	(263,994)	-	118,256
Designated funds	-	-	-	-	-
Total unrestricted funds	154,552	227,698	(263,994)	-	118,256
Restricted funds					
52 Lives	-	600	(417)	-	183
Baby bank	-	10,859	(10,108)		751
Benevolent grants - London Catalyst	-	1,200	(1,200)	-	-
Benevolent grants - Praxis	-	547	(547)	-	-
Benevolent grants - SafeLives Circle Fund	-	2,000	(700)	-	1,300
Creative partnerships	-	9,000	(9,000)	-	-
Discover Centre travel money	-	224	(224)	-	-
Donations Manager	-	18,000	(18,000)	-	-
English Language Sessions	3,567	-	(3,567)	-	-
Family Support Manager salary	-	49,800	(49,800)	-	-
Graduation Programme	-	7,200	(7,200)	-	-
Grassroots - Capital	-	15,000	(11,735)	-	3,265
MOPAC	12,430	-	(4,637)	-	7,793
National Lottery 2024-2029	-	41,667	(37,500)	-	4,167
Pre-school SEND Pathways	5,000	28,601	(15,179)	-	18,422
Play Lead salary	-	23,834	(23,834)	-	-
Tudor Trust - staff wellbeing	-	2,000	(1,835)	-	165
Southwest Ham Children's Fund - Benevolent Grants	900	18,900	(19,700)	-	100
Trips and Activities	153	-	-	-	153
Total restricted funds	22,050	229,432	(215,183)	-	36,299
Total funds	176,602	457,130	(479,177)	-	154,555

Creative Partnerships: Grants to support our collaborations with artists, musicians, dancers, and other creative professionals.

English Language Sessions: Grants to provide English language sessions for Magpie mums.

Family Support Manager salary: Grants towards the salary of our Family Support Manager.

12. Analysis of net assets

	Unrestricted Funds	**Restricted Funds**	**Total Funds**
	Year Ended 31 Aug 2024	**Year Ended 31 Aug 2024**	**Year Ended 31 Aug 2024**
	£	**£**	**£**
Tangible assets	7,019	-	**7,019**
Current assets	232,018	60,450	**292,468**
Current liabilities	(70,365)	(13,333)	**(83,698)**
	168,672	**47,117**	**215,789**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	Year Ended 31 Aug 2024	Year Ended 31 Aug 2024	Year Ended 31 Aug 2024
	£	£	£
Tangible assets	869	-	869
Current assets	159,487	49,632	209,119
Current liabilities	(42,100)	(13,333)	(55,433)
	118,256	36,299	154,555

13. Trustee remuneration

During the year, no trustee received any remuneration (2024: £Nil). During the year, no trustees received reimbursement for expenses (2024: one trustee for travel expenses of £53).

14. Related party transactions

During the year there were no related party transactions (2024: £Nil).

THE MAGPIE PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1176267

Accounts

The Magpie Project

Trustees Annual Report and Unaudited Financial Statements Year ended 31 August 2024

Charity registration - 1176267

Contents

Legal and administrative information 4

Trustees annual report 5

- Objectives and activities 5
- Achievements and performance in the year 6
- Partnerships and collaborations 9
- Organisational development 11
- Plans for the future 13
- Structure, governance & management 15
- Financial review 17
- Statement of Board of Trustees' responsibilities 17

Independent examiner's report 19

Statement of financial activities 21

Balance sheet 22

Notes to the financial statements 23

Legal and administrative information

Charity name

The Magpie Project

Charity registration no.

1176267

Registered office and contact details

Grassroots Centre
Memorial Avenue
London
E15 3DB

Trustees

Anubha Anand	(resigned 15 March 2024)
Sveta Alladi-Sekidde	
Therese Bynon	
Paula Reily	
Samantha Ward	(Interim chair)
Amy Ross	(appointed 1 September 2024)

Chief Executive Officer

Jane Williams

Chief Financial Officer

Amy Ross	(resigned 31 August 2024)
Rosie Harries	(appointed 24 July 2024)

Independent examiner

Enaid Accountancy Ltd
Units 24 & 25
Goodsheds Container Village
Hood Road
Barry
CF62 5QU

Bankers

HSBC Bank plc
15 The Mall
Stratford
E15 1XL

Trustees annual report

The Board of Trustees submit their annual report and the financial statements of The Magpie Project for the year ended 31 August 2024.

The Board of Trustees confirms that the annual report and financial statements of the Charity comply with current statutory requirements, including the Charity Act 2011, as well as the requirements of the Society's governing document and the provisions of the 'Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 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) second edition (effective 1 January 2019)', and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Objectives and activities

Objectives

The objects of the Charity are: The prevention and relief of poverty for families with young children living in temporary accommodation or at threat of homelessness in Newham and adjacent boroughs – in particular, providing a space to play and learn, and for parents to gain professional advice and form social networks in order to alleviate immediate difficulties, seek solutions to address their need and reintegrate into existing universal services.

We support insecurely or temporarily housed women with pre-school children living in Newham and surrounding boroughs. Our mission is to make life better – materially, socially, financially, and emotionally – for the families coming to the project and to ensure that pre-school children do not suffer long-term negative consequences of the poor housing and destitution they are experiencing. We know that we are not able to resolve the structural issues of housing, the hostile immigration environment, the cost of living, and entrenched poverty that form a complex web of barriers to our families' wellbeing. Instead, we aim to reduce the risk to their immediate wellbeing and mitigate the long-term risks to their health and development that these interconnected issues pose. We do this by offering a continuum of care including practical and material help, peer to peer support, play, joy and celebration, belonging and reassurance – while our family support teams try to advocate and navigate the services to which our mums are entitled, and our voice team empowers mums to ask for change where they are not entitled to services that others would be.

Our vision is for happier, healthier children, being positively parented by well-supported and well-informed mums who feel more in control of their situation.

Activities

Our activities include the provision of services from our building at the Grassroots Centre, E15 3DB, to families with pre-school children who are subject to the hostile immigration environment on entry. Our full timetable of regular events can be seen below (see Performance: Service Delivery). Alongside our regular sessions we are able to offer our mums and minis one-off events either in our workshop sessions or through outings with visiting organisations or similar. We also organize trips to local parks, Discover Story and Westfield's Christmas grotto etc.

Public Benefit Statement

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, 'Charities and Public Benefit'.



Fig 1. The Magpie Project Intervention Pyramid

Achievements and performance in the year

Numbers supported

Over the past year we supported 541 mums and 557 pre-school children (2022-23: 495 and 537). We believe this increase is due to the continued placement of new families in the Home Office contingency hotels in Newham, delays in asylum and leave to remain decisions being made (meaning that families remain in limbo for a longer time) and the continuing struggles of those on international student visas. We have also seen an increase in those in the UK on care work visas who have not been offered work on arrival. These issues are exacerbated by deepening deprivation and poverty, which has continued to impact heavily on families with No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF). We regularly welcome between ten and twenty new families seeking to register for support each week.

Service Delivery

This year we launched several new programmes and partnerships which help to ensure that our families are accessing the highest-quality support and advice. Our schedule continues to offer a range activities for mums and minis throughout the week during term-time:

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Drop-in stay-and-play session with breakfast, lunch, play, baby bank, and casework Workshops on accessing housing, benefits, banking services - NEW	Specialist advice session in partnership with Shelter, Praxis, and UCL Centre for Access to Justice - NEW	Drop-in stay-and-play session with breakfast, lunch, play, baby bank, and casework Workshops on specific topics such as potty training, safe sleeping, children's development	English language sessions (ended December 2023) 'Pathways' project for children with emerging SEN (AM) – NEW 'Music, Motherhood, and Me' project (PM) – NEW	Singing and music-making (AM) Steering committee meetings (PM)

Supported stay and play

Our stay-and-play sessions on Mondays and Wednesdays continue to be the key-stone in the week. New families come and register with us, and those who are already members of the project enjoy:

- Quality indoor and outdoor directed developmentally aware play
- Healthy breakfast and lunch
- Access our baby bank of nappies, clothes, buggies, and other essential items
- Casework and family support
- Dance and movement artists
- English conversation drop-in
- Togetherness and joy within a safe and familiar space

To make sure that we have understood and mitigated the barriers that families face trying to access help we:

- Run a strictly drop-in service with no appointments
- Give £3.50 towards the cost of travel
- Provide an interpretation service for all casework
- Create a safe and welcoming space which is trauma-informed, child-centred, and designed to offer a safety net for families during their time in crisis

Taster and information workshops

We use the workshop sessions from 1pm to 2pm on Mondays and Wednesdays in three distinct ways. Firstly, to discuss internal organisation – we organize termly 'mothers' meetings' to liaise on what mothers want from the project, we also discuss and update our shared behaviour agreements and values. Secondly, we use these sessions to introduce the offers from other local organisations in order to encourage mothers to access them in the community. These include Shelter, London Black Women's Project, local forest schools, fitness offers, etc. Thirdly, we use the workshop sessions to discuss and address parenting concerns such as dental health, potty training, sleep and safety in the home.

Family Support

This year has seen the recruitment and embedding of a family support worker to double the capacity in our family support team, which also welcomes two social work students a year to increase capacity on referrals and recording data. Every new mum is offered a welcome meeting with our casework team which is intended to make sure the family is plugged into the support services they need and to which they are entitled including; food banks, health GP, midwives, and other local charities.

Specialist advice clinic

The team also find themselves untangling very complex situations around immigration, domestic abuse and housing which can take months of regular check-ins and many referrals to external organisations, legal support, and advocating charities. These referrals to outside organisations have been challenging as our families struggle to get to external appointments for legal, immigration, and housing advice due to childcare, travel or other issues. For this reason we have worked to create an internal advice clinic so that mums can access these professionals in a familiar, supported environment with travel paid, food available, childcare and interpreters on hand, as well as a familiar case worker doing a warm handover so that mum does not have to start from scratch telling her story over again.

Tuesdays see our visiting partners Praxis (immigration advice and case work), Shelter (housing advice

and case work) and UCL legal (legal advice and case work) working with families referred to them by our family support team. In addition to these internal referrals, our family support team refer externally to organisations such as Newham Nurture, Ashiana Network, Hestia, talking therapies, Project 17, The Unity Project, Together with Migrant Children, Maternity Action, London Black Women's Project and others.

Our inbound referrals come from health visitors, midwives, social workers and organisations such as Hestia and Care4Calais, who work directly in local Home Office contingency hotels. We are proud to say personal recommendation from current and ex-Magpie mothers continues to be our largest single referral route.

SEND pathways project

This year has also seen the commencement of our specialist SEND project which is aimed at supporting our families who have children with emerging needs at the same time as working alongside health, SEND, and early years professionals to unpick the barriers and facilitators to accessing help and support. This two-year project is based around a specialist stay and play provision for families who are identified as having children with emerging needs. Led by our existing play lead and supported by specialist volunteers with SEND, Autism, and psychology training, the stay and play has also welcomed the Flying Seagull circus who used the sessions to create and test a 'sensory suitcase' show to meet the needs of children with emerging needs in their own national and international work.

Alongside this stay and play, mums and professionals have attended eight workshops resulting in the identification of four themes that will go on to be explored in the coming year. The themes that have emerged through the process are: better provision of play for those waiting for a diagnosis or intervention, mapping of existing Newham services, prepared health professionals who are aware of the barriers facing our families, and finally suggestions for changes to service provision, policies or procedures.

We have been happy to work with consultants Just Ideas to facilitate these workshops. As with all our co-creation work, we are careful to create equity and a fair exchange for mothers who share their time and expertise with us – so we also provide one to one support and advocacy for participating mums in their individual journeys to find support for their children.

Advocacy and Voice

Having set out to simply meet the basic needs of families experiencing homelessness or insecure housing, we quickly uncovered recurring and systemic issues faced by successive families which compelled us to address the wider environment in which our families were seeking and being blocked in accessing, or being denied, support.

Our advocacy work is grounded in the relationships of trust built through months and years of being alongside mums on each step of their journey through homelessness or the hostile environment. It is through these relationships that we earn our legitimacy to speak on the issues affecting mums' lives and - where possible and safe to do so – to support them to tell their stories in spaces where decisions about issues affecting their lives are made.

This year, we consolidated our external advocacy work by employing a Magpie Mum to lead our Rights, Experience, Advocacy, Change (REACH) team. Our REACH Co-ordinator is co-chair of the Newham Temporary Accommodation Action Group (TAAG) and participates in the steering group for all London TAAGs. We are also invited to share best practice and influence ways of working across a multitude of organisations and sectors including:

- Feeding into Trust for London guidance on working with people with lived experience
- Advising the Refugee Council on working with families
- Contributing to a report by Morris and Co on emergency accommodation planning, funding and regulations
- We have also contributed to reports by UNICEF, Citizens UK, Amnesty, UN Special Envoy on poverty, European Human Rights Commission, and have been part of the Royal Foundation for Early Years conference

Our REACH team also decided to run their own campaign on an issue facing many of our families. 'No Child In a Home Without a Kitchen', aims to end the use of hotels without kitchens to house families with

children under five. This campaign has:

- Been presented to London Funders, Directors of Public Health and Right to Remain network in Birmingham
- Been shared with the Health Foundation in Manchester and an online conference attended by 70 people from many organisations
- Been championed by 4 in 10 child poverty network who has convened a monthly task and finish group to support our campaign
- Attracted more than 3,000 signatures through our online petition
- Taken us to meet with the GLA, the Mayor of Newham, Sir Stephen Timms MP, and many others to make our case

Despite these achievements there have been challenges with our steering group and advocacy work. We are permanently recruiting for both teams as the nature of our mums' lives means that their capacity to contribute can come and go, and the blight of out-of-borough placements means that key members can be moved away with 24 hours' notice.

Graduation pathways

Our graduation pathways for mothers who get their refugee status or leave to remain are continuing to evolve. We were running eight-week courses three times a year including workshops on banking, housing entitlement, benefits, budgeting and computer literacy, however, we have found that the extremely difficult housing situation means that mothers are moved out of borough within 28 days of gaining their status, making it impossible for them to undertake the pathway in its original form.

We moved to regular drop-in workshops covering the same issues open to all – although it is difficult for mothers who have not yet gained their status to think ahead in detail about what happens next – as there is usually no timescale for their home office decisions. Despite this, we have worked with the FCA to create workshops around banking, budgeting, and avoiding scams, which four of our Magpie Mums have learned to deliver to our families. They are paid for taking this training and we hope that they will be able to continue to deliver these workshops to future cohorts of graduating mums. Our graduation pathway is intricately linked with our form-filling session.

Partnerships and collaborations

Form filling partnerships

At the point of gaining their immigration status we were seeing immense need for navigation, support and form filling for mums who suddenly needed to apply for housing, benefits etc. We advocated with Newham Housing to streamline homelessness applications, for more notice of where emergency accommodation would be, and for more face-to-face services. They have now created specific pathways for those gaining their status and opened face-to-face housing hubs to help those who need extra help with applications.

Despite these, we found that help with letter-reading and form filling for those with limited digital access or written English was still a crunch point for our mums. This year we extended our Tuesday volunteer form filling sessions through a partnership with UCL legal, and Clyde & Co city law firm. We have trained more than 35 Clyde & Co employees to volunteer to help our mums complete Homelessness applications, Universal Credit claims and Child Benefit forms – families are referred internally to this service which is now held on a Thursday at UCL legal's offices in Stratford.

Professional support to deliver our activities

As described above, wherever possible we partner with existing services and bring professionals into our sessions where they can meet and support families in a safe and familiar space, rather than families having

to attend external appointments at a financial and emotional cost. Over the past year we have partnered with the following organisations:

- Specialist advice has been provided by Shelter, Praxis and UCL Law who attend our weekly advice sessions.

- Local health visitors attend our drop-in sessions once a fortnight to meet families, answer questions, and identify children who may need additional support.

- 35 volunteers from Clyde & Co law firm have been trained to attend sessions to support with form-filling, applications, and to provide advice.

- Social-work students from the University of East London carry out placements within our services over a period of five months, during which they support with casework and learn from the way we deliver our work.

- The Financial Conduct Authority, Shelter and others help to deliver our graduation workshops.

The Praxis worker's time is covered by funding secured in a joint bid with Praxis, which is held by Praxis. Other than that, this professional support was all given freely, with an estimated value of over £10,000.

Creative collaborations

We find the very best artists, musicians and other professionals to work with our families to improve their resilience, confidence, and sense of community through creativity, as well as providing positive and empowering opportunities for voice and storytelling. This year we have worked with the following creative partners:

- London Rhymes musicians have delivered weekly singing and music-making sessions with our families, including writing, performing, and recording several new songs which are available on YouTube.

- Louise Klarnett has continued to bring her therapeutic dance and movement practice into our weekly sessions to work with mums and children whose bodies are impacted by trauma, stress, and housing.

- Breakfast Club Quartet have come to perform for our families.

- Flying Seagull Circus created and tested a 'sensory suitcase' with our minis which they intend to use nationally.

- Tindersticks has delivered outdoor craft and forest school activities with mums and children, supporting them to safely explore and discover ways to engage with nature in a creative and therapeutic way.

- The Discover Centre has delivered story time sessions within our play sessions throughout the year, as a taster for families to encourage them to take up the free spaces we have on offer.

Some of these partnerships were grant-funded, however we are very grateful to those collaborators who gave their time for free, at an estimated value of over £8,000.

Donated items and experiences

Over the past year we have received donations from local businesses and community members which have helped us meet families' basic needs for food, clothes, toiletries, baby equipment, and other essentials:

- **Food**: We receive twice-weekly deliveries of surplus food from City Harvest that we turn into delicious, freshly prepared breakfasts and lunches for our families.

- **Clothes**: Donations of new clothes came from Westfield London, Knit for Peace, and Children's Salon, Phase Eight, 52 Lives and high quality pre-loved clothes from Little Village, Care4Calais, and countless community members, that we distributed to families at our regular 'Clothes Clubs'. We also received shopping vouchers from organisations including 52 Lives and AHMM.

- **Baby and child essentials**: Raincovers, foot muffs, buggies, slings, moses baskets, quilts, and other essentials came from 52 Lives, Gainsborough Quilters, and local community members.

- **Household**: Christmas gifts and hampers for 250 families were donated by local community members.

- **Toiletries**: Basics and luxury toiletries came from Waitrose, Marks & Spencer, Bancroft Rugby Club, West Ham Supporters Foodbank, Clapton Community football club, Hygiene Bank, local schools, and community members.

- **Toys and books**: Donations came from Westfield Stratford London, AAA, Hasbro, Newham Bookstore, local mosques, and community members.

- **Experiences**: We were provided with 15 weekly tickets for Magpie families to attend a 'Story Sandwich' at Discover Centre Stratford, 50 free tickets for Westfield Stratford's 'Breakfast with Santa' event and tickets for 20 families to see the Christmas pantomime at Stratford Theatre Royal.

The estimated value of these items (even if bought second-hand) exceeds £90,000.

Equipping our new home

We are very grateful to Westfield Stratford London, MUF architecture, local businesses, and a local nursery for donating office equipment, cafe equipment, play equipment, to furnish our new building.

The estimated value of these items is £11,750.

Partners and supporters

We would like to thank the organisations who have helped us with fundraising, volunteering, events, mentoring, trustee recruitment, connections, and more: Clapton Community Football Club, West Ham Supporters Foodbank, Bancroft Rugby Club, Enabled Living, Black Swan, Financial Conduct Authority, Newham Nurture, Westfield Stratford London, Active Newham, Wanstead and Forest Gate WIs, Number 8 Emporium, Newham Bookstore, Lush, Morris & Company Architects, Laura Jackson, Newham Food Alliance, Maternity Action, Bonny Downs Community Centre, Alternatives Trust, Salvation Army, Museum of Homelessness, Ashiana Network, Care4Calais, The Unity Project, Tower Hamlets Law Centre, Just Life, Papier, London School of Paediatrics, Right to Remain, 4 in 10, Hadley, Little Village, Stephen Timms MP and Mayor of Newham Rukshana Fiaz, Trust for London funder plus, City Bridge funder plus, Lloyds funder plus. We have also received valuable pro bono support from MUF Architects and Norton Rose Fulbright who are supporting us with our move to the new building.

The total value of in-kind support we received is estimated to be approximately £108,000.

Organisational development

Co-creation and mums' voice

The project was built through co-production, and we continue to do this through daily, weekly and termly conversations with mums and minis using the service. We have also formalised this process through the creation of a steering committee of mums who work with our CEO to make key decisions around internal governance. Committee members are offered re-imbursement for their time, and all meetings offer lunch and creche to enable access.

This year our steering committee have made decisions around their own terms of reference, vision, mission and values as well as liaising on our new building move, an increase in our travel allowance, a review of our behaviour agreement, and consultation on our plans for our new kitchen. On top of this, members of this team were given decisions on how to spend a grant given to mums for our 'Mums' Takeover' during the summer holidays which involved budgeting for, organizing, carrying out and reporting on weekly park meet-ups with mums and minis in parks around Newham while the project took its August break.

Difficulties in training, deepening the skills, and maintaining the numbers in the steering committee arise from the fact that both the home office and housing department frequently place families out of borough

with little to no notice. This means that we are constantly having to recruit, inform and train this committee.

Team updates

In the previous year we significantly increased our staff team, and we have felt the benefits of that this year with much greater capacity to deliver our frontline work, thanks to a bigger casework team, and organizational resilience, thanks to more support staff in key roles.

This year we recruited a new Donations Manager to lead and coordinate our baby bank function, ensuring that families can access the clothes, buggies, and other equipment they need and to develop relationships with organisations and community groups who can help us to source the right items when we need them.

In August we said goodbye to our Chief Financial Officer and welcomed a new Finance & Operations Manager who, alongside financial management, will oversee the lease and management of our new premises. We are in the process of recruiting a part-time fundraiser.

We are also supported by our dance artist in residence who is helping us develop a somatically informed practice focusing on regulating our nervous systems and developing internal coping strategies to deal with the stresses of running our stay-and-play sessions. We also continue to prioritise our reflective practice at the end of each drop-in session, where staff and volunteers are supported to process anything particularly challenging that has happened that day to minimise the build-up of residual stress.

This year our staff wellbeing has been supported by a specific ‘staff wellbeing grant’ from the Tudor Trust which we were able to use to create social events as well as pay for furniture and adaptations for those who were hybrid working, to make sure they had comfortable home-offices.

Building

After several years of discussions with Newham council, we have finally moved to a new and bigger building this year, solving our long-standing issues around space, capacity, and the challenges of co-habiting with other building users.

This move will enable us to expand our service and develop our offer to families including; providing a community kitchen, community laundry, extended play sessions, extended form-filling support, and the option to co-habit with some of our closest partners to improve collaboration on behalf of our families. This is also an opportunity to build new partnerships with local children’s centres, health visiting teams, volunteers, and donors.

Challenges

The greatest challenge we experienced this year was the continued rise in the number of families coming to us for support. The high numbers were matched by the depth and complexity of their needs, which included basic needs such as clothes, shoes, food, translation support, access to schools and healthcare, families living on £9 per person per week and health issues resulting from the poor food provision in catered hotels.

The decrease in accessible face-to-face services from children’s social care, children’s centres, housing, domestic violence services, and problems accessing GP and health visiting services, created a significant amount of additional work for our casework staff. The need for face-to-face support has seen, on our busiest day, up to 92 families accessing our services over the course of a single four-hour drop-in stay-and-play and support session. The average attendance at one of our drop-ins rose from 40-50 to 55-65 in the past year.

We have also continued to be affected by reduced capacity among some of our key referral partners, especially immigration services, housing solicitors and children’s centre family support workers. The impact of this is that families end up stuck in crisis for longer, as there is not the capacity in the wider system to take on their casework. We have been working on a panel with Sir Stephen Timms MP and others to address the lack of legal advice in Newham.

To mitigate the lack of immigration advice we worked with Praxis to secure funding for a dedicated immigration advisor to support our families. They have worked well with us since September 2023, seeing an average of three families a week and unlocking complex cases to the benefit of many families. We are concerned that this Access to Justice funding from the Ministry of Justice will end in March 2025, and we are actively searching for continuation funding.

Plans for the future

We continue to be guided by the following strategic priorities for the year ahead:

FOCUS ON UNDER FIVES: Avoid 'mission creep' by making sure the day-to-day lived experience of our children is considered first in any undertaking.
How: Developmentally-led and trauma-informed play sessions; serving healthy nutritious food; providing essentials via our baby bank and vouchers; offering creche, or play alongside any workshops, form filling or family support, ensuring our casework informs and resources women to thrive as parents; and bringing a sense of joy, celebration and belonging.

BUILDING A BASE: Co-create a space alongside the mums, minis, volunteers and staff which works, is welcoming, accessible and promotes shared power and safety.
How: We will work on the decoration and flow between areas to make sure mums and minis are comfortable, we will also allow the building to inform new timetables, working patterns and the possibility for deeper partnerships with external partners, or mums.

COMMUNITY, TRANSPARENCY AND CO-CREATION: Build the Magpie Project as a co-produced, transparent, sustainable, well-governed, organisation with confident staff alive to the changing needs of the mothers and minis whose needs we are meeting.
How: Our new Finance & Operations Manager will work on policies, procedures, support and supervision, continued reflective practice, training and specialisation and progression, volunteer support and training, and embed our aspirations around pathways from mum, through volunteering to employment at the project.

ADVOCATING FOR ACCESS: Work to bring families into discussion with local authority and health partners to identify and remove structural barriers to accessing and navigating statutory and specialist services.
How: We will do this by sitting on working groups such as Temporary accommodation Action Group and the Anti-poverty Alliance, through our own projects such as Pre-school pathways which enable conversations between parents and professionals, and by offering training to frontline workers from other areas (London School of Paediatricians, Newham Early Years practitioners).

POLICY: Ensure mum's voices, and experiences are heard in spaces where decisions are being made about their lives.
How: We will do this through the REACH team campaigns, by supporting other organisations' campaigns - where relevant - and by providing evidence to national reports (Amnesty etc).

LEARNING: Work as a test bed for radical and imaginative practice around working with our community and share this with others.
How: We will do this by recording and codifying our learning around trauma, safety, psychologically informed work, and somatically informed organisations, inviting researchers and external professionals to observe and research our ways of working.

SWOT Analysis

Strengths	Weaknesses
• Experienced and growing staff team • Positive funding and financial position • Strong community engagement (Magpie mum community and wider community) • Good press and media profile • Growing policy work • Strong professional partnerships • Skilled board members • Best practice safeguarding approach • Partnerships with UCL Access to Justice, Shelter, and Praxis have increased housing, immigration and legal advice. • Form-filling partnership with Clyde and Co • Increasing requests for collaboration and sharing learning around temporary accommodation • REACH team campaign gaining support across London and nationally	• Succession planning (mitigation: newly appointed Finance and Operations Manager to codify and regularize processes and policies, training and support of mums' Leadership Team) • Data and impact measurement through Salesforce (mitigation: internal training with external support) • Loss of volunteers (mitigation: recruitment, and training and support of Magpie mum volunteers, increased relationships with corporate supporters to include volunteer days) • Vacancy for Chair of Trustees (mitigation: working with Reach Volunteering) • Increasing requests for collaboration and sharing learning is a strain resources (mitigation: codify learning in shareable format)
Opportunities	**Threats**
• New building • Increasing requests for Corporate partnerships • Consolidating lived-experience in policy area through Trust for London funding and our REACH team • Offering space and 'hot-desking' opportunities to other organisations in exchange for engagement with our families • New Pre-School Pathways Project supporting children with SEN and developmental delays	• Increasing demand and complexity of need (mitigation: understanding of the remit of our work. Continued mapping of the support network of organisations to be referred on to. Training on housing law, immigration law etc. for our family support workers) • Deepening poverty caused by cost-of-living crisis (mitigation: continued search for support grants, donations and other charities to refer to) • Movement of families out of borough (mitigation: continue to work with Newham Housing, and the Better TA initiative from Trust for London to raise the issue of out of borough placements) • Impact of moral injury and vicarious trauma on staff working with and supporting families in crisis (mitigation: staff wellbeing, mental health days, support and supervision, psychologist on call) • High numbers of children with SEN (mitigation: Pre-school pathways project supporting those with emerging needs through specialized play and advocacy) • Rise in anti-immigration rhetoric (mitigation: concentrating on countering with love, play, moments of joy, belonging and safety)

Structure, governance & management

The Magpie Project (the "Charity") was constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 13 December 2017, when it was registered with the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales as Charity No. 1176267.

Organisational Structure

Trustees day-to-day running of the Charity is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer ("CEO"). The operational structure consists of a Founder/CEO, Finance & Operations Manager, Family Support Manager, Family Support Worker, Play Lead, Graduation Manager, REACH Coordinator, Administrative Assistant, Kitchen Manager, Donations Manager, and Donations Assistant. A steering committee of women who use or have used the charity actively participates in discussions and decision-making around internal governance and external advocacy, alongside the CEO.

Selection and appointment of Trustees

Trustee recruitment is an open process conducted by existing charity trustees through public advertising. Apart from the first charity trustees, each trustee is appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the Trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as charity trustees, the Trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the Charity. The Charity has been working with Reach Volunteering to recruit a permanent Chair.

Trustee Induction and Training

The Trustees make available to each new charity trustee, on or before his or her first appointment: a) a copy of the current version of the constitution, b) a copy of the Charity's latest Annual Report and statement of accounts, and c) a copy of the Charity Commission's trustee welcome pack and guidance (CC3) on the responsibilities of a charity trustee.

Risk management

The Trustees regularly review the key financial, operational, strategic, reputational, and safeguarding risks facing the Charity. A risk register is maintained and updated annually. Over the course of the reporting year, trustees considered the key risks to be those relating to staff workload and wellbeing in the face of increasing demand on our services, and overcrowding of play sessions due to the space limitations in our current building. The trustees worked with the CEO to put in place plans to address these risks.

The Magpie Project organisational structure

Graduation
Marcia Thompson

Voice and Change
Gifty Amponsah

Play
Hannah Duthie

Food
Cat Young

Baby Bank
Sophie Etheridge
Lindita Dafku

Family Support
Jules Robertson
Sorcha Maynard

Administration
Freya Chauncy

Finance and Operations
Rosie Harries

Vision, mission, values
Jane Williams

Mums' Steering Committee

Trustees:
Radhika Bynon
Paula Reily
Dr Sveta Alladi
Sam Ward
Amy Ross

Community

Funders

Financial review

Investment and Reserves policy

The trustees aim to maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds of between three and six months of total expenditure. The trustees consider that this level of reserves will provide sufficient funds to continue delivering the core work of the charity in the case of declining income or increasing expenditure, while alternative funds are sought. The level of reserves held throughout the year is monitored termly, and the level of free reserves to be held will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Financial position

Our accounts for the year ending 31 August 2024 show unrestricted funds of £118,256 at the year-end. This is just below our target of between three and six months of total expenditure. This is due to a combination of factors, including a drop in income from community fundraising which came in below our target. This mirrors trends across the wider sector, although we recognise we have not prioritised this area of fundraising in recent years. The proportion of our funding (in £ value) which is unrestricted dropped to 50% of total income, from 70% in 2022-23. This was driven by a large swing from unrestricted to restricted funding from trusts and foundations. Based on our secured income for the current financial year, that figure has dropped again to 45% of total £ value. Once again, this mirrors trends in the wider sector regarding the challenging and competitive nature of securing unrestricted funds. We are addressing this in the coming year by focusing on developing new corporate partnerships and a renewed push on individual giving, which we hope will generate unrestricted income, and continuing to ensure that our project funding budgets recover the full cost of delivery.

We saw a 23% increase in total income in the last financial year compared to 2022-23, with the biggest increase in restricted trusts & foundations funding. While our community income continued to decline in value and as a percentage of our overall income over the last year, our income from corporate donors increased by nearly 300%. We saw a 19% increase in expenditure, driven by significantly growing our staff team. While we have supported a record number of families during the last year, some of the costs of this have been offset by having staff in roles where they can more effectively leverage free resources such as donations of food, toiletries, clothes, and other items that we might previously have purchased. Higher numbers of families coming to the project and an increase in the travel money given to each family from £3 to £3.50 meant an increase of 25% in this expense compared to the previous year. We continue to receive a small amount of income for advisory services by our CEO feeding into reports, research, and roundtables.

As we settle into the Grassroots Resource Centre over the coming months, the cost of delivering our services from there will become clearer. We anticipate higher costs for utilities and services than we were previously paying, in line with working in a much larger space, and intend to review our staff roles and team structure after an initial settling in period, to ensure we are fit for purpose and meeting safety and safeguarding requirements in a bigger space. Over the next year we will also review our session timetable with a view to offering families a maximum amount of time to use the space, which may also come with cost implications in terms of staff and running costs.

Funders

Over the past year we have been supported by grants from National Lottery Community Foundation, BBC Children in Need, Tudor Trust, Trust for London, Lloyds Bank Foundation, City Bridge Foundation, Smallwood Trust, The Blue Thread, Treebeard Trust, London Catalyst/Saturday Hospital Fund, Natwest Circle Fund, MOPAC VAWG Grassroots Fund, The Lewin Trust, Angus Lawson Memorial Trust, Westfield Stratford London, and Forest Gate Community Assembly. We also distributed emergency and benevolent grants from South West Ham Child Welfare Society, London Catalyst Samaritan Grants, MOPAC VAWG Emergency Grants, and Newham Household Support Fund distributed directly to families.

Statement of Board of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations. Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law they are required to prepare the financial statements in accordance with UK Accounting Standards and applicable law (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice),

including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

Under charity law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the excess of income over expenditure for that year. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and,
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue its activities.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the Charity and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Charity's website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions. In addition, the Trustees confirm that they are happy that content of the annual review in pages 5 to 18 of this document meet the requirements of the Trustees' Annual Report under charity law.

They also confirm that the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

This report was approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 6 June 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Sam Ward

SAMANTHA WARD

INTERIM CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

Independent examiner's report

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Magpie Project (Charity number 1176267) for the period ended 31 August 2024 which are set out on pages 21 to 34.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act). The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and,
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

This report, including my statement, has been prepared for and only for the Charity's Trustees as a body. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees as a body for my examination work, for this report, or for the statements I have made.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- the accounts 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.



ANDREW PHILIP NASH FCA

MEMBER OF THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS IN ENGLAND AND WALES – 2461833

DATED: 13 JUNE 2025

Enaid Accountancy Ltd
Units 24 & 25
Goodsheds Container Village
Hood Road
Barry
CF62 5QU

Statement of financial activities

For the year ended 31 August 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024 £	Restricted Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024 £	Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024 £	Total Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023 £
Income from:					
Donations & legacies	3	221,994	227,808	**449,802**	425,164
Other income		5,704	1,624	**7,328**	4,743
Total income		**227,698**	**229,432**	**457,130**	429,907
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	4 & 5	39,933	1,903	**41,836**	48,110
Charitable activities					
Support for mums	4 & 6	224,061	213,280	**437,341**	398,470
Total charitable activities		**224,061**	**213,280**	**437,341**	398,470
Total expenditure		**263,994**	**215,183**	**479,177**	446,580
Net income/(expenditure)		**(36,296)**	**14,249**	**(22,047)**	(16,673)
Transfers between funds		**-**	**-**	**-**	-
Net movement in funds		**(36,296)**	**14,249**	**(22,047)**	(16,673)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	10 & 11	154,552	22,050	**176,602**	193,275
Total funds carried forward	10 & 11	**118,256**	**36,299**	**154,555**	176,602

The notes on pages 23 to 34 form part of the financial statements.

Balance sheet

As at 31 August 2024

	Notes		**Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024**		Total Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023
			£		£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	8		**869**		1,539
Current assets					
Debtors	9	**2,770**		7,131	
Cash at bank and in hand		**206,349**		210,741	
Total current assets			**209,119**		217,872
Creditors					
Amounts falling due within one year	10		**(55,433)**		(42,809)
Total net assets			**154,555**		176,602
Funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	11 & 12		**36,299**		22,050
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds		**-**		-	
General funds		**118,256**		154,552	
Unrestricted funds	11 & 12		**118,256**		154,552
			154,555		176,602

The notes on pages 23 to 34 form part of the financial statements.

These financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 6 June 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Sam Ward

SAMANTHA WARD

INTERIM CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

Notes to the financial statements

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 'Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 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) second edition (effective 1 January 2019)', the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), including Update Bulletin 1, and relevant charities law.

The effect of any event relating to the year ended 31 August 2024, which occurred before the date of approval of the financial statements by the Board of Trustees has been included in the financial statements to the extent required to show a true and fair view of the state of affairs at 31 August 2024 and the results for the year ended on that date.

Under the exemption available to smaller charities the Board of Trustees has chosen not to include a Statement of Cash Flows within the financial statements.

The functional currency of the Charity is sterling and amounts in the financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

Legal status

The Magpie Project is a charitable incorporated organisation registered in England & Wales, and meets the definition of a public benefit entity. The registered office is Grassroots Centre, Memorial Avenue, London, E15 3DB.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis as the Board of Trustees is confident that future reserves and future income is more than sufficient to meet current commitments. There are no material uncertainties that impact this assessment, and the ongoing COVID-19 global pandemic has had no material impact on this assessment.

Fund Accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise of unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in note 11 of the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds that are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or that have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in note 10 of the financial statements.

Income

Income is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance indicators attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when entitled, receipt is probable and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Gift aid receivable is included when claimable – i.e. when the eligible donation is received.

Grant income is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier, unless the grant relates to a future year, in which case it is deferred.

1. Accounting policies (continued from previous page)

Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities. Indirect costs, including governance costs, which cannot be directly attributed to activities, are allocated between activities proportionate to the direct costs incurred in those activities. Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is conveyed to the recipient. Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of expenditure for which it was incurred.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Any assets costing more than £500 are capitalised other than those purchased using restricted funds. Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their residual value, over their useful life, on the following basis:

Computer equipment	20% reducing balance

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash in hand, deposits with banks and funds that are readily convertible into cash at, or close to, their carrying values, but are not held for investment purposes.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount is applied.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party, and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Financial instruments

Basic financial instruments are measured at amortised cost other than investments which are measured at fair value.

Critical estimates and judgements

In preparing financial statements it is necessary to make certain judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts recognised in the financial statements. The treatment of tangible fixed assets is sensitive to changes in useful economic lives and residual values of assets. These are reassessed annually.

In the view of the Trustees in applying the accounting policies adopted, no judgements were required that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements nor do any estimates or assumptions made carry a significant risk of material adjustment in the next financial year.

Pensions

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is administered by an external independent pension provider. Contributions are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as they fall due.

Change in accounting period

During the last financial period the Trustees agreed to amend the accounting year end date from 30 June to 31 August and to apply this to the period that commenced on 1 July 2022 and ran until 31 August 2023. This decision was made to ensure that the financial statements fitted more closely to the operational year. This means there are limitations with the comparatives as they represent a fourteen month period as opposed to the current period figures which represent a twelve month period.

2. Comparative statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023	Restricted Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023	Total Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023
	£	£	£
Income from:			
Donations & legacies	311,921	113,243	425,164
Other income	543	4,200	4,743
Total income	312,464	117,443	429,907
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	44,503	3,607	48,110
Charitable activities			
Support for mums	293,320	105,150	398,470
Total charitable activities	293,320	105,150	398,470
Total expenditure	337,823	108,757	446,580
Net income/(expenditure)	(25,359)	8,686	(16,673)
Transfers between funds	(15)	15	-
Net movement in funds	(25,374)	8,701	(16,673)
Reconciliation of funds:			
Total funds brought forward	179,926	13,349	193,275
Total funds carried forward	154,552	22,050	176,602

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024	**Restricted Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024**	**Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024**
	£	**£**	**£**
Grants	174,208	187,902	**362,110**
Donations	47,786	39,906	**87,692**
	221,994	**227,808**	**449,802**

	Unrestricted Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023	Restricted Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023	Total Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023
	£	£	£
Grants	227,948	77,653	305,601
Donations	83,973	35,590	119,563
	311,921	113,243	425,164

4. Total expenditure

	Direct Staff Expenditure Year Ended 31 Aug 2024	**Direct Other Expenditure Year Ended 31 Aug 2024**	**Indirect Other Expenditure Year Ended 31 Aug 2024**	**Total Expenditure Year Ended 31 Aug 2024**
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**
Raising funds	30,789	3,675	7,372	**41,836**
Charitable activities				
Support for mums	241,139	119,134	77,068	**437,341**
	271,928	**122,809**	**84,440**	**479,177**

	Direct Staff Expenditure Period Ended 31 Aug 2023	Direct Other Expenditure Period Ended 31 Aug 2023	Indirect Other Expenditure Period Ended 31 Aug 2023	Total Expenditure Period Ended 31 Aug 2023
	£	£	£	£
Raising funds	37,604	4,224	6,282	48,110
Charitable activities				
Support for mums	213,530	132,911	52,029	398,470
	251,134	137,135	58,311	446,580

Direct costs include:

	Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024	Total Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023
	£	£
Benevolent grants	**27,665**	41,368
Food and supplies	**6,468**	8,751
Mum's travel	**21,484**	16,886
Nappies and formula	**9,030**	11,229
Supporting children's development	**2,408**	3,364
Programme delivery	**40,725**	32,685
Other family expenses	**11,354**	18,628
	119,134	132,911

Benevolent grants are payments made to families in need.

4. Total expenditure (continued from previous page)

Indirect costs, including governance costs, which cannot be directly attributed to activities, were allocated between cost centres proportionate to the direct staff and other costs allocated to those activities.

An analysis of costs of raising funds split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 5.

An analysis of charitable activities split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 6.

An analysis of staff costs can be found in note 7.

Indirect costs includes:

	Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024	Total Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023
	£	£
Indirect staff costs	**28,646**	18,813
Other staff costs	**4,000**	1,260
Meeting and travel costs	**896**	303
Office costs	**12,611**	11,016
Rent	**8,860**	11,667
Premises expenses	**14,400**	-
Professional fees	**1,332**	1,275
Other expenses	**11,410**	11,303
Governance costs	**2,285**	2,674
	84,440	58,311

	Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024	Total Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023
	£	£
Independent examination	**2,100**	2,100
Insurance	**185**	574
	2,285	2,674

Governance costs includes:

5. Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024	Restricted Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024	Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024
	£	£	£
Direct staff costs	30,789	-	**30,789**
Direct other costs	3,647	28	**3,675**
Indirect other costs	5,497	1,875	**7,372**
	39,933	**1,903**	**41,836**

	Unrestricted Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023	Restricted Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023	Total Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023
	£	£	£
Direct staff costs	37,604	-	37,604
Direct other costs	4,221	3	4,224
Indirect other costs	2,678	3,604	6,282
	44,503	3,607	48,110

6. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024	Restricted Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024	Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024
	£	£	£
Support for Mums			
Direct staff costs	116,288	124,851	**241,139**
Direct other costs	50,306	68,828	**119,134**
Indirect other costs	57,467	19,601	**77,068**
	224,061	**213,280**	**437,341**

	Unrestricted Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023	Restricted Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023	Total Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023
	£	£	£
Support for Mums			
Direct staff costs	163,735	49,795	213,530
Direct other costs	107,401	25,510	132,911
Indirect other costs	22,184	29,845	52,029
	293,320	105,150	398,470

7. Staff costs

	Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024	Total Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023
	£	£
Gross salaries	**276,328**	246,291
Employer's NIC	**19,881**	18,602
Employer's pension	**4,365**	5,054
	300,574	269,947

The average headcount during the period was 11 persons (2023: 7 persons).

No employee received employee benefits above £60,000.

The total employee benefits paid to key management personnel during the period was £93,972 (2023: £112,274).

8. Tangible fixed assets

	Computer Equipment	Total
	£	£
Cost		
As at 1 September 2023	2,111	**2,111**
Additions	-	**-**
As at 31 August 2024	**2,111**	**2,111**
Accumulated depreciation		
As at 1 September 2023	572	**572**
Charge for year	670	**670**
As at 31 August 2024	**1,242**	**1,242**
Net book value		
As at 1 September 2023	**1,539**	**1,539**
As at 31 August 2024	**869**	**869**

9. Debtors and prepayments

	Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024	Total Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023
	£	£
Prepayments	**569**	3,115
Other debtors	**2,201**	683
Accrued grant income	**-**	3,333
	2,770	7,131

10. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024	Total Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023
	£	£
Accruals	**2,100**	5,767
Deferred grant revenue	**53,333**	37,042
	55,433	42,809

Deferred revenue relates to amounts received in advance for the 2023/24 finacial year from multiple funders and can be analysed as follows:

	Total Funds Year Ended 31 Aug 2024	Total Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023
	£	£
Deferred grant revenue brought forward	**37,042**	-
Released to grant revenue in the period	**(37,042)**	-
Grant revenue deferred in the period	**53,333**	37,042
Deferred grant revenue carried forward	**53,333**	37,042

11. Analysis of charity funds

	Funds brought forward Year Ended 31 Aug 2024 £	Income for the Year Ended 31 Aug 2024 £	Expenditure in the Year Ended 31 Aug 2024 £	Transfers in the Year Ended 31 Aug 2024 £	Funds carried forward Year Ended 31 Aug 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	154,552	227,698	(263,994)	-	**118,256**
Designated funds	-	-	-	-	**-**
Total unrestricted funds	**154,552**	**227,698**	**(263,994)**	**-**	**118,256**
Restricted funds					
52 Lives	-	600	(417)	-	**183**
Baby bank	-	10,859	(10,108)		**751**
Benevolent grants - London Catalyst	-	1,200	(1,200)	-	**-**
Benevolent grants - Praxis	-	547	(547)	-	**-**
Benevolent grants - SafeLives Circle Fund	-	2,000	(700)	-	**1,300**
Creative partnerships	-	9,000	(9,000)	-	**-**
Discover Centre travel money	-	224	(224)	-	**-**
Donations Manager	-	18,000	(18,000)	-	**-**
English Language Sessions	3,567	-	(3,567)	-	**-**
Family Support Manager salary	-	49,800	(49,800)	-	**-**
Family Support Worker salary		-	-	-	**-**
Graduation Programme	-	7,200	(7,200)	-	**-**
Grassroots - Capital	-	15,000	(11,735)	-	**3,265**
MOPAC	12,430	-	(4,637)	-	**7,793**
National Lottery 2024-2029	-	41,667	(37,500)	-	**4,167**
Pre-school SEND Pathways	5,000	28,601	(15,179)	-	**18,422**
Play Lead salary	-	23,834	(23,834)	-	**-**
Tudor Trust - staff wellbeing	-	2,000	(1,835)	-	**165**
Southwest Ham Children's Fund - Benevolent Grants	900	18,900	(19,700)	-	**100**
Trips and Activities	153	-	-	-	**153**
Total restricted funds	**22,050**	**229,432**	**(215,183)**	**-**	**36,299**
Total funds	**176,602**	**457,130**	**(479,177)**	**-**	**154,555**

Creative Partnerships: Grants to support our collaborations with artists, musicians, dancers, and other creative professionals.

English Language Sessions: Grants to provide English language sessions for Magpie mums.

Family Support Manager salary: Grants towards the salary of our Family Support Manager.

11. Analysis of charity funds (continued from previous page)

MOPAC: Discretionary fund for emergency grants to Magpie families affected by domestic abuse.

Play Lead salary: Grants towards the salary of our Play Lead.

Pre-school SEND Pathways: Grants to support Magpie children with potential special educational needs to access appropriate advice and healthcare.

Southwest Ham Child Welfare Society: One-off grants for Magpie families living in Newham.

Trips and activities: Grants towards providing trips and additional activities for Magpie families.

11. Analysis of charity funds (continued from previous page)

	Funds brought forward	Income for the	Expenditure in the	Transfers in the	Funds carried forward
	Period Ended 31 Aug 2023	Period Ended 31 Aug 2023	Period Ended 31 Aug 2023	Period Ended 31 Aug 2023	Period Ended 31 Aug 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	119,926	312,464	(337,823)	59,985	154,552
Designated funds	60,000	-	-	(60,000)	-
Total unrestricted funds	179,926	312,464	(337,823)	(15)	154,552
Restricted funds					-
Bethany Williams Benevolent Fund	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-
Creative Partnerships	6,500	5,500	(12,000)	-	-
Deutsche Bank Foundation	-	-	-	-	-
English Language Sessions	-	5,820	(2,253)	-	3,567
Family Support Manager salary	-	19,200	(19,200)	-	-
Guildhall School of Music and Drama	500	-	(500)	-	-
London Catalyst Samaritan Grants	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-
MOPAC	-	12,500	(70)	-	12,430
Newham Enrichment Grant	(15)	-	-	15	-
Play Lead Salary	262	30,333	(30,595)	-	-
Pre-school SEND Pathways	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
Safe Lives Fund	4,802	-	(4,802)	-	-
Shoes, Coats and Clothes Fund	(100)	6,490	(6,390)	-	-
Southwest Ham Children's Fund - Benevolent Grants	400	29,600	(29,100)	-	900
Trips and Activities	1,000	1,000	(1,847)	-	153
Total restricted funds	13,349	117,443	(108,757)	15	22,050
Total funds	193,275	429,907	(446,580)	-	176,602

Designated Funds: The Trustees have decided to release the designated funds which had been held in relation to the potential cost of relocating to a new premises in 2022/23 as new expected costs in relation to a move are not expected to be this high.

Bethany Williams Benevolent Fund: Discretionary fund to meet basic needs of Magpie families and distribute emergency grants.

Community Links: Grant to provide creche facilities during workshops for mums.

Deutsche Bank Foundation: Grant towards Graduation Manager salary.

Guildhall School of Music & Drama: Grant to support collaboration with musicians and composers Breakfast Club Quartet.

11. Analysis of charity funds (continued from previous page)

London Catalyst Samaritan Grants: Discretionary fund for emergency grants to Magpie families.

Newham Enrichment Grant: Grant to support collaboration with dance and movement practioners Louise Klarnett Dance Art Foundation.

Safe Lives Fund: Discretionary fund for emergency grants to Magpie families affected by domestic abuse.

Shoes, Coats, and Clothes: Grants towards the cost of new coats, shoes, and other essential items for Magpie families.

Tudor Trust: Top-up grant to support wellbeing and development of staff and volunteers.

University of East London: Compensation for placement of social work students.

12. Analysis of net assets

	Unrestricted Funds	**Restricted Funds**	**Total Funds**
	Year Ended 31 Aug 2024	**Year Ended 31 Aug 2024**	**Year Ended 31 Aug 2024**
	£	**£**	**£**
Tangible assets	869	-	**869**
Current assets	159,487	49,632	**209,119**
Current liabilities	(42,100)	(13,333)	**(55,433)**
	118,256	**36,299**	**154,555**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	Period Ended 31 Aug 2023	Period Ended 31 Aug 2023	Period Ended 31 Aug 2023
	£	£	£
Tangible assets	1,539	-	1,539
Current assets	191,488	26,384	217,872
Current liabilities	(38,475)	(4,334)	(42,809)
	154,552	22,050	176,602

13. Trustee remuneration

During the year, no trustee received any remuneration (2023: £Nil). During the year, one trustee received reimbursement for travel expenses of £53 (2023: one trustee for travel expenses of £53).

14. Related party transactions

During the year there were no related party transactions (2023: £Nil).

THE MAGPIE PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1176267

Accounts

The Magpie Project

Trustees Annual Report and Unaudited Financial Statements Period ended 31 August 2023

Charity registration - 1176267

Andy Nash Accounting & Consultancy

Contents

Legal and administrative information 4

Trustees annual report 5

- Objectives and activities 5
- Achievements and performance in the year 6
- Partnerships and collaborations 8
- Organisational development 10
- Plans for the future 12
- Structure, governance & management 13
- Financial review 15
- Statement of Board of Trustees' responsibilities 16

Independent examiner's report 17

Statement of financial activities 19

Balance sheet 20

Notes to the financial statements 21

Legal and administrative information

Charity name

The Magpie Project

Charity registration no.

1176267

Registered office and contact details

Forest Lane Lodge
Magpie Close, Forest Lane
London
E7 9DE

Trustees

Anubha Anand	
Sveta Alladi-Sekidde	
Therese Bynon	
Paula Reily	
Samantha Ward	(appointed 12 July 2022)
Brenda Achora	(resigned 27 June 2023)

Chief Executive Officer

Jane Williams

Chief Financial Officer

Amy Ross

Independent examiner

Andy Nash Accounting & Consultancy Ltd
Units 24 & 25
Goodsheds Container Village
Hood Road
Barry
CF62 5QU

Bankers

HSBC Bank plc
15 The Mall
Stratford
E15 1XL

Trustees annual report

The Board of Trustees submit their annual report and the financial statements of The Magpie Project for the period ended 31 August 2023.

The Board of Trustees confirms that the annual report and financial statements of the Charity comply with current statutory requirements, including the Charity Act 2011, as well as the requirements of the Society's governing document and the provisions of the 'Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 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) second edition (effective 1 January 2019)', and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Objectives and activities

Objectives

The objects of the Charity are: The prevention and relief of poverty for families with young children living in temporary accommodation or at threat of homelessness in Newham and adjacent boroughs – in particular, providing a space to play and learn, and for parents to gain professional advice and form social networks in order to alleviate immediate difficulties, seek solutions to address their need and reintegrate into existing universal services.

We support insecurely or temporarily housed women with pre-school children living in Newham and surrounding boroughs. Our mission is to make life better – materially, socially, and emotionally – for the families coming to the project and ensure that young children do not suffer long-term negative consequences caused by their housing situation. We do not try to solve the complex web of issues faced by our families, which are beyond our remit and involve many other agencies; rather we aim to put a safety net under them, decrease their social isolation, increase their resilience, and reduce the prospect of them getting into deeper difficulties further down the line. Our vision is for happier, healthier children, being positively parented by socially integrated and well-informed mums who feel more in control of their situation.

Activities

We work to achieve these objectives by providing regular drop-in sessions during term-time for women and pre-school children, where they can enjoy high quality indoor and outdoor play, make friends and build a support network, and access advice and support on housing, immigration, and other related issues. We give mums £3.50 towards the cost of travelling to the session, provide a healthy home-made breakfast and lunch, and offer a baby bank of nappies, clothes, and other essentials.

We act as mums' information point and social network at a time when theirs has been depleted by frequent moves, life changes and poverty, and build relationships with referrers, community groups and other local organisations who can help and support them as they begin to tackle the complex web of crises relating to their housing insecurity. We signpost families in need of additional support to universal or specialist services that they may otherwise be unaware of or feel unable to access. We also work to raise the voices of mothers living in temporary accommodation to influence policy relating to No Recourse to Public Funds, Section 17, and other issues which directly affect their lives.

Public Benefit Statement

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

Achievements and performance in the year

Service Delivery

We have continued to grow significantly over the last financial year: growth in the number of families we are supporting, in the number of organisations we are partnering with, in our advocacy and voice work, and in the range of activities we are offering across the week. Our weekly schedule now includes an offering for mums and minis on every day of the week:

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Stay-and-play session with casework and workshop	Advice shop, form-filling, and 'graduation' workshops	Stay-and-play session with casework and workshop	English language sessions	Singing and music-making (AM) Steering committee meetings (PM)

Our stay-and-play sessions on Mondays and Wednesdays continue to be the key moments in the week for families who are registered with us, and new referrals, to come and enjoy quality indoor and outdoor play, healthy breakfast and lunch, access our baby bank of nappies, clothes, buggies, and other essential items, and speak to members of our casework team for support, advice, and referrals around housing, immigration, and other related issues. Health visitors, beauticians, dance and movement artists, circus performers, and other partners attend these sessions to offer families opportunities for practical support, creativity, and joy within a safe and familiar space. We run workshops attached to these sessions which range from parenthood support around potty training and weaning, to crafting, dance, and forest school activities. These sessions have been designed to lower the barriers that families face when trying to access other forms of support. We do this by operating a strictly drop-in service with no appointments, giving £3.50 towards the cost of travel, providing a translation line for all casework, and creating a safe and welcoming space which is trauma-informed, person-centred, and designed to offer a safety net for families during their time in crisis.

Our Tuesday sessions have developed into an 'advice shop' with volunteer form-filling, Praxis, Shelter, and UCL legal caseworkers who help our mums untangle the multiple barriers they face to a more stable and secure life. We have launched a weekly English language session focused around 'English for life', where mums come to practise their English and learn key vocabulary needed to navigate life in the UK. On Friday mornings we offer breakfast alongside our regular singing and music-making sessions with London Rhymes musicians. On Friday afternoons, members of our mums' leadership team meet with our CEO to discuss key issues around internal governance and external advocacy and voice. This year, we split our leadership team into two groups: an internal-facing steering committee and an external-facing Rights, Experience, Advocacy, Change (REACH) team, to bring more focus and ensure that each group has more time to concentrate on their different roles.

Numbers Supported

Over the past year we supported 495 mums and 537 pre-school children. This is a significant increase on the 320 families we supported in the previous year. We believe this is due to a combination of new Home Office contingency hotels being opened around Newham, housing several hundred asylum-seeking families with young children, and the deepening cost of living crisis which has continued to impact heavily on families with No Recourse to Public Funds.

At times over the past year, we have seen 10-15 new families each week coming to register with us and access support. All new families have a welcome meeting with our casework team which is intended to make sure the family is plugged into the support services they need and to which they are entitled, including food banks, health visitors, children's centres, midwives, and other local charities. Specialist referrals are made to Shelter, London Black Women's Project, Newham Nurture, Praxis, Asheana Network, Hestia, talking therapies, and others. Our inbound referrals come from health visitors, midwives, social workers, other organisations such as Hestia and Care4Calais, who work directly in local Home Office contingency hotels. Word of mouth continues to be our greatest inwards referral route.

Advocacy and Voice

Having originally set out to simply meet the basic needs of families experiencing homelessness or insecure housing, we quickly realised we also needed address the wider environment in which our families were seeking and being denied support. Our advocacy work is grounded in safety and trust, built through working in a trauma-informed and person-centred way, journeying with mums through every step of their crisis. It is through and from these relationships that we derive our legitimacy to speak on the issues affecting their lives and, where possible, and safe to do so, support mothers to tell their stories in rooms where decisions on those issues are made. Highlights from the last year include:

- Being part of a Newham public health team task force on the health of under-5s living in contingency hotels, working with GPs, health visitors, maternity services, children's services, and other third sector organisations to raise awareness of the issue of under-5s being housed in accommodation without cooking facilities, and designing responses such as community kitchens for families living in hotels. Magpie mums living in hotels have kept food diaries, and one of our mums who worked as a nutritionist in her home country has helped advise on the impact of poor nutrition on women and children.

- Working with the Newham public housing team to improve the pathways between Section 17 or Home Office housing to emergency housing.

- Taking part in local anti-poverty alliance.

- Feeding into reports by UNICEF on access to early education by asylum-seeking families, Justfair on Home Office contingency hotels, and Morris & Company on regulations for emergency accommodation.

- Our CEO presented at the Cambridge University Play in Education Development and Learning (PEDAL) Centre conference, talking about play as a human right and play in settings where children are destitute; the London Network of Nurses and Midwives conference, where she and our REACH Team received awards recognising their work raising awareness of the health impacts on women and pre-school children in temporary accommodation; the London Catalyst conference; and a Better Temporary Accommodation showcase, presenting alongside Newham public health around working together on contingency hotels and under-5s pathways.

- Being part of the Newham Temporary Accommodation Action Group (our REACH Coordinator is Co-Chair), and the steering group for all TAAGs across London.

- Attending a 4 in 10 coffee morning, presenting about under-5s living under the hostile environment and experiencing homelessness, and a lunch-and-learn with local authorities on joint working between voluntary and community sector organisations and local authorities.

We have observed that, because the project spans housing, early years, and immigration, due the fact we are child-focused rather than issue-focused, we are being asked to speak on panels and contribute to reports and discussions spanning all these issues.

Our REACH team is made up of mums who use or have used the project, who work with the CEO to identify the main priorities affecting Magpie families' lives and build relationships externally to push for change. The team gained a new focus this year under our new REACH Coordinator, Gifty Amponsah, and is actively feeding into research and campaigns on issues that affect them, as well as planning actions around hotels housing under-fives. Our REACH Coordinator reports directly to our trustee board and has been elected the Co-Chair of the Newham Temporary Accommodation Action Group. Some highlights for the REACH Team this year have included:

- Collaborating with Shelter to deliver three sessions on hotel accommodation and temporary accommodation rights awareness.

- Taking part in the Newham TAAG, alongside councillors, MPs, landlords, and third sector organisations.

- Receiving training including a Law of Life course around housing rights for people living in temporary accommodation, and learning about how to challenge decisions made by local authorities.

- Hosting visits from other organisations and activists in the temporary accommodation and social change spaces, including Housing Action Southwark & Lambeth, to learn from their experiences.

Looking ahead, the REACH Team will be collaborating with Kineara on their campaign to stop the practise of housing under-5s in emergency accommodation with no cooking facilities, and running a Christmas campaign to raise awareness of asylum-seeking families being housed in contingency hotels with no cooking facilities, and asking people to take action.

Challenges

The greatest challenge we experienced this year was the spike in the number of families coming to us for support. The high numbers were matched by the depth and complexity of their needs, which included basic needs such as clothes, shoes, food; translation; accessing schools and healthcare; families living on £9 per person per week; and health issues resulting from the poor food provision in catered hotels. This created a significant amount of additional work for our casework staff and created issues around capacity for our play sessions.

Combined with the slow progress of our attempts to move to a larger building, venue capacity has continued to be a key issue over the last year. The average number of families per session rose from 40 to over 50 over the year. At our busiest, we supported 77 families over the course of a 4-hour play session.

We have also continued to be affected by reduced capacity among some of our key partners, especially among immigration services and children's centres. The impact of this is that we end up holding onto families for longer, and families end up stuck in crisis for longer, as there is not the capacity is the wider system to take on their casework. To mitigate the lack of immigration advice we have worked with Praxis to secure funding for a dedicated immigration advisor to support our families. This support has started in September 2023 and will hopefully help to reduce the bottleneck of families waiting for support.

Falling volunteer numbers has also continued to impact the planning and resourcing of our drop-in sessions. To mitigate this, we have hired a Kitchen Assistant who provides continuity and predictability in our kitchen which is essential for our drop-in sessions. We have also invested in recruiting and training more Magpie mums to become volunteers once their children start school or nursery or once they are no longer eligible for support.

Partnerships and collaborations

Professional support

Wherever possible we partner with existing services and bring professionals into our play sessions where they can meet and support families in a safe and familiar space, rather than families having to attend several appointments at a financial and emotional cost. Over the past year we have partnered with the following organisations within our sessions:

- Specialist housing adviser from Shelter attends our weekly advice sessions.
- Local health visitors attend our drop-in sessions once a fortnight to meet families, answer questions, and identify children who may need additional support.
- Newham Community Navigators were attending sessions weekly for much of the year, to support with form-filling, applications, and provide advice.
- Social work students from the University of East London carry out placements within our services over a period of 5 months each, supporting with casework and learning from the way we deliver our work.
- Happy Baby Community, BEAM, Skills Enterprise, and Routes Mentoring all help to deliver our graduation programme, as well as other local organisations who support mums into work, training, or education.

This professional support was all given freely, with an estimated value of over £20,000.

Creative collaborations

We find the very best artists, musicians, and other professionals to work with our families to improve their resilience, confidence, and sense of community through creativity, as well as providing positive and empowering opportunities for voice and storytelling. This year we have worked with the following creative partners:

- London Rhymes musicians have delivered weekly singing and music-making sessions with our families, including writing, performing, and recording several new songs which are available on YouTube.

- Louise Klarnett has continued to bring her therapeutic dance and movement practise into our weekly sessions to work with mums and children whose bodies are impacted by trauma, stress, and housing.

- The Craft Council has delivered craft workshops at our sessions and their head office.

- Breakfast Club Quartet have come to perform for our families.

- Tindersticks has delivered outdoor craft and forest school activities with mums and children, supporting them to safely explore and discover ways to engage with nature in a creative and therapeutic way.

Some of these partnerships were grant-funded, however we are very grateful to those collaborators who gave their time for free, at an estimated value of £6,000.

Donated items and experiences

Over the last year we have received donations from local businesses and community members which have helped us meet families' basic needs for food, clothes, toiletries, baby equipment, and other essentials:

- Food: twice-weekly deliveries of surplus food from City Harvest that we turn into delicious, freshly prepared breakfasts and lunches for our families.

- Clothes: donations of new clothes from Westfield London, Knitforpeace, and Children's Salon, and high quality pre-loved clothes from Little Village, Care4Calais, and countless community members, that we distributed to families at our regular 'Clothes Clubs'. We also received shopping vouchers from organisations including 52 Lives and AHMM.

- Baby and child essentials: raincovers, foot muffs, buggies, slings, moses baskets, quilts, and other essentials from 52 Lives, Gainsborough Quilterse, and local community members.

- Household: Christmas gifts and hampers for 250 families from local community members.

- Toiletries: basics and luxury toiletries from Waitrose, Marks & Spencers, Afrocenchix, Bancroft Rugby Club, West Ham Supporters Foodbank, Clapton FC, local schools and community members.

- Toys and books from Westfield Stratford London, AAA, Hasbro Gaming, Newham Bookstore, and community members.

- Experiences: 15 weekly tickets for Magpie families to attend a 'Story Sandwich' at Discover Centre Stratford; 50 free tickets for Westfield Stratford's 'Breakfast with Santa' event; tickets for 20 families to see the Christmas pantomime at Stratford Theatre Royal.

The estimated value of these items (even if bought second-hand), exceeds £85,000.

Partners and supporters

We would like to thank the organisations who have helped us with fundraising, volunteering, events, mentoring, trustee recruitment, connections, and more: Clapton Community Football Club, West Ham Supporters Foodbank, Bancroft Rugby Club, Enabled Living, Black Swan, Financial Conduct Authority, Newham Nurture, Westfield Stratford London, Active Newham, Wanstead and Forest Gate WIs, Number 8 Emporium, Newham Bookstore, Lush, Morris & Company Architects, Laura Jackson, Newham Food

Alliance, Maternity Action, Bonny Downs Community Centre, Alternatives Trust, Salvation Army, Museum of Homelessness, Ashiana Network, Care4Calais, The Unity Project, Tower Hamlets Law Centre, Just Life, Stephen Timms MP and Mayor of Newham Rukshana Fiaz. We have also received valuable pro bono support from MUF Architects and Norton Rose Fulbright who are supporting us with our move to a new building.

The total value of in-kind support we received is estimated to be approximately £150,000.

Organisational development

Steering committee and user voice

The project was built through co-production, we continue that process through our steering committee of mums who work with our CEO to make key decisions around internal governance and external voice. This year, we split our mums' leadership Team into two groups: an internal-facing steering committee, who focus on internal governance, and an external-facing Rights, Experience, Advocacy, Change (REACH) group. The steering committee now meet with the CEO every four weeks and have agreed our terms of reference, a behaviour and code of conduct, and have met with key members of staff to understand more about the operational workings of the organisation.

This year the steering committee have: discussed and decided operational issues such as whether to increase the value of travel money to £3.50 in line with the hopper bus fare; ratified the project's eligibility criteria; suggested ways to help graduate mums out of the project; suggested an alumni's meet-up for those no longer eligible for the service; and ratified the idea of women signing a more general consent form when they come to the project to enable us to advocate for them. Over the next year one of our trustees will be working with the steering committee to understand their role in the co-production of the project and the responsibility of steering decisions. Over the next year we will be recruiting new members to our REACH team and supporting them with training around campaigning and public speaking.

Team update

This year we have significantly increased our staff team, with a Family Support Worker, Kitchen Assistant, Administrative Assistant, and REACH Coordinator all joining the team, to meet the increasing demand for our services, reduce our reliance on volunteers at our stay-and-play sessions, build in more administrative capacity within the team, and reduce workload for key members of staff. We are much better resourced as a team as a result, and have greater stability and resilience built into the organisation. Our casework support has become much more systematised this year with a new Family Support Worker to work alongside our Family Support Manager, and new partnerships with UCL legal and Praxis who will be offering legal advice and a pathway into legal representation for those with housing issues, issues with education, and family law. We are about to welcome another new member of the team who will lead our Pre-School Pathways Project, targeting children who are displaying developmental delays and possible emerging special educational needs with a range of specialist support for them and their mothers.

Governance

Our trustee board has remained relatively stable over the last year. We continue to be supported by our trustees' professional expertise and experience in the fields of safeguarding, financial management and fundraising, communications, volunteer management and development, co-production, and charity leadership. We have been working with Reach Volunteering to recruit a permanent Chair; one of our long-standing trustees is covering the role as Interim Chair in the meantime. We are currently embarking on a new project with Roots HR to develop our board skills and ways of working and review internal policies and procedures in line with charity best practise.

Systems

We continue to use Salesforce to record, store, and extract data about the families we support, which feeds into our casework, safeguarding procedures, and referrals to other organisations. In response to feedback from BBC Children in Need, we are developing new ways to record our observations of the ways in which children benefit from coming to the project, which can help us to better evaluate and understand our impact on children's experiences and development while they are attending our sessions and benefiting from our

various forms of support. While Salesforce has primarily been used as a tool to support our casework, this year we have started to explore its use for fundraising and have migrated all our fundraising information onto the platform to improve the ease of access and use of this data for current and future fundraising.

Safeguarding

Over the past year we have been exploring how traditional approaches to safeguarding (safer recruitment, mitigating the risks of staff to children or parents to children, watching out for signs of neglect, emotional abuse, physical abuse, sexual abuse, radicalisation, FGM, etc.) are just a starting point for thinking about the ways in which we seek to safeguard children attending the project. We recognise how different the task of safeguarding children living under immigration control and the hostile environment is and have introduced staff and volunteer training around this subject. State neglect and enforced destitution cut across children's lives in ways that parents cannot control, and sometimes those who would usually be employed to help maintain a child's safety and standard of living, such as the Home Office, housing and children's services, are the same institutions that are gatekeeping support to the family.

We have been working with the Newham public health team and children's services, and our own safeguarding trustee to frame issues of dangerous housing, lack of nutritious food, readily available health care, and destitution, as safeguarding issues. Through these channels we aim to raise awareness of these issues and bring the expectation of safeguarding of ALL children (regardless of their family's immigration status) up to the same standard. We have signed up to the UNICEF Toddlers Charter, to ask any incoming government to ensure all children have the basics in place that allow them to flourish. We will also be speaking at the launch of this report.

Resilience and sustainability

We continue to place a high priority on staff wellbeing and resilience. Recognising the significant toll that work of this kind can have on individual staff members, especially those providing casework to families, we spend a great deal of time in our staff training days discussing and learning about the impacts of vicarious trauma, moral injury, and burnout, how to spot the signs and what we can do to address them. We are supported in this work by our TAME psychologist who is available for all staff members to speak to confidentially about any aspect of work that they are finding difficult. We are also supported by our dance artists in residence who is helping us develop a somatically informed practise focusing on regulating our nervous systems and developing internal coping strategies to deal with the stresses of running our stay-and-play sessions. We also continue to prioritise our reflective practise at the end of each drop-in session, where staff and volunteers are supported to process anything particularly challenging that has happened that day to minimise the build-up of residual stress. This year we have received a grant targeted at staff wellbeing that we will be using to meet peoples' practical and emotional needs around their work.

Our learning

Over the past year we have learnt that:

- **The needs of families can change very quickly, and we need to stay agile in order to pivot and adapt.** The opening of new Home Office contingency hotels in Newham caused a massive spike in the number of families coming to us for help with acute and complex needs. To try and manage capacity within our drop-in sessions we worked with Newham council and other third sector organisations to embed support services within the hotels. This work is an ongoing process and is continuing today, however the relationships developed have created a successful model for collaboration across organisations and sectors that can be leveraged for other future work.

- **Increased awareness of our work comes with increased demands on our time to share our learning.** This year we have witnessed an increased awareness around temporary accommodation and an increased profile of our work and our approach to support families living in this situation. As a result, there has been a sharp increase in requests to collaborate and share our learning through panels, conferences, working groups, programme design consultations, and others. This comes at a cost in terms of time and resources. In response to this we are working on codifying our practise in a format that can be easily shared at low cost in terms of time and energy. For engagement beyond these opensource materials, we are considering introducing a pricing model for the time of key staff, namely our CEO and REACH Coordinator.

- **Growing our staff team requires more attention on our policies, procedures, and training materials.** 2023 has been an exciting year of growth for our staff team: we will finish the year with twice as many

staff as we started it with. We are already feeling the benefits in terms of our time, capacity, workload, and organisational resilience; however, this level of growth requires that our systems and structures for ensuring consistency of our approach, principles, and behaviours need to be stronger so that we can maintain our core values while expanding our team.

Plans for the future

We continue to be guided by the following strategic priorities for the year ahead:

- **Consolidate**: Make sure we can achieve what we are setting out to do over the long term with enough capacity, staff, volunteers, training, and resources. This includes making sure our governance and funding keeps pace with our growth and the complex nature of our work.

- **Co-produce**: Remain true to our method of relationship-based practice and co-production. This means embedding and prioritising the choice, trust, and feedback of mums at every stage.

- **Codify**: Codify our practise through continuous learning and evaluation, to ensure our own succession planning and establish the capacity ability to scale our work - not through physical expansion but through consultation and training of other organisations in our best practise.

- **Change**: Working towards systems change rather than simply plugging the gaps that the flaws in the current system create. This includes our work around voice, policy, legal challenges, and external communications.

- **Continuation**: Ensure that the above work includes an awareness of succession planning, increasing involvement, employment, and governance by Magpie Mums. This includes our leadership team, graduation pathways and codifying practice as above.

After several years of discussions with Newham council, we are optimistic that we will finally move to a new and bigger building in 2024, solving our long-standing issues around space, capacity, and the challenges of co-habiting with other building users. This move will enable us to expand our service and develop our offer to families including providing a community kitchen, community laundry, extended play sessions, extended form-filling support, and the option to co-habit with some of our closest partners to improve collaboration on behalf of our families. This is also an opportunity to build new partnerships with local children's centres, health visiting teams, volunteers, and donors. We are currently looking at ways to appropriately relocate our families from our current location to the new building and planning our resourcing needs for a larger space.

We are excited to launch a new project in Spring 2024, targeting children coming to the project who are displaying developmental delays and possible emerging special educational needs. Our hypothesis is that these delays exist at the intersection of the impacts of poor housing, destitution, and stressed and anxious parents, and a high incidence of SEND. This project will support children through early intervention around social communication, speech and language, physical development, and play, and support their mums with practical parenting strategies around their children's development. Working with healthcare professionals we will create a body of learning around the particular barriers this group of families face when trying to access appropriate healthcare for their children, and how healthcare providers can adapt their services and advice to better meet these families' needs and circumstances.

The cost-of-living crisis continues to be a significant strain on our families, who are exposed to the rising costs of food, energy, clothes, and other essentials while living on as little as £9 per week per family member. In winter 2023 we will once again be a distributer of the Household Support Fund, which is designed to support vulnerable families through the winter months. We are also fundraising to provide vouchers for warm clothes and shoes for all of our families this winter.

SWOT Analysis

Strengths	Weaknesses
• Experienced and growing staff team • Positive funding and financial position • Strong community engagement (Magpie mum community and wider community) • Good press and media profile • Growing policy work • Strong professional partnerships • Skilled board members • Best practise safeguarding approach • Graduation Programme helping to 'land' women safely once they have leave to remain in the UK • Increasing requests for collaboration and sharing learning around temporary accommodation	• Space (mitigation: move to new building) • Succession planning (mitigation: training and support of mums' Leadership Team) • Data and impact measurement through Salesforce (mitigation: internal training with external support) • Loss of regular volunteers (mitigation: recruitment, training, and support of Magpie mum volunteers) • Vacancy for Chair of Trustees (mitigation: working with Reach Volunteering) • Increasing requests for collaboration and sharing learning is a drain on time and resources (mitigation: codify learning in shareable format)
Opportunities	**Threats**
• Moving to a new building • Developing volunteering and work experience opportunities for mums within the project • Growing role for mums' Leadership Team in direction and governance of the project • Consolidating lived-experience in policy area through Trust for London funding • New embedded Praxis immigration advisor • New Pre-School Pathways Project supporting children with SEN and developmental delays	• Deepening poverty caused by cost-of-living crisis • Reduced legal support for immigration & housing • Movement of families out of borough • Impact of moral injury and vicarious trauma on staff working with and supporting families in crisis • High numbers of children with SEN • Changing gov't policy and hardening of the hostile environment

Structure, governance & management

The Magpie Project (the "Charity") was constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 13 December 2017, when it was registered with the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales as Charity No. 1176267.

Organisational Structure

The board of trustees (the "Trustees") administers the Charity. They meet termly to make strategic decisions. The day-to-day running of the Charity is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer ("CEO").

The operational structure consists of a Founder/CEO, Chief Financial Officer, Family Support Manager, Family Support Worker, Play Lead, Graduation Manager, REACH Coordinator, Administrative Assistant, Kitchen Assistant, and Session Assistant. A steering committee of women who use or have used the charity actively participates in discussions and decision-making around internal governance and external advocacy, alongside the CEO.

The Magpie Project organisational structure

Graduation
Manager: Marcia Thompson

REACH team
Lead: Gifty Amponsah

SEN pathways
Manager: Mariam Malik

Baby Bank
Manager (tbc)
Assistant: Lindita Dafku

Play
Manager: Hannah Duthie

Food
Manager: Cat Young

Family Support
Manager: Jules Robertson
Worker: Sorcha Maynard

Administration
Assistant: Freya Chauncy

Finances and Fundraising
CFO: Amy Ross

CEO
Jane Williams

Mums' Steering Committee

Trustees:
Anu Anand
Radhika Bynon
Paula Reily
Dr Sveta Alladi
Sam Ward

Community

Funders

Selection and appointment of Trustees

Trustee recruitment is an open process conducted by existing charity trustees through public advertising. Apart from the first charity trustees, each trustee is appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the Trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as charity trustees, the Trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the Charity. The Charity has been working with Reach Volunteering to recruit a permanent Chair.

Trustee Induction and Training

The Trustees make available to each new charity trustee, on or before his or her first appointment: a) a copy of the current version of the constitution, b) a copy of the Charity's latest Annual Report and statement of accounts, and c) a copy of the Charity Commission's trustee welcome pack and guidance (CC3) on the responsibilities of a charity trustee.

Risk management

The Trustees regularly review the key financial, operational, strategic, reputational, and safeguarding risks facing the Charity. A risk register is maintained and updated annually. Over the course of the reporting year, trustees considered the key risks to be those relating to staff workload and wellbeing in the face of increasing demand on our services, and overcrowding of play sessions due to the space limitations in our current building. The trustees worked with the CEO to put in place plans to address these risks.

Financial review

Investment and Reserves policy

The trustees aim to maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds of between three and six months of total expenditure. The trustees consider that this level of reserves will provide sufficient funds to continue delivering the core work of the charity in the case of declining income or increasing expenditure, while alternative funds are sought. The level of reserves held throughout the year will be monitored termly, and the level of free reserves to be held will be reviewed on an annual basis.

This year the Trustees agreed to release £60,000 of unrestricted reserves that had been designated towards the potential capital costs of relocating to a new building in 2022-23. Discussions around moving to this new building collapsed in Autumn 2022, and while we are now in negotiation to move to a different building, the capital expenditure needs are dramatically lower.

Financial position

This year we extended our financial year so that it aligns with our operating year of September-August. These accounts therefore represent 14 months of financial activity, from 01 July 2022 to 31 August 2023.

Our financial position remains strong. The majority of our income continues to be unrestricted (70% in 2022-23 compared to 72% in 2021-22), with 74% coming from trusts and foundations, 16% from community fundraising (down from 30% in 2021-22), and the remainder coming from corporate donations, benevolent grants, and other income. Historically both community and corporate fundraising have been largely reactive and derive mainly from our public profile within the local community and local businesses. We are looking at investing in more proactive fundraising from these groups, as we look ahead to future increases in expenditure on staff and building costs.

This year our charitable expenses have gone up in line with an increase in the number of families we are supporting and the impact of rising costs of our regular purchases of food and nappies. In response to the cost-of-living crisis, we increased our staff salaries this year and made the decision – along with our mums' steering committee – to increase the value of travel money that we give families when they attend the project, from £3 to £3.50 per visit, to keep pace with the cost of a local hopper bus fare. Having held slightly excess reserves for the past few years as we came out of the Covid pandemic, we have now spent down those funds and have finished this financial year within the target of our reserves policy.

Funders

We are incredibly grateful to the funders who have supported our work over the year, including: National Lottery Community Foundation, BBC Children in Need, Tudor Trust, Trust for London, Garfield Weston Foundation, Lloyds Bank Foundation, City Bridge Foundation, Smallwood Trust, The Blue Thread, Two Magpies Fund, Treebeard Trust, Kusuma Trust, London Catalyst, Natwest Circle Fund, Southwest Ham Children's Welfare Society, London City Airport, London Borough of Newham, Arnold Clark Foundation, 7Stars Foundation. A list of funders who have supported us with restricted grants can be found at the end of these accounts.

Statement of Board of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations. Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law they are required to prepare the financial statements in accordance with UK Accounting Standards and applicable law (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

Under charity law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the excess of income over expenditure for that year. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and,
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue its activities.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the Charity and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Charity's website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions. In addition, the Trustees confirm that they are happy that content of the annual review in pages 5 to 16 of this document meet the requirements of the Trustees' Annual Report under charity law.

They also confirm that the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

This report was approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 22 November 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Anu Anand

Anu Anand (Feb 9, 2024 17:24 GMT)

ANUBHA ANAND

CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

Independent examiner's report

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Magpie Project (Charity number 1176267) for the period ended 31 August 2023 which are set out on pages 19 to 32.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act). The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and,
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

This report, including my statement, has been prepared for and only for the Charity's Trustees as a body. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees as a body for my examination work, for this report, or for the statements I have made.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- the accounts 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.



ANDREW PHILIP NASH FCA

MEMBER OF THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS IN ENGLAND AND WALES – 2461833

DATED: 9 FEBRUARY 2024

Andy Nash Accounting & Consultancy Ltd
Units 24 & 25
Goodsheds Container Village
Hood Road
Barry
CF62 5QU

Statement of financial activities

For the period ended 31 August 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023 £	Restricted Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023 £	Total Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023 £	Total Funds Year Ended 30 Jun 2022 £
Income from:					
Donations & legacies	3	311,921	113,243	**425,164**	244,735
Other income		543	4,200	**4,743**	1,400
Total income		**312,464**	**117,443**	**429,907**	246,135
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	4 & 5	44,503	3,607	**48,110**	38,040
Charitable activities					
Support for mums	4 & 6	293,320	105,150	**398,470**	272,751
Total charitable activities		**293,320**	**105,150**	**398,470**	272,751
Total expenditure		**337,823**	**108,757**	**446,580**	310,791
Net income/(expenditure)		**(25,359)**	**8,686**	**(16,673)**	(64,656)
Transfers between funds		(15)	15	**-**	-
Net movement in funds		**(25,374)**	**8,701**	**(16,673)**	(64,656)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	10 & 11	**179,926**	**13,349**	**193,275**	257,931
Total funds carried forward	10 & 11	**154,552**	**22,050**	**176,602**	193,275

The notes on pages 21 to 32 form part of the financial statements.

Balance sheet

As at 31 August 2023

	Notes		**Total Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023** £		Total Funds Year Ended 30 Jun 2022 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	8		**1,539**		571
Current assets					
Debtors	9	**7,131**		-	
Cash at bank and in hand		**210,741**		218,825	
Total current assets			**217,872**		218,825
Creditors					
Amounts falling due within one year	10		**(42,809)**		(26,121)
Total net assets			**176,602**		193,275
Funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	11 & 12		**22,050**		13,349
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds		**-**		60,000	
General funds		**154,552**		119,926	
Unrestricted funds	11 & 12		**154,552**		179,926
			176,602		193,275

The notes on pages 21 to 32 form part of the financial statements.

These financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 22 November 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Anu Anand

Anu Anand (Feb 9, 2024 17:24 GMT)

ANUBHA ANAND

CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

Notes to the financial statements

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 'Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 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) second edition (effective 1 January 2019)', the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), including Update Bulletin 1, and relevant charities law.

The effect of any event relating to the period ended 31 August 2023, which occurred before the date of approval of the financial statements by the Board of Trustees has been included in the financial statements to the extent required to show a true and fair view of the state of affairs at 31 August 2023 and the results for the year ended on that date.

Under the exemption available to smaller charities the Board of Trustees has chosen not to include a Statement of Cash Flows within the financial statements.

The functional currency of the Charity is sterling and amounts in the financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

Legal status

The Magpie Project is a charitable incorporated organisation registered in England & Wales, and meets the definition of a public benefit entity. The registered office is Forest Lane Lodge, Magpie Close, Forest Lane, London, E7 9DE.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis as the Board of Trustees is confident that future reserves and future income is more than sufficient to meet current commitments. There are no material uncertainties that impact this assessment, and the ongoing COVID-19 global pandemic has had no material impact on this assessment.

Fund Accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise of unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in note 11 of the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds that are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or that have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in note 10 of the financial statements.

Income

Income is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance indicators attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when entitled, receipt is probable and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Gift aid receivable is included when claimable – i.e. when the eligible donation is received.

Grant income is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier, unless the grant relates to a future year, in which case it is deferred.

1. Accounting policies (continued from previous page)

Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities. Indirect costs, including governance costs, which cannot be directly attributed to activities, are allocated between activities proportionate to the direct costs incurred in those activities. Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is conveyed to the recipient. Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of expenditure for which it was incurred.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Any assets costing more than £500 are capitalised other than those purchased using restricted funds. Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their residual value, over their useful life, on the following basis:

Computer equipment	20% reducing balance

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash in hand, deposits with banks and funds that are readily convertible into cash at, or close to, their carrying values, but are not held for investment purposes.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount is applied.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party, and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Financial instruments

Basic financial instruments are measured at amortised cost other than investments which are measured at fair value.

Critical estimates and judgements

In preparing financial statements it is necessary to make certain judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts recognised in the financial statements. The treatment of tangible fixed assets is sensitive to changes in useful economic lives and residual values of assets. These are reassessed annually.

In the view of the Trustees in applying the accounting policies adopted, no judgements were required that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements nor do any estimates or assumptions made carry a significant risk of material adjustment in the next financial year.

Pensions

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is administered by an external independent pension provider. Contributions are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as they fall due.

Change in accounting period

During the current financial period the Trustees agreed to amend the accounting year end date from 30 June to 31 Augustand to apply this to the period that commenced on 1 July 2022 and ran until 31 August 2023. This decision was made to ensure that the financial statements fitted more closely to the operational year. This means there are limitations with the comparatives as they represent a twelve month period as opposed to the current period figures which represent a fourteen month period.

2. Comparative statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted Funds Year Ended 30 Jun 2022 £	Restricted Funds Year Ended 30 Jun 2022 £	Total Funds Year Ended 30 Jun 2022 £
Income from:			
Donations & legacies	158,769	85,966	244,735
Other income	-	1,400	1,400
Total income	158,769	87,366	246,135
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	34,462	3,578	38,040
Charitable activities			
Support for mums	160,126	112,625	272,751
Total charitable activities	160,126	112,625	272,751
Total expenditure	194,588	116,203	310,791
Net income/(expenditure)	(35,819)	(28,837)	(64,656)
Transfers between funds	(675)	675	-
Net movement in funds	(36,494)	(28,162)	(64,656)
Reconciliation of funds:			
Total funds brought forward	216,420	41,511	257,931
Total funds carried forward	179,926	13,349	193,275

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023 £	**Restricted Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023 £**	**Total Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023 £**
Grants	227,948	77,653	**305,601**
Donations	83,973	35,590	**119,563**
	311,921	**113,243**	**425,164**

	Unrestricted Funds Year Ended 30 Jun 2022 £	Restricted Funds Year Ended 30 Jun 2022 £	Total Funds Year Ended 30 Jun 2022 £
Grants	111,017	41,712	152,729
Gift Aid income	387	-	387
Donations	47,365	44,254	91,619
	158,769	85,966	244,735

4. Total expenditure

	Direct Staff Expenditure Period Ended 31 Aug 2023	**Direct Other Expenditure Period Ended 31 Aug 2023**	**Indirect Other Expenditure Period Ended 31 Aug 2023**	**Total Expenditure Period Ended 31 Aug 2023**
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**
Raising funds	37,604	4,224	6,282	**48,110**
Charitable activities				
Support for mums	213,530	132,911	52,029	**398,470**
	251,134	**137,135**	**58,311**	**446,580**

	Direct Staff Expenditure Year Ended 30 Jun 2022	Direct Other Expenditure Year Ended 30 Jun 2022	Indirect Other Expenditure Year Ended 30 Jun 2022	Total Expenditure Year Ended 30 Jun 2022
	£	£	£	£
Raising funds	29,203	4,029	4,808	38,040
Charitable activities				
Support for mums	136,846	101,434	34,471	272,751
	166,049	105,463	39,279	310,791

Direct costs include:

	Total Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023	Total Funds Year Ended 30 Jun 2022
	£	£
Benevolent grants	**41,368**	26,660
Food and supplies	**8,751**	2,854
Mum's travel	**16,886**	11,624
Nappies and formula	**11,229**	10,674
Supporting children's development	**3,364**	727
Programme delivery	**32,685**	27,715
Other family expenses	**18,628**	21,180
	132,911	101,434

Benevolent grants are payments made to families in need.

4. Total expenditure (continued from previous page)

Indirect costs, including governance costs, which cannot be directly attributed to activities, were allocated between cost centres proportionate to the direct staff and other costs allocated to those activities.

An analysis of costs of raising funds split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 5.

An analysis of charitable activities split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 6.

An analysis of staff costs can be found in note 7.

Indirect costs includes:

	Total Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023	Total Funds Year Ended 30 Jun 2022
	£	£
Indirect staff costs	**18,813**	4,936
Other staff costs	**1,260**	1,703
Meeting and travel costs	**303**	920
Office costs	**11,016**	9,718
Rent	**11,667**	12,500
Professional fees	**1,275**	568
Other expenses	**11,303**	6,502
Governance costs	**2,674**	2,432
	58,311	39,279

Governance costs includes:

	Total Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023	Total Funds Year Ended 30 Jun 2022
	£	£
Independent examination	**2,100**	2,000
Insurance	**574**	432
	2,674	2,432

5. Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023	Restricted Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023	Total Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023
	£	£	£
Direct staff costs	37,604	-	**37,604**
Direct other costs	4,221	3	**4,224**
Indirect other costs	2,678	3,604	**6,282**
	44,503	**3,607**	**48,110**

	Unrestricted Funds Year Ended 30 Jun 2022	Restricted Funds Year Ended 30 Jun 2022	Total Funds Year Ended 30 Jun 2022
	£	£	£
Direct staff costs	29,203	-	29,203
Direct other costs	2,539	1,490	4,029
Indirect other costs	2,720	2,088	4,808
	34,462	3,578	38,040

6. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023	Restricted Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023	Total Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023
	£	£	£
Support for Mums			
Direct staff costs	163,735	49,795	**213,530**
Direct other costs	107,401	25,510	**132,911**
Indirect other costs	22,184	29,845	**52,029**
	293,320	**105,150**	**398,470**

	Unrestricted Funds Year Ended 30 Jun 2022	Restricted Funds Year Ended 30 Jun 2022	Total Funds Year Ended 30 Jun 2022
	£	£	£
Support for Mums			
Direct staff costs	75,325	61,521	136,846
Direct other costs	65,299	36,135	101,434
Indirect other costs	19,502	14,969	34,471
	160,126	112,625	272,751

7. Staff costs

	Total Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023	Total Funds Year Ended 30 Jun 2022
	£	£
Gross salaries	**246,291**	156,220
Employer's NIC	**18,602**	11,100
Employer's pension	**5,054**	3,665
	269,947	170,985

The average headcount during the period was 7 persons (2022: 6 persons).

No employee received employee benefits above £60,000.

The total employee benefits paid to key management personnel during the period was £112,274 (2022: £87,791).

8. Tangible fixed assets

	Computer equipment	**Total Total**
	£	**£**
Cost		
As at 1 July 2022	761	**761**
Additions	1,350	**1,350**
As at 31 August 2023	**2,111**	**2,111**
Accumulated depreciation		
As at 1 July 2022	190	**190**
Charge for year	382	**382**
As at 31 August 2023	**572**	**572**
Net book value		
As at 1 July 2022	**571**	**571**
As at 31 August 2023	**1,539**	**1,539**

9. Debtors and prepayments

	Total Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023	Total Funds Year Ended 30 Jun 2022
	£	£
Prepayments	**3,115**	-
Other debtors	**683**	-
Accrued grant income	**3,333**	-
	7,131	-

10. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Total Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023	Total Funds Year Ended 30 Jun 2022
	£	£
Accruals	**5,767**	2,675
Deferred grant revenue	**37,042**	23,000
Other creditors	**-**	446
	42,809	26,121

Deferred revenue relates to amounts received in advance for the 2023/24 finacial year from multiple funders and can be analysed as follows:

	Total Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023	Total Funds Year Ended 30 Jun 2022
	£	£
Deferred grant revenue brought forward	**23,000**	-
Released to grant revenue in the period	**(23,000)**	-
Grant revenue deferred in the period	**37,042**	23,000
Deferred grant revenue carried forward	**37,042**	23,000

11. Analysis of charity funds

	Funds brought forward Period Ended 31 Aug 2023 £	Income for the Period Ended 31 Aug 2023 £	Expenditure in the Period Ended 31 Aug 2023 £	Transfers in the Period Ended 31 Aug 2023 £	Funds carried forward Period Ended 31 Aug 2023 £
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	119,926	312,464	(337,823)	59,985	**154,552**
Designated funds	60,000	-	-	(60,000)	**-**
Total unrestricted funds	**179,926**	**312,464**	**(337,823)**	**(15)**	**154,552**
Restricted funds					
Bethany Williams Benevolent Fund	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	**-**
Creative Partnerships	6,500	5,500	(12,000)	-	**-**
English Language Sessions	-	5,820	(2,253)	-	**3,567**
Family Support Manager salary	-	19,200	(19,200)	-	**-**
Guildhall School of Music and Drama	500	-	(500)	-	**-**
London Catalyst Samaritan Grants	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	**-**
MOPAC	-	12,500	(70)	-	**12,430**
Newham Enrichment Grant	(15)	-	-	15	**-**
Play Lead Salary	262	30,333	(30,595)	-	**-**
Pre-school SEND Pathways	-	5,000	-	-	**5,000**
Safe Lives Fund	4,802	-	(4,802)	-	**-**
Shoes, Coats and Clothes Fund	(100)	6,490	(6,390)	-	**-**
Southwest Ham Children's Fund - Benevolent Grants	400	29,600	(29,100)	-	**900**
Trips and Activities	1,000	1,000	(1,847)	-	**153**
Total restricted funds	**13,349**	**117,443**	**(108,757)**	**15**	**22,050**
Total funds	**193,275**	**429,907**	**(446,580)**	**-**	**176,602**

Designated Funds: The Trustees have decided to release the designated funds which had been held in relation to the potential cost of relocating to a new premises in 2022/23 as new expected costs in relation to a move are not expected to be this high.

Bethany Williams Benevolent Fund: Discretionary fund to meet basic needs of Magpie families and distribute emergency grants.

Creative Partnerships: Grants to support our collaborations with artists, musicians, dancers, and other creative professionals.

English Language Sessions: Grants to provide English language sessions for Magpie mums.

Family Support Manager salary: Grants towards the salary of our Family Support Manager.

11. Analysis of charity funds (continued from previous page)

Guildhall School of Music & Drama: Grant to support collaboration with musicians and composers Breakfast Club Quartet.

London Catalyst Samaritan Grants: Discretionary fund for emergency grants to Magpie families.

MOPAC: Discretionary fund for emergency grants to Magpie families affected by domestic abuse.

Newham Enrichment Grant: Grant to support collaboration with dance and movement practioners Louise Klarnett Dance Art Foundation.

Play Lead salary: Grants towards the salary of our Play Lead.

Pre-school SEND Pathways: Grants to support Magpie children with potential special educational needs to access appropriate advice and healthcare.

Safe Lives Fund: Discretionary fund for emergency grants to Magpie families affected by domestic abuse.

Shoes, Coats, and Clothes: Grants towards the cost of new coats, shoes, and other essential items for Magpie families.

Southwest Ham Child Welfare Society: One-off grants for Magpie families living in Newham.

Trips and activities: Grants towards providing trips and additional activities for Magpie families.

11. Analysis of charity funds (continued from previous page)

	Funds brought forward	Income for the	Expenditure in the	Transfers in the	Funds carried forward
	Year Ended 30 Jun 2022	Year Ended 30 Jun 2022	Year Ended 30 Jun 2022	Year Ended 30 Jun 2022	Year Ended 30 Jun 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	156,420	158,769	(194,588)	(675)	119,926
Designated funds	60,000	-	-	-	60,000
Total unrestricted funds	216,420	158,769	(194,588)	(675)	179,926
Restricted funds					
Bethany Williams Benevolent Fund	12	8,800	(8,812)	-	-
Community Links	100	-	(100)	-	-
Creative Partnerships	-	10,000	(3,500)	-	6,500
Deutsche Bank Foundation	15,000	-	(15,000)	-	-
Family Support Manager salary	15,000	-	(15,000)	-	-
Guildhall School of Music and Drama	-	1,250	(750)	-	500
London Catalyst Samaritan Grants	-	750	(750)	-	-
National Childbirth Trust	3,500	4,000	(7,500)	-	-
Network for Social Change	4,155	-	(4,830)	675	-
Newham Enrichment Grant	-	-	(15)	-	(15)
Play Lead Salary	-	23,833	(23,571)	-	262
Safe Lives Fund	1,982	5,000	(2,180)	-	4,802
Shoes, Coats and Clothes Fund	-	11,000	(11,100)	-	(100)
Southwest Ham Children's Fund - Benevolent Grants	-	18,000	(17,600)	-	400
Trips and Activities	-	3,333	(2,333)	-	1,000
Tudor Trust	1,762	-	(1,762)	-	-
University of East London	-	1,400	(1,400)	-	-
Total restricted funds	41,511	87,366	(116,203)	675	13,349
Total funds	257,931	246,135	(310,791)	-	193,275

Community Links: Grant to provide creche facilities during workshops for mums.

Deutsche Bank Foundation: Grant towards Graduation Manager salary.

National Childbirth Trust: Grant to develop new service for BAME mothers accessing pre- and post-natal care.

Network for Social Change: Grant to support Graduation Programme.

Tudor Trust: Top-up grant to support wellbeing and development of staff and volunteers.

11. Analysis of charity funds (continued from previous page)

University of East London: Compensation for placement of social work students.

12. Analysis of net assets

	Unrestricted Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023	**Restricted Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023**	**Total Funds Period Ended 31 Aug 2023**
	£	**£**	**£**
Tangible assets	1,539	-	**1,539**
Current assets	191,488	26,384	**217,872**
Current liabilities	(38,475)	(4,334)	**(42,809)**
	154,552	**22,050**	**176,602**

	Unrestricted Funds Year Ended 30 Jun 2022	Restricted Funds Year Ended 30 Jun 2022	Total Funds Year Ended 30 Jun 2022
	£	£	£
Tangible assets	571	-	571
Current assets	203,309	15,516	218,825
Current liabilities	(23,954)	(2,167)	(26,121)
	179,926	13,349	193,275

13. Trustee remuneration

During the year, no trustee received any remuneration (2022: £Nil). During the year, one trustee received reimbursement for travel expenses of £53 (2022: one trustee for travel expenses of £58).

14. Related party transactions

During the year there were no related party transactions (2022: £Nil).

THE MAGPIE PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1176267

Accounts

The Magpie Project

Trustees Annual Report and Unaudited Financial Statements Year ended 30 June 2022

Charity registration - 1176267

Andy Nash Accounting & Consultancy

Contents

Legal and administrative information 4

Trustees annual report 5

- Objectives and activities 5
- Achievements and performance in the year 6
- Partnerships and collaborations 8
- Organisational development 9
- Plans for the future 12
- Structure, governance & management 13
- Financial review 14
- Statement of Board of Trustees' responsibilities 15

Independent examiner's report 16

Statement of financial activities 18

Balance sheet 19

Notes to the financial statements 20

Legal and administrative information

Charity name

The Magpie Project

Charity registration no.

1176267

Registered office and contact details

Forest Lane Lodge
Magpie Close, Forest Lane
London
E7 9DE

Trustees

Anubha Anand	
Sveta Alladi-Sekidde	
Therese Bynon	
Paula Reily	
Samantha Ward	(appointed 12 July 2022)
Brenda Achora	(appointed 12 July 2022)
Harmit Ahluwalia	(resigned 22 March 2022)
Aimee Dorsett-Browne	(resigned 15 July 2022)
Gulshun Rehman	(resigned 18 October 2021)

Chief Executive Officer

Jane Williams

Chief Financial Officer

Amy Ross

Independent examiner

Andy Nash Accounting & Consultancy Ltd
Units 24 & 25
Goodsheds Container Village
Hood Road
Barry
CF62 5QU

Bankers

HSBC Bank plc
15 The Mall
Stratford
E15 1XL

Trustees annual report

The Board of Trustees submit their annual report and the financial statements of The Magpie Project for the year ended 30 June 2022.

The Board of Trustees confirms that the annual report and financial statements of the Charity comply with current statutory requirements, including the Charity Act 2011, as well as the requirements of the Society's governing document and the provisions of the 'Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 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) second edition (effective 1 January 2019)', and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Objectives and activities

Objectives

The objects of the Charity are: The prevention and relief of poverty for families with young children living in temporary accommodation or at threat of homelessness in Newham and adjacent boroughs – in particular, providing a space to play and learn, and for parents to gain professional advice and form social networks in order to alleviate immediate difficulties, seek solutions to address their need and reintegrate into existing universal services.

We support insecurely or temporarily housed families with children under 5 living in Newham and surrounding boroughs. Our mission is to make life better – materially, socially, and emotionally – for families and ensure that young children do not suffer long-term negative consequences because of their housing situation. We do not try to solve the complex web of issues faced by our families, which are beyond our remit and involve many other agencies; rather we aim to put a safety net under them, decrease their social isolation, increase their resilience, and reduce the prospect of them getting into deeper difficulties further down the line.

Our vision is for happier, healthier children, being positively parented by socially integrated and well-informed mums who feel more in control of their situation.

Activities

We work to achieve these objectives by providing a twice-weekly stay-and-play session for women with children under 5 living in temporary or insecure accommodation. We pay for travel to and from the project, provide a healthy home-cooked lunch, and offer a baby bank of nappies, clothes, and other essentials. While their children enjoy creative indoor and outdoor play, make friends, and develop their social skills, supported by early years volunteers, mothers can access advice and support on a range of issues including housing, immigration, physical and mental health, parenting, employment readiness, domestic violence, female genital mutilation, and more.

We act as the mothers' information point and social network at a time when theirs has been depleted by frequent moves, life changes and poverty, and build relationships with referrers, community groups and other local organisations who can help and support mothers as they begin to tackle the complex web of crises relating to their housing insecurity. We signpost families in need of additional support to universal or targeted services that they may otherwise be unaware of or feel unable to access. We also work to raise the voices of mothers living in temporary accommodation so as to influence policy relating to No Recourse to Public Funds, Section 17, and other issues which directly affect them.

Public Benefit Statement

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

Achievements and performance in the year

Service Delivery

The last year has seen a welcome return to 'normal' service delivery, following the disruption caused by the pandemic. This year has also been a period of growth for the project: growth in the number of families we are supporting, in the number of organisations we are partnering with, in our advocacy and voice work, and in the range of activities we are offering across the week. Our weekly schedule now includes an offering for mums and minis on every day of the week:

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
am	Drop-in stay-and-play session with casework support from The Magpie Project, Shelter, and LBWP	Graduation Programme – advice, skills and coaching for mums who are ready to move on from the project	Drop-in stay-and-play session with casework support from The Magpie Project, Shelter, and LBWP	Newham Nurture – a project we co-produced project with NCT helping BAME women thru pregnancy & babies' first 2 yrs	Singing with our partners London Rhymes
pm	Workshops (crafts, mending, yoga, dance, meditation, and childhood development topics)	Form-filling session to help mums with online applications for benefits, housing, school places, etc	Workshops (crafts, mending, yoga, dance, meditation, and childhood development topics)	Plans to launch a 'Magpie mums takeover' where mums run their own sessions with a small budget from us	Fortnightly meeting of our mums' Leadership Team and CEO, discussing strategy, advocacy, and key decisions

This year we are particularly proud to have launched our Graduation Programme, an 8-week course aimed at mums who have been granted Leave to Remain in the UK and are eligible to receive public funds, including housing and benefits, and/or enter work, education etc. The course covers practical support around setting up a bank account, applying for benefits and housing, writing a CV, plus digital skills and computer literacy, as well as coaching around stepping down from crisis and setting goals. At the end of each course the mums receive a laptop to help them with their onwards journey. The programme has been a huge success: 31 mums have 'graduated' over 3 cohorts, many of them going on to education, training, volunteering, and work. We also successfully launched 'Newham Nurture', a service that was co-designed by Magpie mums along with the National Childbirth Trust and Alternatives Trust to support BAME women through pregnancy and the first two years of childhood. These sessions now run throughout the week at locations across Newham.

We have also launched a weekly form-filling session where mums can be supported by trained volunteers to make online applications, read letters, and complete other administrative and/or online tasks. These sessions have freed up capacity within our drop-in stay-and-play sessions as we can refer these needs out to our form-filling sessions, keeping the drop-ins for more urgent casework for families in crisis around housing, immigration, and domestic violence.

Numbers Supported

During the year, we supported around 320 families with children under 5 living in temporary or insecure housing in Newham and surrounding boroughs. At each of our twice-weekly stay-and-play sessions we see an average of 45 families (110 individuals), with the highest over the last year being 75 families in one day. An average of 7 new families are referred to us each week, the majority coming through word-of-mouth between mums. All new families who come to us have a registration meeting with our Casework Manager, whose first job is to make the necessary referrals to ensure that families are connected to and accessing the support they need and to which they are entitled. Referrals are typically made to children's centres, foodbanks, Shelter, London Black Women's Project, Early Help, Newham Nurture, Praxis, RAMFEL, Duncan Lewis Public Law; as well as safeguarding referrals, talking therapy referrals, and other more specialist support.

While demand for our services continues to rise, our aim is to maintain the number of families we are supporting rather than grow exponentially. This is why we are putting extra resources into moving people on from the project once they become eligible for other forms of support. We do this through the Graduation Programme, which supports women once they receive leave to remain to access housing, benefits, and

move towards employment, volunteering and training, and our form-filling sessions where mums can get support from volunteers to make applications and access other online services. We regularly turn down opportunities to add additional activities to our core work, in order to maintain our boundaries and not expand beyond what we can safely provide. There is more information on this in our 'learning' section later in this report.

Policy, communications, and advocacy

When setting up the project we originally set out to meet the immediate needs of families experiencing homelessness or insecure housing; however, we quickly realised we also needed to address the policy and service environment in which our families were seeking and being denied support. Our advocacy is grounded in safety and trust, built through our trauma-informed and person-centred approach, and journeying with mums through every step of their story. It is through and from these relationships that we derive our legitimacy to speak on the issues affecting their lives and, where possible, and safe, support mothers to tell their own story in at the highest tables of power.

Over the past year our communications and advocacy work has included being part of a Newsnight investigation on the health hazards of substandard accommodation for many children in the UK, as part of our work with University College London and the Queens' Nursing Institute. We have also worked to push the voices of our mums, who are experts by experience and have much to offer in the way of designing solutions as well as offering personal insights into the experience of living in temporary accommodation. Over the last year they have sat on panels for Crisis, Shelter, and the Early Years Forum in Newham, briefed MPs Stephen Timms and Lyn Brown on NRPF, attended regular meetings with the Mayor of Newham on Section 17 support, and engaged with policy makers including the Runnymede Trust, Equality Trust, and Amnesty International. We are extremely careful to protect, scaffold and safeguard our mums in these interactions, which may not always be designed with people with direct experience of temporary accommodation, and its associated impacts, in mind.

For our advocacy and change work we work with partners – including those to whom we refer families for individual support – to raise and address the systemic issues that we see in our case work. For example, in the last year we have been working with Duncan Lewis Public Law to support mums living in appalling circumstances in Migrant Help accommodation run by Clearspring Readyhomes to raise their experiences at a higher level. In future we would like to support mums and a public law firm to take a class action and secure something into case law for Migrant Help and the Home Office's monitoring of their subcontractors including Clear spring. As part of this work, the Mayor of Newham Rokhsana Fiaz and a Magpie mum took part in a TV news piece and wrote a letter to parliament to advocate for our families.

Drawing on our casework we have also alerted Public Health Newham to the plight of asylum-seeking families living in hotels in the south of the borough. There are now regular meetings with Alternatives Trust, Newham Nurture, Care for Calais, and other organisations to help the children's centres, GPs, and CYPS meet the needs of these families. We are also working with Newham's housing team on pathways from Migrant Help and Children's and Young Persons Service into the homelessness service.

Challenges

Among the challenges of the past year has been the reduced capacity of some of our key partners, especially immigration services such as London Black Women's Project, Praxis, and Project 17. These organisations are experiencing the double impact of funding cuts plus a re-prioritisation of resources towards 'emergency' work such as stopping flights to Rwanda, rather than the everyday challenges of improper housing. Children's centres also continue to experience budget cuts and pressure to expand their services away from early years, in order to plug gaps in other sectors. The health visiting team in Newham is also severely under-staff and under-resourced. All this makes it increasingly difficult for us to hand over casework to other specialist organisations, and/or trust that families will be appropriately supported once we refer them on. The impact of this is that we end up holding onto families and families end up stuck in crisis for longer, while we wait for resources to become available.

We have also experienced a drop in our volunteer numbers: several long-term volunteers chose not to return after the pandemic and others have become less available as working patterns shifted. To address this, we are putting additional resources into recruiting, training, and supporting 'Magpie mums' who have either graduated through our programme or whose children have started school, to come back and volunteer with us. These mums require particular support to help them transition from service user to volunteer, however we hope that in time they will be the majority of our volunteer group. We are working with our 'mums on maternity leave' volunteers (mums from the local community with their own young children) to encourage

them to draw our families out to other community offers, such as children's centres, the Discover Story Centre, and local parks, to build Magpie mums' confidence and knowledge and also manage capacity in our drop-in sessions.

Partnerships and collaborations

Professional support

We prioritise partnering with specialist organisations wherever possible, rather than replicating their services in-house. Over the past year we have partnered with the following organisations to help support our families:

- Shelter: 1 day/week specialist housing adviser embedded in our drop-in sessions.

- London Black Women's Project: although they sadly do not have the capacity to embed a caseworker within the project, we continue to have a very strong referral partnership on domestic violence and immigration issues.

- Kay Rowe Children's Centre: 1 day/week family support worker embedded in the project to help with early years support, nursery applications, etc.

- Local health visitors: we have struggled to return to the 1 day/week embedded health visitor we had pre-Covid, however they try to come to one session per month.

- Community Navigators: 1 day/week Community Navigator embedded within the project to support with applications, paperwork, signposting, and referrals.

- University of East London: We benefit from social work student placements embedded within the project during the year, who support with casework and referrals.

- Happy Baby Community, BEAM, and Routes Mentoring all help to deliver our graduation programme, as well as other local organisations who support mums into work, training, or education.

This professional support was all given freely, with an estimated value of over £30,000.

Creative collaborations

We are also incredibly lucky to partner with several organisations that help to meet our families' basic needs and contribute to their lives and experiences through creativity and play:

- Bethany Williams London: We continue to work closely with Bethany Williams to showcase the stories and creativity of our families, including an exhibition featuring our partnership at the Design Museum in London.

- London Rhymes: Our weekly singing and music-making sessions have led to Magpie families performing in a music video for a song they co-wrote with London Rhymes, and their songs being performed at a special show in London which families received free tickets to.

- Craft Council: Families have taken part in craft workshops at our sessions and at the Craft Council head office.

- Streetwise Opera: Writing and performing a number of songs inspired by the experiences of Magpie mums and minis, with world-class opera singers and musicians.

Some of these partnerships were grant-funded, however we are very grateful to those collaborators who gave their time for free, at an estimated value of £6,000.

Donations

Over the last year we have received the following donations:

- Food: Twice-weekly deliveries of surplus food from City Harvest that we turn into delicious, freshly prepared breakfasts and lunches for families.

- Experiences: 15 weekly tickets for Magpie families to enjoy a 'Story Sandwich' at Discover Centre Stratford; 100 free tickets from Westfield Stratford London for Magpie minis to meet Santa!; tickets for 20 families to see the Christmas pantomime at Stratford Theatre Royal.

- Shopping vouchers, buggy covers, clothes, shoes, toys, sanitary products, toiletry, and make-up items, from organisations such as 52 Lives, Marks & Spencer's, Waitrose, Children's Salon, Afrocenchix, AHMM, Bancroft Rugby Club, West Ham Supporters Foodbank, Clapton FC, and local schools.

- Equipment: Laptops for mums 'graduating' from our Graduation Programme from Digital Skills and Computers4Charity.

- Christmas gifts and hampers from Westfield Stratford London, AAA, Hasbro Gaming, and members of the local community.

- New clothes from Westfield London.

- Clothes, buggies, slings, moses baskets, toys, and countless other items from the local community.

The estimated value of these items (even if bought second-hand), exceeds £75,000.

Pro bono local support

We would like to thank the following organisations who helped with fundraising, events, mentoring, trustee recruitment, connections, and more: Clapton Community Football Club, West Ham Supporters Foodbank, Bancroft Rugby Club, Enabled Living, Black Swan, Westfield Stratford London, Man Group plc, LinkCity Buoygues, Active Newham, Wanstead and Forest Gate WIs, Number 8 Emporium, Wanstead Tap, Woodgrange Market, 52 Lives, The Challenge Network, ELBA, Bethany Williams, BEAM, Discover Stratford, Stratford Circus, Stratford Royal Theatre, CPRE Rural Rides, and local schools. We also received specialist advice and support from Muf Architects, Mann Group plc, IPE Developments, Pettyson & Prestwich, independent property lawyers, surveyors, and structural engineers. This support was all given freely, with an estimated value of over £20,000.

The total value of in-kind support we received is estimated to be approximately £120,000.

Organisational development

Internal leadership

This year we have consolidated the role of our 'Leadership Team' in our internal governance and our advocacy work. This is a group of 12 mums who have either journeyed through the project or are still being supported by us, who work with the CEO to make key decisions about the charity. Since January 2022 the group has met fortnightly with the CEO and has moved forwards in formalising its role through developing terms of reference, creating several sub-committees (safeguarding, housing, early years, fundraising, etc), and coming up with three priorities through which all of the project's external voice work will be filtered:

- Achieving basic minimum standards of housing for children under 5 who are placed in emergency or temporary accommodation (for example, access to private cooking and bathroom facilities);

- Achieving equal treatment for all mums and children regardless of their circumstances (including training for local authority frontline workers on trauma and the impacts of temporary accommodation on under-5s);

- 'Our Stories, Our Solutions' – ensuring that women living in temporary accommodation are recognised for the solutions that they bring, and not just used for their experiences.

The group has recently secured some of its own funding to pay for creche provision during its meetings and some training around campaigning, media, and ESOL for social change. The next step for this group is to consolidate links with the project's trustee board, for reporting and accountability but also to pave the way for a member of this group or another Magpie mum to eventually sit on the board.

Team update

We have broadly maintained our staff team this year, increasing hours for our Casework Manager and Graduation Manager to meet increasing demand, and we are currently recruiting for a Referrals and Administrative Assistant to alleviate some of the administrative workload across the team. We have intentionally designed this as a first or second job, with a focus on developing digital and interpersonal skills, to make it a good fit for some of the mums who have graduated from our Graduation Programme. This is in line with our ambition to bring more lived experience of homelessness and the hostile environment into our staff body.

Governance

Our trustee board has continued to see some movement over the last year. Of the six new trustees that joined us in March 2021, two have since resigned for health and personal reasons, including our Chair. The good news is that the four who remain have fully settled in and are proving invaluable in sharing their expertise around safeguarding, financial management, communications, community engagement, and other areas. In July 2022 we recruited two new trustees, both of whom have previously either volunteered with us or been part of the staff team, one with expertise in compliance, diversity, and anti-racism, and the other in volunteer management and development. We are in the process of recruiting a new Chair and are working with Trustees Unlimited to help us with this. In the meantime, we have an Interim Chair from the current trustee board.

Systems

We have continued to develop our use of Salesforce for our data, casework, and contact management. We are successful utilising the bespoke data capture forms that were created for us last year to record in-depth information about the families we support and are using this to track our engagement with them and our support. A recent external evaluation conducted as part of our end-of-grant reporting for the National Lottery Community Foundation revealed that there is still some work to do to make sure we are utilising this data as a knowledge management tool, to understand our overall activities and impact. In other words, we are using it well to aid our support of mums and minis, but need to do more to ensure it is also a valuable tool for the project as a whole.

Safeguarding

We have continued to develop our approach to safeguarding over the past year. Our safeguarding committee – led by our safeguarding lead on the trustee board, who is a paediatrician and the safeguarding lead for looked-after children across Newham, and a member of our mums' leadership team – have been developing two key workstreams:

- An interrogation with mums of how cultural expectations and structural racism play into conversations and expectations around parenting, care, and safeguarding. From this we hope to create more nuanced guidelines and training which bridge the gap between the existing notion of safeguarding on the one hand and the reality of mums' lives on the other, while maintaining non-negotiable hard lines which keep children safe.

- Trying to change the narrative in traditional approaches to safeguarding around 'parental neglect', and encourage other safeguarding practitioners (social workers, nursery staff, etc) to consider the impact of homelessness and destitution on parents' ability to meet the standards expected of them.

Both workstreams are inspired by the experiences of Magpie mums who have been judged against safeguarding expectations that are either unfamiliar to them, or unattainable because the conditions in which they are housed prevent them from being able to feed, clean, potty train, or keep their children safe to the standard expected of them by authorities, as well as their own aspirations for how they would

wish to care for their children. We hope to shift blame away from parents who are doing their very best in appalling circumstances, and onto local authorities and other service providers who are failing to provide a safe environment for families, and in turn shine a light on mums who are doing their very best to parent their children in extremis.

Contrary to typical safeguarding approaches which are about judging or telling and can lead mums to disengage with services leaving children even more vulnerable, our own approach is one of 'unconditional positive regard' which puts priority on building trust and making sure that families keep coming back to us, as that is when we can have the most impact. This approach does not jeopardise our regulatory duty to report safeguarding concerns but enables us to continue to do this with the permission and knowledge of mums wherever necessary, while at the same time working alongside them to shift behaviour and improve circumstances through trust and support. We continue to use our 'Magpie Watch' system to monitor concerns about any of the women or children we are supporting and utilise the appropriate routes for reporting where necessary.

Resilience and sustainability

While the project itself remains financially resilient and sustainable, the resilience of individual staff members remains a key priority and concern. Our recent staff training day focused on mental health and wellbeing and how we support each other to stay healthy and emotionally stable in the face of what is likely to be a very difficult winter for front-line organisations. We are supported in this work by our TAME psychologist who is available for all staff members throughout the year to speak to confidentially about any aspect of work that they are finding difficult. We also continue to prioritise our reflective practise at the end of each drop-in session, where staff and volunteers are supported to process anything particularly challenging that has happened that day to minimise the build-up of residual stress. Our work in the 'In Safe Hands' pilot is also helping us to think about the way that trauma-informed practise can help to protect and safeguard our staff and volunteers.

Our learning

Over the past year we have learnt that:

1. We are never going to be able to fully meet the need around temorary and insecure accommodation for mums and under 5s. Given this, we need to be smarter about how we are working, including:

- Partnering with other specialist organisations to share our resources and extend the network of support that our mums are able to access;

- Sharing our learning with other organisations to spread best practise particularly around trauma-informed care, co-development and voice;

- Holding statutory bodies to account for delivering the services they are set up to provide, and the treatment with which they treat people seeking support;

- Creating additional capacity through our form-filling sessions to take some of the administrative support needs out of our urgent casework sessions;

- Re-drawing our boundaries – particularly after we extended into additional services such as foodbank provision during lockdowns – and not over-reaching our charitable purpose, in order to protect the resources and capacity of our staff;

- Practising clear boundaries with our mums so that they do not have to put in extra work to try and secure support that we are not able to provide.

2. Recovery from lockdown is a long-term process that is still acutely affecting our families. Services and access to services have changed dramatically since lockdown, such as the whole-sale shift to GPs being accessed almost completely online. Just as we have struggled to get embedded partner services back into our drop-in sessions, families are struggling to adapt to this new way of working, particularly in terms of data access and digital literacy. We are also still seeing the acute damage caused by lockdowns to child development, especially around language and social communication, for children in this cohort. This is playing out in presentations of possible autism – especially in children coming to our play sessions for the

first time – which in many cases turn out to simply be a lack of play and social integration. This underlines the need for us to continue centring the experiences of children within our sessions, as these are often the only play environments children have access to.

3. Integrating our mums into the leadership and governance of the organisation is complex. Many of the mums in our Leadership Team, even those who are chronologically furthest from their crisis, are still deeply traumatised by their experience of homelessness and destitution. As we try to build their confidence, resilience, and leadership capability and integrate them into the organisation's leadership and governance, we need be careful that we are sharing our power but not our work. For example, making sure there is always a seat at the table for someone with lived experience of homelessness when we speak on panels, but keeping them out of the firing line when there is still work to do to make certain spaces safe for them to speak in. This is an ongoing work in progress but also an area we are very proud of.

Plans for the future

At the time of writing this report, the cost-of-living crisis is the biggest challenge facing our families. While most of our families are not responsible for their own gas and electricity bills (either being housed by the council or Home Office or renting privately where utilities are included in the rent), all our families are affected by rising food prices and we can assume that all types of accommodation will be colder this winter, as government subcontractors and private landlords alike seek to control their energy bills. As a staff team we are working out how we can alleviate the financial pressure on families already struggling to adequately feed and clothe themselves and their children. Some ideas we are considering are distributing vouchers to help with the cost of buying food and clothes and extending our open hours to provide a warm space for families during the week.

Some key strategic opportunities for us over the coming year include our participation the 'In Safe Hands' pilot led by AVA, developing a 'community of best practise' around trauma-informed work with women and girls; and our advocacy work funded by Trust for London, which includes prioritising and creating platforms for experts-by-experience to lead – rather than just inform – policy around temporary accommodation. We are still in the process of negotiating our move to a larger building and this remains a priority for the coming year. According to the latest timeline, Newham council will complete their initial works by summer 2023, and we will then be able to start fitting out the space according to our needs. While this has been a disappointingly slow process, we are somewhat relieved not to be taking on the leasehold this winter, given the spiralling energy costs!

As we look ahead beyond our funding from the National Lottery, our priorities are as follows:

- Consolidate: Make sure we can achieve what we are setting out to do over the long term with enough capacity, staff, volunteers, training, and resources. This includes making sure our governance and funding keeps pace with our growth and the complex nature of our work.

- Co-produce: Remain true to our method of relationship-based practice and co-production. This means embedding and prioritising the choice, trust, and feedback of mums at every stage.

- Codify: Codify our practise through continuous learning and evaluation, to ensure our own succession planning and establish the capacity ability to scale our work - not through physical expansion but through consultation and training of other organisations in our best practise.

- Change: Working towards systems change rather than simply plugging the gaps that the flaws in the current system create. This includes our work around voice, policy, legal challenges, and external communications.

- Continuation: Ensure that the above work includes an awareness of succession planning, increasing involvement, employment, and governance by Magpie Mums. This includes our leadership team, graduation pathways and codifying practice as above.

SWOT Analysis

Strengths	Weaknesses
• Experienced and stable staff team • Positive funding and financial position • Strong community engagement • Good press and media profile • Growing policy work • Strong professional partnerships • Skilled board members • Best practise safeguarding approach supported by expert trustee • Better 'goodbyes' through the Graduation Programme	• Space (mitigation: move to new building) • Succession planning (mitigation: training and support of mums' Leadership Team) • Data and impact measurement through Salesforce (mitigation: internal training with external support) • Loss of regular volunteers (mitigation: recruitment, training, and support of Magpie mums)
Opportunities	**Threats**
• Moving to a new building • Developing volunteering and work experience opportunities for mums within the project • Growing role for mums' Leadership Team in direction and governance of the project • Enhancing trauma-informed practise through In Safe Hands pilot • Consolidating lived-experience in policy area through Trust for London funding	• Increase in demand for support • Deepening poverty caused by cost-of-living crisis • Continuation of hostile environment and reduction in legal support for housing issues (priority shifting towards deportation flights and Rwanda policy) • Movement of families out of borough • Reputational risk around diversity and inclusion

Structure, governance & management

The Magpie Project (the "Charity") was constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 13 December 2017, when it was registered with the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales as Charity No. 1176267.

Organisational Structure

The board of trustees (the "Trustees") administers the Charity. They meet termly to make strategic decisions. The day-to-day running of the Charity is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer ("CEO").

The operational structure consists of a Founder/CEO, Chief Financial Officer, Case Work Manager, Play Manager, Graduation Manager, and Session Assistant. A Leadership Group of women who use the charity actively participates in decision-making and setting strategy, alongside the CEO.

Selection and appointment of Trustees

Trustee recruitment is an open process conducted by existing charity trustees through public advertising and the East London Business Alliance board match. Apart from the first charity trustees, each trustee is appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the Trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as charity trustees, the Trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the Charity.

Trustee Induction and Training

The Trustees make available to each new charity trustee, on or before his or her first appointment: a) a copy of the current version of the constitution, b) a copy of the Charity's latest Annual Report and statement of accounts, and c) a copy of the Charity Commission's trustee welcome pack and guidance (CC3) on the responsibilities of a charity trustee.

Risk management

The Trustees regularly review the key financial, operational, strategic, reputational, and safeguarding risks facing the Charity. A risk register is maintained and updated annually. Over the course of the reporting year, trustees considered the key risks to be those relating to overcrowding of play sessions due to the space limitations in our current building, and staff wellbeing, resilience, and capacity. The trustees worked with the CEO to put in place plans to address these risks.

Financial review

Investment and Reserves policy

The trustees aim to maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds of between three and six months of total expenditure. The trustees consider that this level of reserves will provide sufficient funds to continue delivering the core work of the charity in the case of declining income or increasing expenditure, while alternative funds are sought. The level of reserves held throughout the year will be monitored termly, and the level of free reserves to be held will be reviewed on an annual basis.

The Trustees have agreed to continue to designate £60,000 of unrestricted reserves towards the potential capital costs of relocating to a new building in 2022-23, which is incorporated in these accounts.

Financial position

Having accumulated surplus unrestricted funds in the previous financial year, when national lockdowns impacted service delivery and our income significantly outstripped expenditure, the negative in-year balance during this financial year was a planned deficit in order to bring reserves in line with our policy.

Our financial position remains strong. The majority of our funding remains unrestricted (72% in 2021-22 compared to 56% in 2020-21), with 60% coming from trusts and foundations, 30% from community fundraising, and 10% from corporate donations. Both community and corporate fundraising streams have largely been reactive since we first started and derive mainly from word-of-mouth and our public profile with local businesses including Westfield Stratford. As we look ahead to a projected increase in our expenditure in coming months and years – as a result of occupying a larger building and increasing our staff team to meet demand – we will be investing in a more proactive fundraising strategy in both of these areas, alongside continued fundraising from trusts and foundations.

Funders

We are incredibly grateful to the funders who have supported our work over the year. They include: The National Lottery Community Foundation, Tudor Trust, Lloyds Bank Foundation, Social Venture Partners London, Vitol Ltd, Waitrose Ltd, and Amazon Online Giving Foundation. A list of funders who have supported us with restricted grants can be found at the end of these accounts.

Statement of Board of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations. Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law they are required to prepare the financial statements in accordance with UK Accounting Standards and applicable law (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

Under charity law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the excess of income over expenditure for that year. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

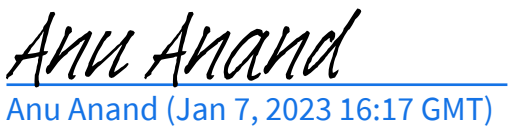
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and,
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue its activities.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the Charity and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Charity's website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions. In addition, the Trustees confirm that they are happy that content of the annual review in pages 6 to 15 of this document meet the requirements of the Trustees' Annual Report under charity law.

They also confirm that the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

This report was approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 16 December 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



ANUBHA ANAND

CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

Independent examiner's report

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Magpie Project (Charity number 1176267) for the year ended 30 June 2022 which are set out on pages 18 to 32.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act). The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and,
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

This report, including my statement, has been prepared for and only for the Charity's Trustees as a body. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees as a body for my examination work, for this report, or for the statements I have made.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- the accounts 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.



ANDREW PHILIP NASH ACA

MEMBER OF THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS IN ENGLAND AND WALES – 2461833

DATED: 6 JANUARY 2023

Andy Nash Accounting & Consultancy Ltd
Units 24 & 25
Goodsheds Container Village
Hood Road
Barry
CF62 5QU

Statement of financial activities

For the year ended 30 June 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Income from:					
Donations & legacies	3	158,769	85,966	**244,735**	365,385
Other income		-	1,400	**1,400**	3,003
Total income		**158,769**	**87,366**	**246,135**	368,388
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	4 & 5	34,462	3,578	**38,040**	3,094
Charitable activities					
Support for mums	4 & 6	160,126	112,625	**272,751**	241,850
Total charitable activities		**160,126**	**112,625**	**272,751**	241,850
Total expenditure		**194,588**	**116,203**	**310,791**	244,944
Net income/(expenditure)		**(35,819)**	**(28,837)**	**(64,656)**	123,444
Transfers between funds		(675)	675	**-**	-
Net movement in funds		**(36,494)**	**(28,162)**	**(64,656)**	123,444
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	10 & 11	216,420	41,511	**257,931**	134,487
Total funds carried forward	10 & 11	**179,926**	**13,349**	**193,275**	257,931

The notes on pages 20 to 32 form part of the financial statements.

Following a review of the financial structure during the year the cost allocation model has been reviewed to ensure costs are accurately recorded against the activity to which they should be attributed. As a result the Charity has chosen to represent the prior year figures using this model however total expenditure remains unchanged.

Balance sheet

As at 30 June 2022

	Notes		**Total funds 2022**		Total funds 2021
			£		£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	8		**571**		-
Current assets					
Debtors	9	-		41,342	
Cash at bank and in hand		218,825		222,631	
Total current assets			**218,825**		263,973
Creditors					
Amounts falling due within one year	10		**(26,121)**		(6,042)
Total net assets			**193,275**		257,931
Funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	11 & 12		**13,349**		41,511
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds		60,000		60,000	
General funds		119,926		156,420	
Unrestricted funds	11 & 12		**179,926**		216,420
			193,275		257,931

The notes on pages 20 to 32 form part of the financial statements.

These financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 16 December 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

Anu Anand

Anu Anand (Jan 7, 2023 16:17 GMT)

ANUBHA ANAND

CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

Notes to the financial statements

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 'Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 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) second edition (effective 1 January 2019)', the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), including Update Bulletin 1, and relevant charities law.

The effect of any event relating to the year ended 30 June 2022, which occurred before the date of approval of the financial statements by the Board of Trustees has been included in the financial statements to the extent required to show a true and fair view of the state of affairs at 30 June 2022 and the results for the year ended on that date.

Under the exemption available to smaller charities the Board of Trustees has chosen not to include a Statement of Cash Flows within the financial statements.

The functional currency of the Charity is sterling and amounts in the financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

Legal status

The Magpie Project is a charitable incorporated organisation registered in England & Wales, and meets the definition of a public benefit entity. The registered office is Forest Lane Lodge, Magpie Close, Forest Lane, London, E7 9DE.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis as the Board of Trustees is confident that future reserves and future income is more than sufficient to meet current commitments. There are no material uncertainties that impact this assessment, and the ongoing COVID-19 global pandemic has had no material impact on this assessment.

Fund Accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds that are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or that have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in note 10 of the financial statements.

Income

Income is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance indicators attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when entitled, receipt is probable and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Gift aid receivable is included when claimable – i.e. when the eligible donation is received.

Grant income is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable whichever is earlier, unless the grant relates to a future year, in which case it is deferred.

1. Accounting policies (continued from previous page)

Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities.

Indirect costs, including governance costs, which cannot be directly attributed to activities, are allocated between activities proportionate to the direct costs incurred in those activities.

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is conveyed to the recipient.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of expenditure for which it was incurred.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Any assets costing more than £500 are capitalised other than those purchased using restricted funds.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their residual value, over their useful life, on the following basis:

Computer equipment	20% reducing balance

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash in hand, deposits with banks and funds that are readily convertible into cash at, or close to, their carrying values, but are not held for investment purposes.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount is applied.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party, and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Financial instruments

Basic financial instruments are measured at amortised cost other than investments which are measured at fair value.

Critical estimates and judgements

In preparing financial statements it is necessary to make certain judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts recognised in the financial statements. The treatment of tangible fixed assets is sensitive to changes in useful economic lives and residual values of assets. These are reassessed annually.

In the view of the Trustees in applying the accounting policies adopted, no judgements were required that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements nor do any estimates or assumptions made carry a significant risk of material adjustment in the next financial year.

Pensions

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is administered by an external independent pension provider. Contributions are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as they fall due.

2. Comparative statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Income from:			
Donations & legacies	296,197	69,188	365,385
Other income	2,703	300	3,003
Total income	298,900	69,488	368,388
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	3,939	371	4,310
Charitable activities			
Support for mums	147,444	93,190	240,634
Total charitable activities	147,444	93,190	240,634
Total expenditure	151,383	93,561	244,944
Net movement in funds	147,517	(24,073)	123,444
Reconciliation of funds:			
Total funds brought forward	68,903	65,584	134,487
Total funds carried forward	216,420	41,511	257,931

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Grants	111,017	41,712	**152,729**
Gift Aid income	387	-	**387**
Donations	47,365	44,254	**91,619**
	158,769	**85,966**	**244,735**

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Grants	169,100	52,166	221,266
Gift Aid income	12,200	-	12,200
Donations	114,897	17,022	131,919
	296,197	69,188	365,385

4. Total expenditure

	Direct staff expenditure 2022	**Direct other expenditure 2022**	**Indirect other expenditure 2022**	**Total expenditure 2022**
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**
Raising funds	29,203	4,029	4,808	**38,040**
Charitable activities				
Support for mums	136,846	101,434	34,471	**272,751**
	166,049	**105,463**	**39,279**	**310,791**

	Direct staff expenditure 2021	Direct other expenditure 2021	Indirect other expenditure 2021	Total expenditure 2021
	£	£	£	£
Raising funds	-	2,210	884	3,094
Charitable activities				
Support for mums	99,804	72,926	69,120	241,850
	99,804	75,136	70,004	244,944

Direct costs include:

	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
	£	£
Benevolent grants	**26,660**	11,292
Food and supplies	**2,854**	20,989
Mum's travel	**11,624**	115
Nappies and formula	**10,674**	5,060
Supporting children's play	**727**	2,052
Programme delivery	**27,715**	23,200
Other family expenses	**21,180**	10,218
	101,434	72,926

Benevolent grants are payments made to families in need.

4. Total expenditure (continued from previous page)

Following a review of the financial structure during the year the cost allocation model has been reviewed to ensure costs are accurately recorded against the activity to which they should be attributed. As a result the Charity has chosen to represent the prior year figures using this model however total expenditure remains unchanged.

Indirect costs, including governance costs, which cannot be directly attributed to activities, were allocated between cost centres proportionate to the direct staff and other costs allocated to those activities.

An analysis of costs of raising funds split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 5.

An analysis of charitable activities split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 6.

An analysis of staff costs can be found in note 7.

Indirect costs includes:

	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
	£	£
Indirect staff costs	**4,936**	44,400
Other staff costs	**1,703**	4,109
Meeting and travel costs	**920**	1,812
Office costs	**9,718**	9,571
Rent	**12,500**	5,000
Professional fees	**568**	1,772
Other expenses	**6,502**	2,257
Governance costs	**2,432**	1,083
	39,279	70,004

Governance costs includes:

	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
	£	£
Independent examination	**2,000**	750
Insurance	**432**	333
	2,432	1,083

5. Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Direct staff costs	29,203	-	**29,203**
Direct other costs	2,539	1,490	**4,029**
Indirect other costs	2,720	2,088	**4,808**
	34,462	**3,578**	**38,040**

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Direct staff costs	-	-	-
Direct other costs	1,902	308	2,210
Indirect other costs	821	63	884

Following a review of the financial structure during the year the cost allocation model has been reviewed to ensure costs are accurately recorded against the activity to which they should be attributed. As a result the Charity has chosen to represent the prior year figures using this model however total expenditure remains unchanged.

6. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Support for Mums			
Direct staff costs	75,325	61,521	**136,846**
Direct other costs	65,299	36,135	**101,434**
Indirect other costs	19,502	14,969	**34,471**
	160,126	**112,625**	**272,751**

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Support for Mums			
Direct staff costs	58,416	41,388	99,804
Direct other costs	26,166	46,760	72,926
Indirect other costs	64,078	5,042	69,120
	148,660	93,190	241,850

6. Expenditure on charitable activities (continued from previous page)

Following a review of the financial structure during the year the cost allocation model has been reviewed to ensure costs are accurately recorded against the activity to which they should be attributed. As a result the Charity has chosen to represent the prior year figures using this model however total expenditure remains unchanged.

7. Staff costs

	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
	£	£
Gross salaries	**156,220**	136,302
Employer's NIC	**11,100**	4,854
Employer's pension	**3,665**	3,048
	170,985	144,204

The average headcount during the period was 6 persons (2021: 4 persons).

No employee received employee benefits above £60,000.

The total employee benefits paid to key management personnel during the year was £87,791.

8. Tangible fixed assets

	Computer equipment	**Total Total**
	£	**£**
Cost		
As at 1 July 2021	**-**	**-**
Additions	**761**	**761**
As at 30 June 2022	**761**	**761**
Accumulated depreciation		
As at 1 July 2021	**-**	**-**
Charge for year	**190**	**190**
As at 30 June 2022	**190**	**190**
Net book value		
As at 1 July 2021	**-**	**-**
As at 30 June 2022	**571**	**571**

9. Debtors and prepayments

	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
	£	£
Trade debtors	**-**	4,392
Prepayments	**-**	10,000
Accrued grant income	**-**	26,950
	-	41,342

10. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
	£	£
Accruals	**2,675**	1,492
HMRC creditor	**-**	4,104
Deferred grant revenue	**23,000**	-
Other creditors	**446**	446
	26,121	6,042

Deferred revenue relates to amounts received in advance for the 2022/23 finacial year from multiple funders and can be analysed as follows:

	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
	£	£
Deferred grant revenue brought forward	**-**	-
Released to grant revenue in the period	**-**	-
Grant revenue deferred in the period	**23,000**	-
Deferred grant revenue carried forward	**23,000**	-

11. Analysis of charity funds

	Funds brought forward 2022 £	Income for the period 2022 £	Expenditure in the period 2022 £	Transfers in the period 2022 £	Funds carried forward 2022 £
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	156,420	158,769	(194,588)	(675)	**119,926**
Designated funds	60,000	-	-	-	**60,000**
Total unrestricted funds	**216,420**	**158,769**	**(194,588)**	**(675)**	**179,926**
Restricted funds					
BBC Children In Need - Play Lead Salary Fund	-	23,833	(23,571)	-	**262**
Bethany Williams Fund	12	8,800	(8,812)	-	**-**
Community Links	100	-	(100)	-	**-**
Deutsche Bank Foundation	15,000	-	(15,000)	-	**-**
Guildhall School of Music and Drama	-	1,250	(750)	-	**500**
London Catalyst - Benevolent Grants	-	750	(750)	-	**-**
National Lottery	-	10,000	(3,500)	-	**6,500**
National Childbirth Trust	3,500	4,000	(7,500)	-	**-**
Network for Social Change	4,155	-	(4,830)	675	**-**
Newham Enrichment Grant	-	-	(15)	-	**(15)**
Safe Lives Circle Fund	1,982	5,000	(2,180)	-	**4,802**
Shoes, Coats and Clothes Fund		11,000	(11,100)	-	**(100)**
Southwest Ham Children's Fund - Benevolent Grants	-	18,000	(17,600)	-	**400**
Trips and Activities	-	3,333	(2,333)	-	**1,000**
Tudor Trust	1,762	-	(1,762)	-	**-**
Two Magpies Fund	15,000	-	(15,000)	-	**-**
University of East London	-	1,400	(1,400)	-	**-**
Total restricted funds	**41,511**	**87,366**	**(116,203)**	**675**	**13,349**
Total funds	**257,931**	**246,135**	**(310,791)**	**-**	**193,275**

Designated Funds: Potential cost of relocating to a new premises in 2022/23.

BBC Children in Need - Play Lead Salary Fund: Grant towards Play Lead salary.

Bethany Williams Fund: Discretionary fund for emergency grants and purchases for families.

Community Links: Grant to provide creche facilities during workshops for mums.

Deutsche Bank Foundation: Grant towards Graduation Manager salary.

Guildhall School of Music & Drama: Grant to support collaboration with musicians and composers Breakfast Club Quartet.

11. Analysis of charity funds (continued from previous page)

London Catalyst – Benevolent Grants: Discretionary fund for emergency grants to families.

National Lottery (Awards for All): Grant towards the cost of therapeutic dance and movement sessions.

National Childbirth Trust: Grant to develop new service for BAME mothers accessing pre- and post-natal care.

Network for Social Change: Grant to support Graduation Programme.

Newham Enrichment Grant: Grant to support collaboration with dance and movement practioners Louise Klarnett Dance Art Foundation.

Safe Lives Fund: Discretionary fund for emergency grants to families affected by domestic violence.

Shoes, Coats and Clothes Fund: Grants towards the purchase of vouchers for children's shoes funded by 52 Lives and Westfiels Europe.

Southwest Ham Children's Fund – Benevolent Grants: One-off grants for vulnerable families living in Newham.

Trips and Activities: Grant towards an outing for Magpie families and to take families on educational trips to rural areas funded by Arnold Clark Foundation and CPRE Rural Rides.

Tudor Trust: Top-up grant to support wellbeing and development of staff and volunteers.

Two Magpies Fund: Grant towards Case Work Manager salary.

University of East London: Compensation for placement of social work students.

11. Analysis of charity funds (continued from previous page)

	Funds brought forward 2021 £	Income for the period 2021 £	Expenditure in the period 2021 £	Transfers in the period 2021 £	Funds carried forward 2021 £
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	68,903	298,900	(151,383)	(60,000)	156,420
Designated funds	-	-	-	60,000	60,000
Total unrestricted funds	68,903	298,900	(151,383)	-	216,420
Restricted funds					-
BBC Children In Need - Emergency Fund	3,000	-	(3,000)	-	-
Bethany Williams Fund	-	5,250	(5,238)	-	12
Community Links	100	-	-	-	100
Coronavirus Emergency Appeal	-	582	(582)	-	-
CPRE Rural Rides	-	1,890	(1,890)		-
Deutsche Bank Foundation	15,000	15,000	(15,000)	-	15,000
Guildhall School of Music and Drama	-	3,750	(3,750)	-	-
Home Safe	-	300	(300)	-	-
London Catalyst - Benevolent Grants	610	750	(1,360)	-	-
London Catalyst and Hospital Saturday Fund	2,167	(2,167)	-	-	-
London City Airport Community Fund	3,000	-	(3,000)	-	-
Maslaha Emergency Grants	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-
Nationwide Foundation	25,000	-	(25,000)	-	-
National Childbirth Trust	-	6,040	(2,540)	-	3,500
Neighbourly Community Fund	400	-	(400)	-	-
MELMA Emergency Grants	-	240	(240)	-	-
Network for Social Change	4,155	-	-	-	4,155
Newham Enrichment Grant	6,917	8,153	(15,070)	-	-
Open University	-	2,500	(2,500)		-
Safe Lives Circle Fund	-	2,500	(518)	-	1,982
Southwest Ham Children's Fund - Benevolent Grants	1,235	5,700	(6,935)	-	-
Tudor Trust	-	2,000	(238)	-	1,762
Two Magpies Fund	-	15,000	-	-	15,000
Westfield Stratford Emergency Fund	4,000	-	(4,000)	-	-
Total restricted funds	65,584	69,488	(93,561)	-	41,511
Total funds	134,487	368,388	(244,944)	-	257,931

11. Analysis of charity funds (continued from previous page)

BBC Children In Need - Emergency Fund: Top-up grant to support Covid-19 response.

Coronavirus Emergency Appeal: Joint fundraising campaign by local charities in Newham to support Covid-19 response.

CPRE Rural Rides: Grant to take families on educational trips to rural areas.

Home Safe: Payment for participation in focus groups on temporary accommodation.

London City Airport Community Fund: Grant to support our music collaboration with London Rhymes.

Maslaha Emergency Grants: Discretionary fund for emergency grants to families.

Nationwide Foundation: Grant towards Case Work Manager salary.

Neighbourly Community Fund: Covid-19 emergency funding.

NELMA Emergency Grants: Discretionary fund for emergency grants to families.

Open University: Grant to support Forum Theatre training for members of our Leadership Group.

Westfield Europe: Grants towards the purchase of vouchers for children's shoes.

12. Analysis of net assets

	Unrestricted Funds 2022	**Restricted Funds 2022**	**Total Funds 2022**
	£	**£**	**£**
Tangible assets	571	-	**571**
Current assets	203,309	15,516	**218,825**
Current liabilities	(23,954)	(2,167)	**(26,121)**
	179,926	**13,349**	**193,275**

	Unrestricted Funds 2021	Restricted Funds 2021	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£
Tangible assets	-	-	-
Current assets	222,462	41,511	263,973
Current liabilities	(6,042)	-	(6,042)
	216,420	41,511	257,931

14. Trustee remuneration

During the year, no trustee received any remuneration (2021: £Nil). No members of the Board of Trustees received reimbursement of expenses (2021: £Nil).

15. Related party transactions

During the year there were no related party transactions (2021: £Nil).

THE MAGPIE PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1176267

Accounts



Report of the Board and Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2021

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Registered Charity No. 1176267

CONTENTS

	Page
Legal and administrative details	1
Trustees' annual report	2 – 8
Independent examiner's report	9
Statement of financial activities	10
Balance sheet	11
Notes to the financial statements	12 - 18

Trustees	Harmit Ahluwalia (Chair) Sveta Alladi-Sekidde Anubha Anand Therese Bynon Aimee Dorsett-Browne Paula Reily
Chief Executive Officer	Jane Williams
Chief Financial Officer	Amy Ross
Charity number	1176267 (England and Wales)
Registered office	Forest Lane Lodge Magpie Close, Forest Lane London E7 9DE
Independent Examiner	Gilbert Holbourn FCA, FCCA, DChA 1 Upper Bridge Street Wye, Kent TN25 5AF
Bankers	HSBC Bank plc 15 The Mall Stratford E15 1XL

The Trustees present their Annual Report together with the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2021.

Organisation, Structure and Governance

Governing document

The Magpie Project (the "Charity") was constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 13 December 2017, when it was registered with the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales as Charity No. 1176267.

Organisation

The board of trustees (the "Trustees") administers the Charity. They meet termly to make strategic decisions. The day-to-day running of the Charity is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer ("CEO").

The operational structure consists of a Founder/CEO, Chief Financial Officer, Case Work Manager, Play Manager, Graduation Manager, and Session Assistant. A Leadership Group of women who use the charity actively participates in decision-making and setting strategy, alongside the CEO.

Trustees

The following have held office during the year:

- Harmit Ahluwalia (appointed 12 March 2021)
- Sveta Alladi-Sekidde (appointed 12 March 2021)
- Anubha Anand (appointed 12 March 2021)
- Therese Bynon (appointed 12 March 2021)
- Junita Calder (resigned 16 March 2021)
- Aimee Dorsett-Browne (appointed 12 March 2021)
- Yasmin Raza (resigned 14 May 2021)
- Gulshun Rehman (appointed 03 November 2020, resigned 18 October 2021)
- Paula Reilly (appointed 12 March 2021)
- Amy Ross (resigned 06 October 2020)
- Dianne Walls (resigned 02 March 2021)

Appointment of trustees

Trustee recruitment is an open process conducted by existing charity trustees through public advertising and the East London Business Alliance board match. Apart from the first charity trustees, each trustee is appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the Trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as charity trustees, the Trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the Charity.

In October 2020, following an open recruitment process and with the approval of the Charity Commission, Amy Ross stepped down as a trustee to take up the role of Chief Financial Officer. Whilst other founding trustees also stepped down during the year for personal reasons, six new trustees joined the board in Spring 2021. These new trustees bring considerable experience to the charity, including in the following areas: safeguarding and paediatrics, fundraising and income diversification, charity governance and finances, media and communications, women's rights, and community organising.

Trustee induction and training

The Trustees make available to each new charity trustee, on or before his or her first appointment: a) a copy of the current version of the constitution, b) a copy of the Charity's latest Annual Report and statement of accounts, and c) a copy of the Charity Commission's trustee welcome pack and guidance (CC3) on the responsibilities of a charity trustee.

Objectives and Activities

Objectives

The objects of the Charity are: The prevention and relief of poverty for families with young children living in temporary accommodation or at threat of homelessness in Newham and adjacent boroughs – in particular, providing a space to play and learn, and for parents to gain professional advice and form social networks in order to alleviate immediate difficulties, seek solutions to address their need and reintegrate into existing universal services.

We support insecurely or temporarily housed families with children under 5 living in Newham and surrounding boroughs. Our mission is to make life better – materially, socially, and emotionally – for families and ensure that young children do not suffer long-term negative consequences because of their housing situation. We do not try to solve the complex web of issues faced by our families, which are beyond our remit and involve many other agencies; rather we aim to put a safety net under them, decrease their social isolation, increase their resilience, and reduce the prospect of them getting into deeper difficulties further down the line.

Our vision is for happier, healthier children, being positively parented by socially integrated and well-informed mums who feel more in control of their situation.

Activities

We work to achieve these objectives by providing a twice-weekly stay-and-play session for women with children under 5 living in temporary or insecure accommodation. We pay for travel to and from the project, provide a healthy home-cooked lunch, and offer a baby bank of nappies, clothes, and other essentials. While their children enjoy creative indoor and outdoor play, make friends, and develop their social skills, supported by early years volunteers, mothers can access advice and support on a range of issues including housing, immigration, physical and mental health, parenting, employment readiness, domestic violence, female genital mutilation, and more.

We act as the mothers' information point and social network at a time when theirs has been depleted by frequent moves, life changes and poverty, and build relationships with referrers, community groups and other local organisations who can help and support mothers as they begin to tackle the complex web of crises relating to their housing insecurity. We signpost families in need of additional support to universal or targeted services that they may otherwise be unaware of or feel unable to access. We also work to raise the voices of mothers living in temporary accommodation so as to influence policy relating to No Recourse to Public Funds, Section 17, and other issues which directly affect them.

Covid-19

The Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent national lockdowns impacted heavily on our services during the reporting year. While we temporarily opened as a foodbank and baby bank collection point in Autumn 2020, during the Winter 2021 lockdown we ceased all in-person activities and provided all our support remotely through telephone calls, a WhatsApp group, and daily Zoom meetings. All families received vouchers to buy the nappies and fresh fruit and vegetables that they would have received had we been open. In Summer 2021, we opened again as a foodbank and baby bank collection point. In September 2021 we resumed 'normal' service with a twice-weekly stay-and-play and a range of other in-person support and activities throughout the week.

Public benefit statement

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

Achievements and Performance

Numbers supported

During the year, we supported around 350 families with approximately 480 children under 5 living in temporary or insecure housing in Newham and surrounding boroughs. We saw approximately 6 new families each week, with word of mouth between families the largest referral route, as well as health visitors, children's centres, and midwives.

Service delivery

- During national lockdowns we ran daily online sessions including dance, music, knitting, 'coffee mornings' and ESOL, to keep mothers and children socially connected and to support their mental health and well-being.
- A twice-weekly foodbank and baby bank collection point, focusing on providing the fresh fruit and vegetables which are so often lacking from other foodbank offers.
- From April 2021, weekly outdoor singing and music sessions with London Rhymes and circus sessions with The Flying Seagull Project.
- 65 new families accessed housing advice from Shelter, plus many others spoke to health workers, immigration advisors, employment advisors, children's centres, and more.

Policy and advocacy

In all our advocacy work we seek to bring the voices and lived experiences of our mums into discussions about the housing, immigration, and other policies which directly affect their lives. During the reporting year, members of our mums' leadership group have:

- Sat on the Early Years Forum in Newham.
- Briefed MPs Lyn Brown and Stephen Timms on the implications of living with 'No Recourse to Public Funds', informing speeches in committees and in Parliament.
- Given evidence to the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Ending Homelessness, on the health risks of temporary accommodation on children under 5, alongside University College London and the Queens' Nursing Institute.
- Given evidence to the House of Lords Committee on Covid Recovery.
- In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, consulted with the Mayor of Newham and head of Newham Housing to ensure that all families housed in shared accommodation were moved into self-contained accommodation.
- Instigated a letter from the Mayor of Newham to Boris Johnson and Priti Patel to raise concerns over Home Office-contracted Clearspring accommodation not meeting public health guidelines.
- Worked with Duncan Lewis Public Law to prepare court cases for families in unsuitable and dangerous Home Office accommodation.
- Presented to a national conference by Crisis and Solace Peer Support on women's homelessness.

Informing service design

Our mums have also engaged directly in the design of services which affect them and other women experiencing homelessness and the hostile environment, including:

- Co-creating a guide with the Financial Conduct Authority for women who have received their immigration or asylum status, on how to access financial services.
- Sitting on the steering group for a new community partnership with the National Childbirth Trust and Alternatives Trust East London, to design a service supporting Black and Minority Ethnic women going through pregnancy, childbirth, and childhood early years.
- Being trained in Forum Theatre practice, to help bring the experience of service users to the attention of service providers. This has resulted in members of our mums' Leadership Group being invited to work with frontline social workers on improving understanding of trauma-informed care and cultural competency.

Achievements and Performance continued

Creative collaborations

Our various creative collaborations during this period have seen our families:

- Write, perform and record their own songs with London Rhymes.
- Contribute stories and artwork to the work of UK menswear designer Bethany Williams, whose latest international collections 'NRPF, 'All Our Children' and 'All Our Stories' were inspired by the experiences of mums and children at The Magpie Project. 'All Our Stories' featured in a public art installation at Coal Drop's Yard in Kings Cross, London.
- Write and perform original pieces of music with the Breakfast Club Quartet, which were shown as part of the DISRUPT festival, run by the Barbican Centre and London Guildhall School of Music & Drama.

Media and awards

We raised the voices of our mums through articles in and appearances on ITV, BBC, Huffington Post, Daily Telegraph, Vogue, GQ, Spiked, and Inside Housing. We were awarded first prize for Excellence in Service Provision in the National Homeless Link awards in December 2020. Our CEO was named one of the Women in Housing Leaders of 2020 and is currently the Newham Changemaker for the borough-wide target of 'Reducing the number of children living in temporary accommodation (family homelessness)'. We are also proud to be a Living Wage Employer.

Partners and Supporters

Volunteers and supporters

Our pared-back service due to Covid-19 meant that the direct contribution of volunteers to our service delivery was considerably lower this year than in the previous year. However, volunteers donated over 2,000 hours to the project, including helping to run our foodbank service and delivering Christmas hampers and gifts to 250 families around London. Using the London Living Wage hourly rate, the estimated value of these contributions exceeds £20,000.

Professional support

We received professional support from many partner organisations and services, including Shelter (1 day/week), London Black Women's Project (1 day/week), Praxis (1 day/week), Health Visitor (1 day/week), Kay Rowe Nursery and Children's Centre (1 day/week), an ESOL teacher (0.5 days/week) and a Reiki practitioner (0.5 days/week). This support was delivered remotely during national lockdowns but has been reinstated in person since September 2021. Our partnership with the University of East London resulted in four social work student placements throughout the year. We also received pro bono advice and support from Muf Architects, Mann Group plc, IPE Developments, Pettyson & Prestwich, independent property lawyers, surveyors, and structural engineers. This professional support was all given freely, with an estimated value of approximately £70,000.

Local support

We would like to thank the following organisations who helped with fundraising, events, mentoring, trustee recruitment, connections, and more: Clapton Community Football Club, West Ham Supporters Foodbank, Bancroft Rugby Club, Enabled Living, Black Swan, Westfield Stratford London, Man Group plc, LinkCity Buoygues, Active Newham, Wanstead and Forest Gate WIs, Number 8 Emporium, Wanstead Tap, Woodgrange Market, 52 Lives, The Challenge Network, ELBA, Bethany Williams, BEAM, Discover Stratford, Stratford Circus, Stratford Royal Theatre, CPRE Rural Rides, and local schools. In total we have received more than £30,000 in time and expertise.

Partners and Supporters continued

Donations
Our donations over the year included food from Fareshare, Jasmin Kitchen, Food 4 All, The Livery Companies, City Harvest, Community Food Enterprises, West Ham Supporters Foodbank, and Neighbourly. We received shopping vouchers, buggy covers, clothes, shoes, toys, sanitary products, toiletry and make-up items from organisations such as 52 Lives, Marks & Spencer's, Children's Salon, Clarks, Schuh, Afrocenchix, the Newham Covid Winter Grants scheme, and members of the local community. We received laptops and phones from LinkCity Buoygues and Digital Skills. We received Christmas gifts from Westfield Stratford and Christmas hampers donated by the local community. The estimated value of these items (even if bought second-hand), exceeds £90,000.

The total value of in-kind support we received is estimated to be approximately £210,000.

Funders
We are incredibly grateful to the funders who have supported our work over the year. They include: The National Lottery Community Foundation, Garfield Weston Foundation, Tudor Trust, Trust for London, Social Venture Partners London, The Calypso Browning Trust, Pears Foundation, The Blue Thread, Vitol Ltd, Amazon Online Giving Foundation, and Rothermere Foundation. A list of funders who have supported us with restricted grants can be found on page 18 of this report.

Future Plans

As always, our strategy will be to 'ask the mums'; to be led by what they tell us about the issues they are facing and assess how we can best support them, leveraging the benefits of current and potential partners to meet their needs. We will continue to put mothers and children at the very centre of our work, drawing in partnerships and creative collaborations to build their confidence, encourage their creativity, and walk with them as they navigate their way out of crisis.

Our priorities for the coming year are as follows:

1. Rolling out our 'Graduation Programme', where we support mothers who are ready to move on from the project to access benefits, housing, training, and other forms of support. This is a crucial process for ensuring that we transition families away from our support sensitively. It is also vital for managing the number of families we support at any one time, by moving on those who are ready so we can prioritise our core services for those families in most acute need.
2. Relocating to a larger venue to ensure we can continue to offer a safe, spacious, fit-for-purpose space for the number of families we are supporting. We have identified an appropriate building locally and we are working with the council to bring it to a suitable condition for us to operate from. We hope to be able to move in within the financial year.
3. Developing our Leadership Group as a crucial part of the governance and leadership of the project. The group's activities for the coming year include a partnership with Newham Citizens to educate frontline workers on trauma-informed care and cultural competency when working with families living in temporary accommodation.

Financial Review

Investment and reserves policy
The Trustees aim to maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds of six months of unrestricted expenditure. The Trustees consider that this level of reserves will provide sufficient funds to continue delivering the core work of the charity in the case of declining income or increasing expenditure, while alternative funds are sought. The level of reserves held throughout the year will be monitored termly, and the level of free reserves to be held will be reviewed on an annual basis.

The Trustees have agreed to designate £60,000 of unrestricted reserves to the potential capital costs of relocating to a new building in 2021-22, which is incorporated in these accounts.

Financial Review continued

Financial position

We are fortunate that the Covid-19 pandemic has not negatively impacted our financial position, which remained strong during the year. For most of 2020-21 (and the last quarter of 2019-20) we were unable to run in-person sessions, meaning that regular outgoings related to 'normal' service were significantly or completely reduced. Healthy finances meant we were able to invest in training and development for staff and volunteers, including enhanced safeguarding training for all staff and trustees and movement-building for our Leadership Group. However, the combination of reduced expenditure and increased donations from corporate and community supporters meant we finished the year with unrestricted reserves higher than our policy target.

This position means we are able to cover most of our core charitable, staff, and operational expenditure in the current financial year from unrestricted funds. Proactive fundraising from trusts and foundations has been on hold since Spring 2021, and no new unrestricted grants have been sought for the 2021-22 financial year. We are therefore projecting that our excess unrestricted funds will be spent down during the current financial year, based on the following factors:

- The significant increase in the number of families we are supporting means that, since re-opening our in-person sessions in September 2021, our charitable expenditure is exceeding pre-pandemic levels. We expect this trend to continue throughout the year and that these costs will largely be funded by unrestricted funds.
- Staff salaries make up the majority of our operational budget, and most of these roles, including the CEO, are not currently funded by restricted grants. These salaries will therefore be funded by unrestricted funds during this financial year.
- The trustees have designated £60,000 from unrestricted funds to cover potential capital costs of relocating to a new building. There will also be an increase in operational expenditure associated with working in a larger building, costs which will be covered by unrestricted funds.

As such, we expect to finish the current financial year with reserve levels in line with our policy.

Risk management

The Trustees regularly review the key financial, operational, strategic, reputational, and safeguarding risks facing the Charity. A risk register is maintained and updated annually. Over the course of the reporting year, the Trustees considered the key risks to be those relating to overcrowding of play sessions, transmission of Covid-19 amongst staff, volunteers, and service users, and staff health and capacity. The trustees worked with the CEO to put in place plans to address these risks.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the period and of its financial position at the end of the period.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the method and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees meet termly and review management accounts, fundraising forecasts, and cash flow analyses. The Trustees believe that the Charity is a going concern and for this reason, the going concern basis for the preparation of the financial statements is considered valid.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by

H Ahluwalia

Harmit Ahluwalia
Chair
07 December 2021

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 30 June 2021, which are set out on pages 10 to 18.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

Having satisfied myself that the Charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

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 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.

Gilbert Holbourn

.....

Gilbert Holbourn FCA, FCCA, DChA
1 Upper Bridge Street, Wye, Kent TN25 5AF

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCOME AND EXPENDITURE)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

THE MAGPIE PROJECT

	Note	2021 Unrestricted Funds £	2021 Restricted Funds £	2021 Total Funds £	2020 Unrestricted Funds £	2020 Restricted Funds £	2020 Total Funds £
Income from:							
Voluntary income		296,197	69,188	365,385	179,348	107,236	286,584
Other		2,703	300	3,003	2,201	-	2,201
Total income		298,900	69,488	**368,388**	181,549	107,236	**288,785**
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds		2,651	371	3,022	5,540	735	6,275
Charitable activities		148,732	93,190	241,922	120,368	41,736	162,104
Total expenditure	2	151,383	93,561	**244,944**	125,908	42,471	**168,379**
Net surplus/(deficit) funds for year		147,517	(24,073)	**123,444**	55,641	64,765	**120,406**
Total funds brought forward at 1 July		68,903	65,584	134,487	13,262	819	14,081
Total funds carried forward at 30 June	6	**216,420**	**41,511**	**257,931**	**68,903**	**65,584**	**134,487**

All recognised gains and losses are included in the statement of financial activities.
The results for the year all relate to continuing operations.
The notes on pages 12 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

	Notes	2021 £	2021 £	2020 £	2020 £
Current assets					
Debtors	3	41,342		15,191	
Cash at bank and in hand		222,631		121,979	
		263,973		137,170	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	4	(6,042)		(2,683)	
Net current assets			257,931		134,487
Net assets			**257,931**		**134,487**
Reserves	6				
Unrestricted funds			156,419		68,903
Designated funds			60,000		-
Restricted funds			41,512		65,584
Total funds of the Charity			**257,931**		**134,487**

The notes on pages 12 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 07 December 2021 and signed on their behalf by Harmit Ahluwalia.

CHAIR

H Ahluwalia .....

1 Accounting policies

A summary of the principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the accounts are laid out below.

1.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements are prepared for the year ended 30 June 2021. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policies below or the notes to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The Charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The accounts are presented in sterling and are rounded to the nearest pound.

1.2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

Preparation of the accounts requires the trustees and management to make significant judgements and estimates.

The items in the accounts where these judgements and estimates have been made include:

- Allocation of support costs

1.3 Assessment of going concern

The Trustees have assessed whether the use of the going concern assumption is appropriate in preparing these accounts. The Trustees have made this assessment in respect to a period of one year from the date of approval of these accounts.

The Trustees of the Charity have concluded that there are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the Charity to continue as a going concern. The Trustees are of the opinion that the Charity will have sufficient resources to meet its liabilities as they fall due. The most significant areas of judgement that affect items in the accounts are detailed above.

The Trustees have considered the consequences of COVID-19 and other events and conditions and they have determined that this does not create material uncertainty that might cast significant doubt on the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

1.4 Pensions

Employees of the Charity are entitled to join a defined contribution 'money purchase' scheme. The Trust's contribution is disclosed in note 5. There were no outstanding contributions (employer and employee) at the year end. The costs of the defined contribution scheme are included within support and governance costs in note 2. The Charity has no liability beyond making its contributions and paying across the deductions for the employee's contributions.

1.5 Income

All income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charity is entitled to the income, receipt is probable and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies apply to categories of income:

- Donations are recognised as income when receivable, except insofar as they are incapable of financial measurement.
- Investment income is accounted for in the period in which the Charity is entitled to receipt.
- Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the Charity where this can be quantified. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included in these accounts.

1.6 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred.

All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories in the statement of financial activities based on the use of the resource.

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is conveyed to the recipient.

Governance costs are included within charitable activities and reflect the costs of an independent examination in order to meet the constitutional and statutory requirements of the Charity.

The costs of raising funds include relevant proportions of the salaries of those responsible for fund raising and the costs of items used solely for fundraising (leaflets, etc.). The Charity exists in order to deliver a front-line service and only fundraises to facilitate that activity; other support costs therefore have been allocated to charitable activities.

1.7 Related party transactions

There have been no related party transactions in the reporting period that require disclosure.

1.8 Debtors

Debtors are recognised at their settlement amount, less any provision for non-recoverability. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid. They have been discounted to the present value of the future cash receipt where such discounting is material.

1.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand represents such amounts and instruments that are available on demand or have a maturity of less than three months from the date of acquisition. Deposits for more than three months but less than one year have been disclosed as short-term deposits. Cash placed on deposit for more than one year is disclosed as a fixed asset investment.

1.10 Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised when there is an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are recognised at the amount the Charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt. They have been discounted to the present value of the future cash payment where such discounting is material.

1.11 Accumulated funds

Unrestricted funds are donations and other income receivable for the objects of the Charity without further specific conditions and are available as general funds. Restricted funds have been donated for a specific purpose, are restricted in use to that project and not available as general funds.

1.12 Taxation

The Magpie Project is a registered charity and therefore is not liable to income tax or corporation tax on income derived from its charitable activities, as it falls within the various exemptions available to registered charities.

2 Total expenditure

	Direct costs	Support costs	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
Raising funds	2,210	812	3,022	6,275
Charitable activities	176,839	65,083	241,922	162,104
	179,049	65,895	**244,944**	168,379

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
Raising funds				
Fundraising costs	1,393	-	1,393	1,961
Volunteer costs	509	308	817	743
	1,902	308	2,210	2,704
Support costs (see next page)	749	63	812	3,571
	2,651	371	**3,022**	6,275
Charitable activities				
Mum's support:				
Benevolent grants	(4)	11,296	11,292	11,140
Food & supplies	20,167	822	20,989	5,782
Mums' travel	90	-	90	9,521
Nappies and formula	4,661	400	5,061	7,803
Supporting children's play	608	1,967	2,575	3,472
Programme delivery	62,950	64,163	127,113	29,506
Other family expenses	219	9,500	9,719	2,620
	88,691	88,148	176,839	69,844
Support costs (see next page)	60,041	5,042	65,083	92,260
	148,732	93,190	**241,922**	162,104
Total expenditure	151,383	93,561	**244,944**	168,379

2 Total expenditure (continued)

		2021	2020
		£	£
Staff costs		44,399	79,530
Meeting and travel costs		1,812	137
Insurance		333	262
Office costs		10,087	6,354
Rent		5,000	6,232
Other expenses		4,264	3,316
		65,895	95,831
Allocated:	Costs of generating voluntary income (3%)	812	3,571
	Charitable activities (97%)	65,083	92,260
		65,895	95,831

3 Debtors and prepayments

	2021	2020
	£	£
Debtors	4,392	-
Prepayments and accrued income	36,950	15,191
	41,342	15,191

4 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Taxation and social security	4,550	1,983
Accruals and other creditors	1,492	700
	6,042	2,683

5 Employees

Number of employees
The average monthly number of employees during the year was 4 (2020 - 2).

	2021	2020
	£	£
Staff costs		
Wages and salaries	136,302	72,053
Social security costs	4,854	6,008
Pension contribution (see note 1.4)	3,048	1,469
	144,204	79,530

No individual employee earned emoluments (excluding employer pension costs) of more than £60,000 in 2021 or 2020.

None of the Trustees (or any person connected with them) received any remuneration or were reimbursed for expenses during the year (2020: none).

6 Analysis of charitable funds

	Balance at 1 July 2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 30 June 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds	**68,903**	**298,900**	**(151,383)**	**(100,000)**	**116,420**
Designated funds	**-**	**-**	**-**	**100,000**	**100,000**
BBC Children in Need - Emergency Fund	3,000	-	(3,000)	-	-
Bethany Williams Fund	-	5,250	(5,238)	-	12
Community Links	100	-	-	-	100
Coronavirus Emergency Appeal	-	582	(582)	-	-
CPRE Rural Rides	-	1,890	(1,890)	-	-
Deutsche Bank Foundation	15,000	15,000	(15,000)	-	15,000
Guildhall School of Music & Drama	-	3,750	(3,750)	-	-
Home Safe	-	300	(300)	-	-
London Catalyst - Benevolent Grants	610	750	(1,360)	-	-
London Catalyst & Hospital Saturday Fund	2,167	(2,167)	-	-	-
London City Airport Community Fund	3,000	-	(3,000)	-	-
Maslaha Emergency Grants	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-
Nationwide Foundation	25,000	-	(25,000)	-	-
National Childbirth Trust	-	6,040	(2,540)	-	3,500
Neighbourly Community Fund	400	-	(400)	-	-
NELMA Emergency Grants	-	240	(240)	-	-
Network for Social Change	4,155	-	-	-	4,155
Newham Enrichment Grant	6,917	8,153	(15,070)	-	-
Open University	-	2,500	(2,500)	-	-
Safe Lives Circle Fund	-	2,500	(518)	-	1,982
Southwest Ham Children's Fund – Benevolent Grants	1,235	5,700	(6,935)	-	-
Tudor Trust	-	2,000	(238)	-	1,762
Two Magpies Fund	-	15,000	-	-	15,000
Westfield Stratford Emergency Fund	4,000	-	(4,000)	-	-
Restricted funds	**65,584**	**69,488**	**(93,560)**	**-**	**41,511**
Total funds	**134,487**	**368,388**	**(244,944)**	**-**	**257,931**

6 Analysis of charitable funds (continued)

BBC Children in Need – Emergency Fund: Top-up grant to support Covid-19 response.

Bethany Williams Fund: Discretionary fund for emergency grants and purchases for families.

Community Links: Grant to provide creche facilities during workshops for mums.

Coronavirus Emergency Appeal: Joint fundraising campaign by local charities in Newham to support Covid-19 response.

CPRE Rural Rides: Grant to take families on educational trips to rural areas.

Deutsche Bank Foundation: Grant towards Graduation Manager salary.

Guildhall School of Music & Drama: Grant to support collaboration with musicians and composers Breakfast Club Quartet.

Home Safe: Payment for participation in focus group on temporary accommodation.

London Catalyst – Benevolent Grants: Discretionary fund for emergency grants to families.

London Catalyst & Hospital Saturday Fund: Partners 4 Health grant for a citizen science project with a University College London PhD student.

London City Airport Community Fund: Grant to support our music collaboration with London Rhymes.

Maslaha Emergency Grants: Discretionary fund for emergency grants to families.

Nationwide Foundation: Grant towards Case Work Manager salary.

National Childbirth Trust: Grant to develop new service for BAME mothers accessing pre- and post-natal care.

Neighbourly Community Fund: Covid-19 emergency funding.

NELMA Emergency Grants: Discretionary fund for emergency grants to families.

Network for Social Change: Grant to support Graduation Programme in 2021-22.

Newham Enrichment Grant: Grant to support collaboration with dance and movement practitioners Louise Klarnett Dance Art Foundation.

Open University: Grant to support Forum Theatre training for members of our Leadership Group.

Safe Lives Fund: Discretionary fund for emergency grants to families affected by domestic violence.

Southwest Ham Children's Fund – Benevolent Grants: One-off grants for vulnerable families living in Newham.

Tudor Trust: Top-up grant to support wellbeing and development of staff and volunteers.

Two Magpies Fund: Grant towards Case Work Manager salary.

Westfield Stratford Emergency Fund: Covid-19 emergency funding.

THE MAGPIE PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1176267

Accounts

Report of the Board and Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Registered Charity No. 1176267





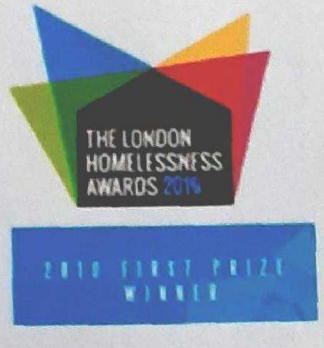
The Magpie Project

Forest Lane Lodge, Forest Lane Park,
Magpie Close, E7 9DF

@magpieprojectUK

www.themagpieproject.org

Supporting mums and under-fives in temporary accommodation in Newham.
Registered Charity Number 1176267.



	Page
Legal and administrative details	1
Trustees' annual report	2 – 7
Independent examiner's report	8
Statement of financial activities	9
Balance sheet	10
Notes to the financial statements	11 - 17

Trustees	Harmit Ahluwalia Sveta Alladi-Sekidde Anubha Anand Therese Bynon Aimee Dorsett-Browne Yasmin Raza (Chair) Gulshun Rehman Paula Reily
Chief Executive Officer	Jane Williams
Chief Financial Officer	Amy Ross
Charity number	1176267 (England and Wales)
Registered office	Forest Lane Lodge Magpie Close, Forest Lane London E7 9DE
Independent Examiner	Gilbert Holbourn FCA, FCCA, DChA 1 Upper Bridge Street Wye, Kent TN25 5AF
Bankers	HSBC Bank plc 15 The Mall Stratford E15 1XL

The Trustees present their Annual Report together with the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2020.

Organisation, Structure and Governance

Governing document

The Magpie Project (the "Charity") was constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 13 December 2017, when it was registered with the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales as Charity No. 1176267.

Organisation

The board of trustees (the "Trustees") administers the Charity. They meet termly to make strategic decisions. The day-to-day running of the Charity is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer ("CEO").

The operational structure consists of a full-time Founder/CEO and a full-time Chief Financial Officer, as well as the following part-time staff: a Case Work Manager, Play Manager, Graduation Manager, Head of Volunteer Development, and Session Assistant. A steering committee of service users actively participates in decision-making and setting strategy, alongside the CEO.

Trustees

The following have held office since 01 July 2019, unless otherwise stated:

- Harmit Ahluwalia (appointed 12 March 2021)
- Sveta Alladi-Sekidde (appointed 12 March 2021)
- Anubha Anand (appointed 12 March 2021)
- Therese Bynon (appointed 12 March 2021)
- Junita Calder (appointed 17 December 2019, stepped down 16 March 2021)
- Aimee Dorsett-Browne (appointed 12 March 2021)
- Yasmin Raza (Chair)
- Gulshun Rehman (appointed 03 November 2020)
- Paula Reilly (appointed 12 March 2021)
- Amy Ross (stepped down 06 October 2020)
- Dianne Walls (stepped down 02 March 2021)

Appointment of trustees

Trustee recruitment is an open process conducted by existing charity trustees through public advertising and the East London Business Alliance board match. Apart from the first charity trustees, every trustee must be appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the Trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as charity trustees, the Trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the Charity.

In October 2020, following an open recruitment process, Amy Ross stepped down as a trustee to take up the role of Chief Financial Officer. The Trustees made an application to the Charity Commission, outlining the recruitment and decision-making process, and received the Commission's approval for this appointment.

Trustee induction and training

The Trustees make available to each new charity trustee, on or before his or her first appointment: a) a copy of the current version of the constitution, b) a copy of the Charity's latest Annual Report and statement of accounts, and c) a copy of the Charity Commission's trustee welcome pack and guidance (CC3) on the responsibilities of a charity trustee.

Objectives and Activities

Objectives

The objects of the Charity are: *The prevention and relief of poverty for families with young children living in temporary accommodation or at threat of homelessness in Newham and adjacent boroughs – in particular, providing a space to play and learn, and for parents to gain professional advice and form social networks in order to alleviate immediate difficulties, seek solutions to address their need and reintegrate into existing universal services.*

We support insecurely or temporarily housed families with children under 5 living in Newham and surrounding boroughs. Our mission is to make life better – materially, socially, and emotionally – for families and ensure that young children do not suffer long-term negative consequences because of their housing situation. We do not try to solve the complex web of issues faced by our families, which are beyond our remit and involve many other agencies; rather we aim to put a safety net under them, decrease their social isolation, increase their resilience, and reduce the prospect of them getting into deeper difficulties further down the line.

Our vision is for happier, healthier children, being positively parented by socially integrated and well-informed mums who feel more in control of their situation.

Activities

We work to achieve these objectives by providing a supported stay-and-play session with travel to and from the project paid for; a warm, healthy home-cooked lunch and snacks; and a baby bank of nappies, clothes, and other essentials. While their children play, make friends, develop their social skills, and are supported by early years volunteers, mothers can access advice and support on a range of issues including housing, immigration, physical and mental health, parenting, employment readiness, domestic violence, female genital mutilation, and more.

We act as the mothers' information point and social network at a time when theirs has been depleted by frequent moves, life changes and poverty, and build relationships with referrers, community groups and other local organisations who can help and support mothers as they begin to tackle the complex web of crises relating to their housing insecurity. We signpost families in need of additional support to universal or targeted services that they may otherwise be unaware of or feel unable to access. We also work to raise the voices of mothers living in temporary accommodation in order to change or influence policy relating to, among other things, No Recourse to Public Funds policy and Section 17 support.

Covid-19

The Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent restrictions on day-to-day life forced us to adapt our services to continue supporting our families. Having closed our doors on 13th March 2020, we transformed overnight into a 'foodbank plus', providing a delivery service of essentials (food, clothes, nappies, wipes, equipment) and play activities to families in isolation. We have found ways to provide our services and community/play offering digitally, by moving all our support and casework online, and setting up regular sessions on Zoom for families to stay in touch with each other and participate in activities such as knitting, dance, singing, and ESOL classes. We have also provided families with smartphones, laptops, and internet data to combat digital exclusion.

Public benefit statement

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

Achievements and performance

Numbers supported

During the year, we supported around 300 families with approximately 370 children under 5 living in temporary or insecure housing in Newham and surrounding boroughs. We saw approximately 4 new families each week, with word of mouth between families the largest referral route.

Achievements

Some of our achievements over this period included:

- Twice weekly supported stay and play sessions throughout term time (up to March 2020);
- Twice weekly workshops on health, mental health, migrant rights, female genital mutilation, renters' rights, domestic abuse, health rights, Section 17 rights, and expectations of council services (up to March 2020);
- 65 new families accessed housing advice from Shelter, plus many others spoke to health workers, immigration advisors, employment advisors, children's centres, and more;
- A range of online sessions for mothers and children to stay connected and supported, to support their mental health and wellbeing (since March 2020).

Policy and advocacy

Through our advocacy and policy activities, mothers using the project have:

- Attended regular meetings with the Mayor of Newham on Section 17 support;
- Sat on the Early Years Forum in Newham;
- Briefed MPs Lyn Brown and Stephen Timms on the implications of living with 'No Recourse to Public Funds', informing speeches in committees and in Parliament;
- Received training in leadership, public speaking, framing a story, advocacy and rights.

Informing service design

Mothers have also engaged with service providers to inform service design, including by:

- Taking part in a citizen science project as part of a UCL PhD;
- Contributing to reports by Groundswell and the Latin American Women's Rights Service;
- Contributing to a consultation on plans for a new temporary accommodation block in Newham;
- Working with the Financial Conduct Authority graduate programme to address financial exclusion in the financial services sector;
- Contributing to a Sutton Council consultation on setting up a similar project in the local authority.

Creative collaborations

Our various creative collaborations during this period have seen our families:

- Write, perform and record their own songs with London Rhymes;
- Create artwork that was shown in an exhibition at AHMM Architects in London;
- Write, star in and edit a short film;
- Contribute stories and artwork to the work of UK menswear designer Bethany Williams, whose international collections were inspired by the experiences of mums at The Magpie Project.

Media and awards

We raised the voices of our mums through articles in and appearances on ITV, ABC, London Live, The Guardian, The Observer, Newham Recorder, and Inside Housing. We were awarded first prize in the London Homeless Foundation Awards in October 2019, and first prize for Excellence in Service Provision in the National Homeless Link awards in December 2020. Our CEO was named one of the Women in Housing Leaders of 2020 and is currently the Newham Changemaker for the borough-wide target of 'Reducing the number of children living in temporary accommodation (family homelessness)'. We are also proud to be a Living Wage Employer.

Partners and Supporters

Contribution of volunteers

We are grateful to our volunteers who donated over 8,800 hours to the project over the year. Pre-Covid, these included 50 volunteers, including 20 students from the University of East London, who helped to run our play sessions, kitchen, and nappy bank. During the national lockdowns, we were supported by around 100 volunteers who gave their time as drivers and sorters of food and other essentials; and community members who brought donations and mobilised others. In addition, a further 20 volunteers have helped us behind the scenes including doing desk research and fundraising. Using the London Living Wage hourly rate, the estimated value of these contributions exceeds £90,000.

Professional support

We received professional support from many partner organisations and services, including: Shelter (1 day/week), London Black Women's Project (1 day/week), Praxis (1 day/week), Health Visitor (1 day/week), Kay Rowe Nursery and Children's Centre (1 day/week). We have benefited from partnerships with University College London and University of East London, both placing students with us to deliver a citizen science project and embed student social worker training, respectively. These services were all given freely, with an estimated value of approximately £85,000.

Local support

We have benefited hugely from the support and generosity of our local community, who have donated time, goods, and goodwill. We would also like to thank the following organisations, businesses and charities who have helped with fundraising, events, mentoring, trustee recruitment, connections, and more: AHMM Architects, Enabled Living, Forest Gate WI, Number 8 Emporium, Wanstead Tap, Woodgrange Market, 52 Lives, The Challenge Network, ELBA, Bethany Williams, BEAM, Discover Stratford, Westfield, Stratford Circus, and local schools. In total we have received more than £28,000 worth of value in time and expertise.

Donations

Our donations over the year included food from Fareshare, Jasmin Kitchen, Food for All, The Livery Companies, and Neighbourly; shopping vouchers, buggy covers, clothes, shoes, and toys, as well as sanitary, toiletry and make-up items to meet the needs of 300 families, from organisations such as 52 Lives, Marks & Spencers, and Schuh, and members of the local community. We also received Christmas gifts worth £2,000 from Westfield Stratford for our mums, and Christmas hampers worth £2,000 donated by the local community for 200 families. We were given 30 family tickets for the BBC Christmas pantomime, and meals and parties and a private cinema screening through Universal. The estimated value of these items (even if bought second-hand), exceeds £25,000.

The total value of in-kind support we received is estimated to be approximately £138,000.

Plans for the Future

The Covid pandemic has made short-term planning difficult; however, at the time of writing in Spring 2021, we are looking forward to opening our services up to families again in the Summer months.

The impact of the pandemic on already struggling families has been immense, and we have seen our numbers rise dramatically over the last nine months. This has been matched by increasingly complex casework, with families reporting rising incidences of domestic violence, and deteriorating physical and mental health. Families with 'No Recourse to Public Funds' clauses in their visa status have been plunged into financial crisis by the loss of informal work, and safeguarding concerns have risen as pre-school aged children living in unsafe conditions have been further out of sight of statutory services. The difficulty in gaining help from larger charities and statutory bodies has been exacerbated by the digital poverty of the families with whom we work. All of this means we are preparing ourselves for a tsunami of need as restrictions further ease over the coming months.

Plans for the Future continued

As always, our strategy will be to 'ask the mums'; to be led by what they tell us about the issues they are facing and assess how we can best support them, leveraging the benefits of current and potential partners to meet their needs. We hope to return to running regular stay and play sessions and revive our tried and tested mix of loving play and support, practical casework and referrals, and high-level advocacy and rights work. We will continue to put mothers and children at the very centre of our work, drawing in partnerships and creative collaborations to build their confidence, encourage their creativity, and walk with them as they navigate their way out of crisis.

In 2021 we are investing heavily in our 'graduation programme', where we work with mothers who are ready to start transitioning out of the project to help them access training, volunteering opportunities and/or work. This can be a big step for families who may have been coming to the project for several years as they sought permanent housing, applied for UK visas, and faced many other challenges along the way, and it is vital that it is managed sensitively. It is also crucial for helping us to manage the number of families we support at any one time, as growing numbers place pressure on our staff resources and – when we open again – our physical space. The latter is also a priority for 2021, as we seek to move to a larger venue where we can safely welcome families to play and access services in a spacious and, hopefully, purpose-designed space.

Financial review

Financial position

Our income grew significantly during 2019–2020 across all income streams, compared to our previous financial year. We continued to benefit from our generous community of fundraisers and individual donors; we secured restricted and unrestricted grants from a range of local and national charities and foundations to support our work; we saw new funding coming in from corporate donations, including locally based companies donating to local causes; and we were the overall winner of a London-wide homelessness services award which came with a generous cash prize.

We were fortunate enough that the Covid pandemic did not significantly affect our financial position. We continued to secure funds from a range of sources to support our work as we pivoted towards a remote service; at the same time, many of our regular outgoings, particularly those related to running our in-person sessions, ceased during the national lockdown. We were also unable to spend funds intended for several planned projects due to the restrictions of Covid. This has enabled us to build up our unrestricted reserves to a level which we feel is appropriate for the size and nature of our service, and in 2020-21 is enabling us to invest in staff capacity and training in a way that has not previously been possible.

Investment and reserves policy

The Trustees aim to maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds of six months of unrestricted expenditure. The Trustees consider that this level of reserves will provide sufficient funds to continue delivering the core work of the charity in the case of declining income or increasing expenditure, while alternative funds are sought. The level of reserves held throughout the year will be monitored termly, and the level of free reserves to be held will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Risk management

The Trustees regularly review the key financial, operational, strategic, reputational, and safeguarding risks facing the Charity. A risk register is maintained and updated annually. Over the course of the reporting year, the Trustees considered the key risks to be those relating to insecurity of funds, overcrowding of play sessions, and staff capacity, and put in place plans to address these risks.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the period and of its financial position at the end of the period.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the method and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees meet termly and review management accounts, fundraising forecasts, and cash flow analyses. The Trustees believe that the Charity is a going concern and for this reason, the going concern basis for the preparation of the financial statements is considered valid.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by

Yasmin Raza
Chair
06 April 2021

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 30 June 2020, which are set out on pages 8 to 17.

The Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

Having satisfied myself that the Charity is not subject to audit and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

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 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.

Gilbert Holbourn

Gilbert Holbourn FCA, FCCA, DChA
1 Upper Bridge Street, Wye, Kent TN25 5AF

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCOME AND EXPENDITURE)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

THE MAGPIE PROJECT

	Note	2020 Unrestricted Funds £	2020 Restricted Funds £	2020 Total Funds £	2019 Unrestricted Funds £	2019 Restricted Funds £	2019 Total Funds £
Income from:							
Voluntary income		179,348	107,236	286,584	58,803	35,042	93,845
Other		2,201	-	2,201	-	-	-
Total income		181,549	107,236	**288,785**	58,803	35,042	**93,845**
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds		5,540	735	6,275	2,105	-	2,105
Charitable activities		120,368	41,736	162,104	56,377	40,277	96,654
Total expenditure	2	125,908	42,471	**168,379**	58,482	40,277	**98,759**
Net surplus/(deficit) of funds for year		55,641	64,765	**120,406**	321	(5,235)	**(4,914)**
Transfer		-	-	-	2,423	(2,423)	-
Total funds brought forward at 1 July 2019		13,262	819	14,081	10,518	8,477	18,995
Total funds carried forward at 30 June 2020	6	**68,903**	**65,584**	**134,487**	**13,262**	**819**	**14,081**

All recognised gains and losses are included in the statement of financial activities.

The results for the year all relate to continuing operations.

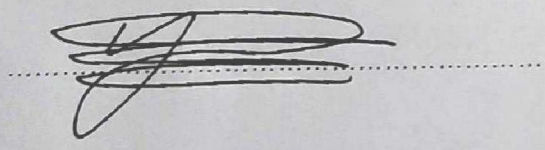
The notes on pages 11 to 17 form part of these financial statements.

	Notes	2020 £	2020 £	2019 £	2019 £
Current assets					
Debtors	3	15,191		900	
Cash at bank and in hand		121,979		14,081	
		137,170		14,981	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	4	(2,683)		(900)	
Net current assets			134,487		14,081
Net assets			**134,487**		**14,081**
Reserves	6				
Unrestricted funds			68,903		13,262
Restricted funds			65,584		819
Total funds of the Charity			**134,487**		**14,081**

The notes on pages 11 to 17 form part of these financial statements.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 06 April 2021 and signed on their behalf by Yasmin Raza.

CHAIR



1 Accounting policies

A summary of the principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the accounts are laid out below.

1.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements are prepared for the year ended 30 June 2020. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policies below or the notes to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The Charity has prepared accounts on the basis of the accrual accounting method having converted from the receipts and payments basis in the prior year. Comparative figures are therefore shown on the basis of the receipts and payments method, with an adjustment made for the apportionment of support costs in the interest of comparability.

The Charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The accounts are presented in sterling and are rounded to the nearest pound.

1.2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

Preparation of the accounts requires the trustees and management to make significant judgements and estimates.

The items in the accounts where these judgements and estimates have been made include:

- Allocation of support costs

1.3 Assessment of going concern

The Trustees have assessed whether the use of the going concern assumption is appropriate in preparing these accounts. The Trustees have made this assessment in respect to a period of one year from the date of approval of these accounts.

The Trustees of the Charity have concluded that there are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the Charity to continue as a going concern. The Trustees are of the opinion that the Charity will have sufficient resources to meet its liabilities as they fall due. The most significant areas of judgement that affect items in the accounts are detailed above.

The Trustees have considered the consequences of COVID-19 and other events and conditions and they have determined that this does not create material uncertainty that might cast significant doubt on the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

1.4 Pensions

Employees of the Charity are entitled to join a defined contribution 'money purchase' scheme. The Trust's contribution is disclosed in note 5. There were no outstanding contributions (employer and employee) at the year end. The costs of the defined contribution scheme are included within support and governance costs in note 3. The Charity has no liability beyond making its contributions and paying across the deductions for the employee's contributions.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

1.5 Income

All income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charity is entitled to the income, receipt is probable and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies apply to categories of income:

- Donations are recognised as income when receivable, except insofar as they are incapable of financial measurement.
- Investment income is accounted for in the period in which the Charity is entitled to receipt.
- Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the Charity where this can be quantified. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included in these accounts.

1.6 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred.

All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories in the statement of financial activities based on the use of the resource.

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is conveyed to the recipient.

Governance costs are included within charitable activities and reflect the costs of an independent examination in order to meet the constitutional and statutory requirements of the Charity.

The costs of raising funds include relevant proportions of the salaries of those responsible for fundraising and the costs of items used solely for fundraising (leaflets, etc.). The Charity exists in order to deliver a front-line service and only fundraises to facilitate that activity; other support costs therefore have been allocated to charitable activities.

1.7 Related party transactions

There have been no related party transactions in the reporting period that require disclosure.

1.8 Debtors

Debtors are recognised at their settlement amount, less any provision for non-recoverability. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid. They have been discounted to the present value of the future cash receipt where such discounting is material.

1.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand represents such amounts and instruments that are available on demand or have a maturity of less than three months from the date of acquisition. Deposits for more than three months but less than one year have been disclosed as short-term deposits. Cash placed on deposit for more than one year is disclosed as a fixed asset investment.

1.10 Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised when there is an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are recognised at the amount the Charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt. They have been discounted to the present value of the future cash payment where such discounting is material.

1.11 Accumulated funds

Unrestricted funds are donations and other income receivable for the objects of the Charity without further specific conditions and are available as general funds. Restricted funds have been donated for a specific purpose, are restricted in use to that project and not available as general funds.

1.12 Taxation

The Magpie Project is a registered charity and therefore is not liable to income tax or corporation tax on income derived from its charitable activities, as it falls within the various exemptions available to registered charities.

2 Total expenditure

	Direct costs	Support costs	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£
Raising funds	2,704	3,571	6,275	2,105
Charitable activities	69,844	92,260	162,104	96,654
	72,548	95,831	**168,379**	98,759

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£
Raising funds				
Fundraising costs	1,707	254	1,961	1,912
Volunteer costs	743	-	743	-
	2,450	254	2,704	1,912
Support costs (see next page)	3,090	481	3,571	193
	5,540	735	**6,275**	2,105
Charitable activities				
Benevolent grants	500	10,640	11,140	7,960
Food & supplies	4,664	1,118	5,782	846
Mums' travel	9,521	-	9,521	11,912
Nappies and formula milk	7,590	213	7,803	12,013
Supporting children's play	218	3,254	3,472	2,235
Programme delivery	16,819	12,687	29,506	52,804
Other family expenses	1,222	1,398	2,620	-
	40,534	29,310	69,844	87,770
Support costs (see next page)	79,834	12,426	92,260	8,884
	120,368	41,736	**162,104**	96,654

2 Total expenditure (continued)

		2020 £	2019 £
Staff costs		79,530	-
Meeting and travel costs		137	367
Insurance		262	166
Office costs		6,354	1,254
Rent		6,232	4,112
Other expenses		3,316	3,179
		95,831	9,078
Allocated: to:	Costs of generating voluntary income (4%)	3,571	194
	Charitable activities (96%)	92,260	8,884
		95,831	9,078

3 Debtors and prepayments

	2020 £	2019 £
Debtors	-	900
Prepayments and accrued income	15,191	-
	15,191	900

4 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2020 £	2019 £
Taxation and social security	1,983	-
Accruals and other creditors	700	900
	2,683	900

5 Employees

Number of employees
The average monthly number of employees during the year was 2 (2019 - nil).

	2020 £	2019 £
Staff costs		
Wages and salaries	72,053	-
Social security costs	6,008	-
Pension contribution (see note 1.4)	1,469	-
	79,530	-

No individual employee earned emoluments (excluding employer pension costs) of more than £60,000 in 2020 or 2019.

None of the Trustees (or any person connected with them) received any remuneration or were reimbursed for expenses during the year (2019: none).

6 Analysis of charitable funds

	Balance at 1 July 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance at 30 June 2020 £
Unrestricted funds	**13,262**	**181,549**	**(125,908)**	**68,903**
52 Lives	213	879	(1,092)	-
BBC Children in Need	-	10,000	(10,000)	-
BBC Children in Need – Emergency Fund	-	3,000	-	3,000
Community Links	100	-	-	100
Cygnus Trust	972	-	(972)	-
London Catalyst - Benevolent Grants	-	1,450	(840)	610
London Catalyst & Hospital Saturday Fund	-	6,500	(4,333)	2,167
Nationwide Foundation	-	25,000	-	25,000
Southwest Ham Children's Fund – Benevolent Grants	(466)	11,500	(9,800)	1,234
Rosa Fund	-	5,000	(5,000)	-
Bethany Williams Fund	-	520	(520)	-
Covid-19 Emergency Appeal Newham	-	2,382	(2,382)	-
Deutsche Bank Foundation	-	15,000	-	15,000
London City Airport Community Fund	-	3,000	-	3,000
Neighbourly Community Fund	-	400	-	400
Network for Social Change	-	4,155	-	4,155
London Borough of Newham Enrichment Grant	-	14,450	(7,532)	6,918
Westfield Stratford Emergency Grant	-	4,000	-	4,000
Restricted funds	**819**	**107,236**	**(42,471)**	**65,584**
Total funds	**14,081**	**288,785**	**(168,379)**	**134,487**

52 Lives
Restricted donations to provide clothes, buggies, and other equipment for families.

BBC Children in Need
Grant towards Play Manager salary.

BBC Children in Need – Emergency Fund
Top-up funding to support Covid-19 response.

Community Links
Grant to provide creche facilities during workshops for mums.

Cygnus Trust
Grant to purchase outdoor play equipment.

London Catalyst – Benevolent Grants
Discretionary fund for emergency grants to families.

London Catalyst & Saturday Hospital Fund
Partners 4 Health grant for a citizen science project with a University College London PhD student.

Nationwide Foundation
Grant towards Case Work Manager salary.

Southwest Ham Children's Fund – Benevolent Grants
One-off grants for vulnerable families living in Newham.

Rosa Fund
Grant to provide training in leadership, advocacy, and storytelling for Magpie mums.

6 Analysis of charitable funds (continued)

Bethany Williams Fund
Discretionary fund for emergency grants to families.

Covid-19 Emergency Appeal Newham
Donations raised through Justgiving fundraising appeal, split evenly across Newham charities to support emergency responses to Covid-19.

Deutsche Bank Foundation
Grant towards Graduation Manager salary.

London City Airport Community Fund
Grant to support our music collaboration with London Rhymes.

Neighbourly Community Fund
Covid-19 emergency funding.

Network for Social Change
Grant to support our collaboration with art therapists.

London Borough of Newham Enrichment Grant
Grant to support our collaboration with dance and movement practitioners Louise Klarnett Dance Art Foundation.

Westfield Stratford Emergency Grant
Covid-19 emergency funding.