

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statement 2021-22



Contents



	Page Number
Foreword	3
Legal and Administrative Information	4
About Us & Mission	5
Aims & Objectives	6-7
Core Values	8
Diversity & Inclusion	9-10
Play Sessions	11-12
Forest School	13
Toy Loaning	14
Parenting Support	15-16
Partnership Work	17
Community Hub & Events	18-20
Volunteering	21
Independent Examiners Report	22
Financial Statement and Activities	23-29

Foreword

The start of the financial year was uncertain with Covid-19 restrictions still in place. Fortunately, we made it through thanks to generous financial support from the London Borough of Waltham Forest's Hardship and Growth Fund and our loyal membership championing us all the way.

Sadly, we lost our campaign to save Walthamstow Toy Library's Comely Bank venue. NHS Property Services came to our rescue and offered us a temporary home (until September 2023) at the Hurst Road Health Centre and financial support through their Social Prescribing Fund. The venue is incredible with so much potential, we realised how we'd outgrown the old space and that there's room for growth in our new home.

Due to the pandemic, renovations and our move to Langthorne Park Pavilion was put on hold. We finally got the keys in June and to much excitement locally we opened the Leytonstone Toy Library and Play Centre in July.

Our Director, Helen Crockford received a place on the prestigious School for Social Entrepreneurs Scale Up Programme. This is the third programme that she has participated in. The opportunity came at a crucial time, with the move to bigger premises and opening a new venue in the borough.

In October 2021 we hired our first Operations Manager to support the Director and the team to scale up services. This has been an important development for the Toy Library and has resulted in an increase revenue generation.

For the 2022/23 financial year we will continue to look for a Walthamstow home, develop our traded income streams and build a sensory play space for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities at the Hurst Road site.

Noella Gooden, Chair of Trustees



Legal and Administrative Information

Company Address:

Comely Bank Community Clinic
46 Ravenswood Road
Walthamstow
E17 9LY (until October 2021)

Hurst Road Health Centre
36a Hurst Road
Walthamstow
E17 3BL

Trustees:

Noella Gooden (Chair)
Read Baurtally (Treasurer)
Natalie Sleigh (Secretary)
Kate Boyle

Registered Charity Number: 1178098

Company Number: CEO13905

Accounts prepared by: chromatic
books



About Us & Mission

The aims of Walthamstow Toy Library and Play Centre as set out in our constitution are to enhance the development and education of children primarily under statutory school age by encouraging parents to understand and provide for the needs of their child through community groups and by:

- Offering appropriate play, education and care facilities, family learning and extended hours' groups, together with the right of parents to take responsibility for and to become involved in the activities of such groups, ensuring that such groups offer opportunities for all children whatever their race, culture, religion, means or ability.
- Encouraging the study of the needs of such children and their families and promoting public interest in recognition of such needs in the local area.

Our mission is to provide safe, stimulating places for young children and their parents and carers to play, learn and interact.

Aims & Objectives

Seven aims underpin our mission:

Support

- Support children under 5 to learn and develop and to prepare for nursery education

Promote

- Promote bonding and attachment between children and their adults

Reduce

- Reduce isolation and help parents to develop supportive social networks

Encourage

- Encourage good health and wellbeing of children and families

Enable

- Enable access to our services from all sections of the community particularly those on a low income

Provide

- Provide volunteering opportunities to local students and residents

Represent

- Represent the aims and interests of our members





Core values

The Toy Library adheres to its values by providing services that are:

- Child-centred
- Educational
- Healthy
- Sustainable
- Fun
- Community based



Diversity and Inclusion

Our borough is one of the most diverse areas in the country. An estimated 53% of residents are from a minority ethnic background and this is reflected in our membership. Excluding White British the top five nationalities are; Romanian, Polish, Black British, Black Caribbean and Pakistani.

Waltham Forest is currently ranked 82nd most deprived borough nationally according to the 2019 Index of Multiple Deprivation (an improvement from 35th in 2015, and 15th in 2010 edition). Waltham Forest now ranks 12th most deprived London borough - an improvement from 7th in 2015. Waltham Forest has a younger than average population with 24.5 per cent of residents being aged 0 to 19 compared to 23 per cent in London and 23 per cent nationally.



The Toy Library continues to provide universal play sessions and toy loaning to families, not just from Waltham Forest, but further afield. We strive to assist families in financial need by providing free annual membership (usual cost is £12) and reduced play sessions fees at £1 for the first child and 50p for additional children (usual cost £5 for the first child and £2.50 for additional children). We don't want finance to be a barrier to anyone and are happy to support families who have no recourse to public funds or who are struggling financially. We offer free membership and a block of six free play sessions. Once the six sessions have been attended, we review and offer more or ask them to pay what they can afford.

We are grateful to the Virgin Media O2 Together Fund and Neighbourly and Tesco Bags of Help for supporting this work. At the end of 31st March 2022, 2146 families were registered with us. 20% of members received free membership.

Play Sessions

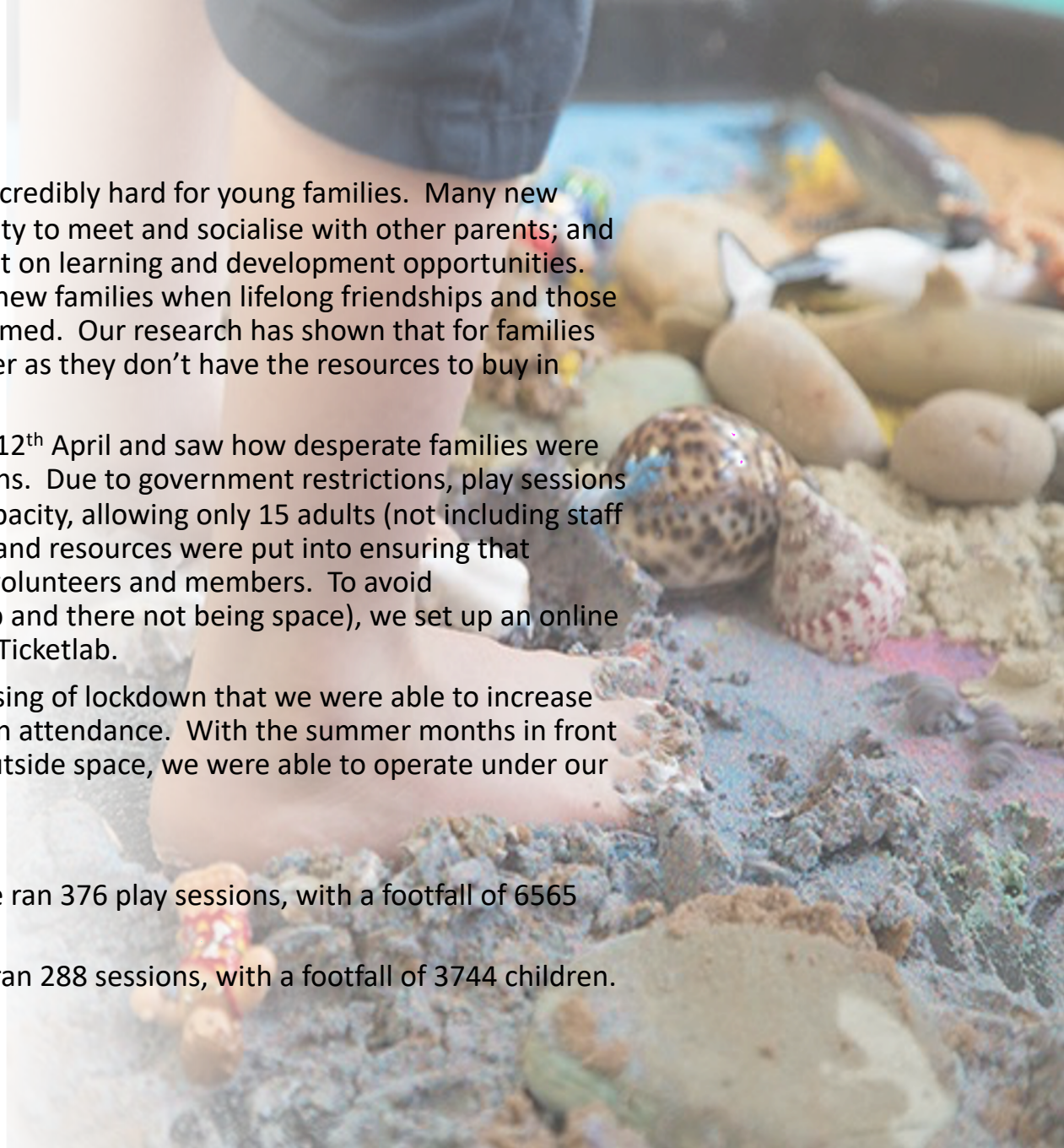
The Covid-19 pandemic has been incredibly hard for young families. Many new parents have not had the opportunity to meet and socialise with other parents; and babies and toddlers have missed out on learning and development opportunities. The early years is a crucial time for new families when lifelong friendships and those important support networks are formed. Our research has shown that for families on low income, it's been even harder as they don't have the resources to buy in services.

We reopened for play again on the 12th April and saw how desperate families were for social interaction and connections. Due to government restrictions, play sessions were run at a smaller than usual capacity, allowing only 15 adults (not including staff or under 5s) to attend. Much time and resources were put into ensuring that activities were Covid safe for staff, volunteers and members. To avoid disappointment (families turning up and there not being space), we set up an online booking system with local provider Ticketlab.

It wasn't until mid-May with the easing of lockdown that we were able to increase the number of adults and children in attendance. With the summer months in front of us and families free to use our outside space, we were able to operate under our new 'normal'.

At the Walthamstow Toy Library, we ran 376 play sessions, with a footfall of 6565 children.

At the Leytonstone Toy Library, we ran 288 sessions, with a footfall of 3744 children.



Our case studies demonstrate how important our sessions are for the whole family.

T, a single mother, lives in an upstairs one-bedroom flat which is managed by a housing provider. There have been a number of issues with her accommodation. Addicts break into the block of flats to take drugs in the stairwell, they also rummage through the communal bins leaving rubbish strewn all over the street and urinate and defecate around the flats. Her block has a mouse infestation. *"The Leytonstone Toy Library has been a second home for me and my son, I feel more secure at the play sessions than being in my flat".*

"Coming to the Walthamstow Toy Library helped me to not go mad". M says that the benefits to her mental health indirectly helped her to bond with her children. "At home there are a lot of distractions and chores. The quality of time is sparse and sporadic. Carving out time is challenging. It helps to have a dedicated space where the other stuff does not exist, where I can be available."

"It's great stimulation for my son and get's me out of the house. It's interesting to see kids who are older and hear other parent's stories".





Forest School

In our 2021 annual survey beneficiaries told us they wanted Forest School activities.

A Magic Little Grant enabled us to run a four-week course in Langthorne Park for 12 families.

The course was facilitated by a Level 3 practitioner with support from a member of the Toy Library team.

We wanted our Forest School to be affordable and provided subsidised spaces for low-income families. Our focus was on minibeasts and protecting the local environment, at the end of the course we built a bug hotel for the park.

"I was looking into Forest Schools, but they were too expensive. As a single parent, I went from being low income to no income. I loved the ethos of your Forest School; it enabled my daughter and I to participate".

This is an area of work that we would like to develop further, with staff training and collecting resources to run outdoor activities.

A photograph showing a woman with short brown hair and glasses, wearing a red jacket over a black top, smiling while holding a young child. The child is wearing a grey hoodie and pink patterned pants. They are standing in a room filled with children's toys and books. In the background, there are green and purple shelves stocked with various board games and books. The foreground is cluttered with a large wicker basket and other containers overflowing with colorful toys, including a red toy car, a yellow toy house, a blue toy train, and several stuffed animals. A window with dark blinds is visible on the right side of the frame.

In 2020/21 we generated £7440 in toy loaning income. In 2021/22 we saw a 33% increase in income to £11079. Our move to Hurst Road with a dedicated toy loaning room has made it easier for families to pop in throughout the week and browse what we have on offer.

We have continued to run our mobile toy loaning service for large items and big orders.

Parenting Support



Thanks to the generosity of our local community, we are able to provide free books and clothes for all families to take.

"Our ethos with books is, keep it if you like it, give it to a friend, put it in a Little Free Library or bring it back and get more. We want to encourage home learning and language and communication skills which books provide". Helen Crockford, Director

For families in need, we can quickly source any equipment they might need and have regularly supported 10 families throughout the year.

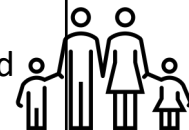
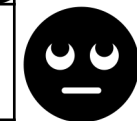
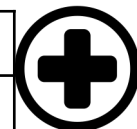
"Coming to play sessions has given me confidence. It has definitely helped with my parenting skills. Any questions that I have about eating habits, sleeping, teeth, I will ask the team. They are really good and support me".

"The best advice the Play Workers gave me was be consistent. It's worked!"



Parents have been supported with a variety of issues. If the team can't answer questions or provide support, we sign post to other organisations who can help.

Single parenting	Sleep
Raising bi-lingual children	Skin conditions
Home learning - activity ideas	Food Bank – referred 5 families
Behaviour – hitting, biting, tantrums, crying, routines	Parent feeling overwhelmed
Nutrition – healthy eating, breastfeeding	Childcare – where to look for nurseries/childminders, what to ask, 2 year old funded places
Oral health and teething	Other activities – museums, city farm, library, forest walks
Potty training	Screen time
Adult learning	Speech and Language
Returning to work	Waltham Forest Hardship grant for low income families – referred 5 families





Partnership Work

We partnered with specialist organisations to provide a variety of activities which supported both education and health and wellbeing outcomes.

Kids Kitchen - monthly cooking sessions at Leytonstone Toy Library. Families learnt to cook nutritious meals on a budget.

Groundswell Arts - Dancing Together classes at the Walthamstow and Leytonstone Toy Library. The mother and baby class gave women a chance to connect with other mothers whilst spending quality time with their baby. Each week the facilitator focused on a body part that suffers strain during early motherhood. Activities during the toddler class helped children develop fine and gross motor skills whilst adults got a chance to gently exercise.

Soundcastle – weekly creative family music making at the Leytonstone Toy Library.

Chit Chat Pitter Pat - weekly storytelling sessions at the Walthamstow and Leytonstone Toy Library. Run by the borough's early years specialists, it supported children's language and communication and taught parents about the benefits of reading to their children.

Author Natalie Newman did a reading of her book 'Lark the Shark' during National Ocean Week. A positive message about litter pollution.





Community Hub and Events

These activities are vital, they help us to generate an income to meet and sustain our charitable aims and objectives.

Birthday parties

The Toy Library remains a popular venue for party hire. It can be hired on Saturdays and Sundays for birthday parties, christenings and naming ceremonies. The space is hired for 3 hours and a member of toy library staff is on site to assist with setting/packing up and cleaning the premises. We have introduced a new toy loaning package where families can hire additional toys.

In this financial year there were 107 parties: 78 in Walthamstow and 29 in Leytonstone.

Venue hire

We continue to make our space available to a number of providers and community groups whose ethos reflects our own. We have changed our pricing structure, so it is affordable (£15p/h) for community groups who are offering free, reduced fees or donation only classes. At our Leytonstone site the Probation Service's Community Payback Team, use the room for free. In return they help maintain Langthorne Park.

Walthamstow:

Tiny Time Music with Anita

The Health Works – Antenatal Hypnobirthing Class

Daisy First Aid

Breathe Beside Me Yoga

Tiny Talk – baby signing

Magic Box – storytelling

Hartbeeps – music and movement

Forest Philharmonic Orchestra – rehearsal space

Body People – fitness classes

Boxing with Saf – youth and women's boxing

Baby Yoga

Phonics and Maths with Robot Reg

Leytonstone:

The Man Den – board games for boys and men

Langthorne Youth Club – with Worth Unlimited and Peabody

Armchair Aerobics for the over 50s

Idea Space – film making workshops for young people

La Leche League – breastfeeding support group

Community Business Forum – LBWF

Childminders drop in – weekly session run by LBWF

MPV Media – youth mentoring

Movers and Shakers – music

Daisy First Aid

A Mother's Voice – radio play and workshop on climate change





Events

With the uncertainty around Covid-19 restrictions and moving premises we decided not to run big fundraising events at our Walthamstow site.

In Leytonstone we took part in the following:

- Langthorne Park Relief Festival (August)
- Leytonstone Loves Film (September) in partnership with the Barbican.
- Big Draw (October)

In all of the events that we organise or partake in, there is a focus on bringing people together, combating isolation and building community. We ensure that our activities are fun, sustainable and enable family learning. We also use these events and activities to fundraise and promote our services to a wider audience.



tips to make the evening safe and enjoyable for all:
y spirit, please be kind and generous towards others
feel safe and welcome at Leytonstone Le
each other's wellbeing as
nd space.
to



Volunteering

We continue to offer volunteering opportunities to the local community and students. A special mention to Lucy Pearce for looking after the Walthamstow garden. Anna Pakskte for supporting with memberships and finance. Chris Eyre for creating a beautiful video for the Leytonstone Toy Library and volunteers from the Good Gym (pictured) for the endless cleaning!

"Students who carried out work experience at Walthamstow Toy Library and Play Centre have commented on how friendly and supportive the staff are. From day one, each understood what was expected of them. They felt motivated to carry out the routine tasks because of the positive and cheery atmosphere they encountered. They felt part of a team which made them feel valued. For the first time they came to the realisation that there is a world of work and opportunity out there that is very different to school and college. After each of their block placements they returned to college with a more confident and mature approach to their studies – Verity Kelly, Leyton Sixth Form College

"It helped my teamwork and communicating skills" – Nusrat

"I learnt how a Health and Social Care setting is run and how serious hygiene is" – Farah

"I learnt how to interact with children and was more able to understand them" – Maryam

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Walthamstow Toy Library and Play Centre

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Walthamstow Toy Library and Play Centre ("the Charity") for the year ended 31st March 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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.

Name: Waqas Hussain ACCA

Address: 10 Knebworth Avenue, Walthamstow, London, E17 5AJ

Date: 20/12/2022

Signed:



Statement of Financial Activity
Account Year End 31st March
2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Incoming resources	2				
Donations and legacies		10,387	58,420	68,807	72,568
Charitable activities		107,830	-	107,830	17,847
		118,217	58,420	176,637	90,415
Resources expended	3				
Raising funds		196	-	196	1,814
Charitable activities		82,112	52,828	134,940	70,076
Other		3,243	-	3,243	3,710
Total		85,550	52,828	138,378	75,600
Net movement in funds for the year		32,668	5,592	38,259	14,815
Total funds at 1st April 2021		73,946	199	73,747	58,331
Total funds at 31st March 2022		106,614	5,393	112,006	73,746

The notes form part of the
accounts

Statement of Financial
Position
Account Year End 31st March
2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	6	1,064	-	1,064	2,129
		1,064	-	1,064	2,129
Current assets					
Debtors	7	2,594	500	3,094	3,004
Cash at bank and in hand	9	138,056	-	138,056	71,131
		140,650	500	141,150	74,134
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	13,673	16,535	30,208	3,118
Net current assets/(liabilities)		126,977	- 16,035	110,942	71,017
Total assets less current liabilities		128,041	- 16,035	112,006	73,746
Accumulated fund					
Restricted income funds	10		- 199	- 199	- 199
Unrestricted funds		73,946		73,946	58,531
Result for the period		32,668	5,592	38,260	14,814
		106,614	5,393	112,006	73,746

The notes form part of the accounts

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Print Name

Date
dd/mm/yyyy

Print Name

Date
dd/mm/yyyy

Note 1 Accounting Policies

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements 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 (Charities SORP FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

Financial reporting standard 102 - reduced disclosure exemptions

The charity has taken advantage of the following disclosure exemption in preparing these financial statements, as permitted by FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland':- the requirements of Section 7 Statement of Cash Flows.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life. Fixtures and fittings - 20% on a straight line basis

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate

Reserves Policy

The Board of Trustees have agreed to keeping an appropriate reserves range for our organisation of between £51,000 and £102,000, to safeguard against future changes in income. This represents a minimum of 3 months (£51,000) and a maximum of 6 months operating costs (£102,000) based on the running of two sites across Walthamstow and Leytonstone. The level at the end of 2022 is £112,006; whilst this marginally exceeds the upper limit by c. 10%, this has been earmarked for the development of a Sensory Play Space at our Walthamstow site.

Note 2 Income

	Analysis of income	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Donations and legacies:	Donations and gifts	10,387	800	11,187	11,425
	Government Job Retention Scheme Grants	-	-	-	17,633
		0	57,620	57,620	43,510
	Total	<u>10,387</u>	<u>58,420</u>	<u>68,807</u>	<u>72,568</u>
Charitable activities:	Toy Library Sessions	52,018	-	52,018	11,865
	Toy Library Events	704	-	704	17
	Membership Fees	19,053	-	19,053	4,280
	Venue Hire	36,055	-	36,055	1,685
	Interest received	-	-	3	-
	Total	<u>107,830</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>107,830</u>	<u>17,847</u>
Total Income		<u>118,217</u>	<u>58,420</u>	<u>176,637</u>	<u>90,415</u>

Note 3 Expenditure

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Expenditure on raising funds:				
Sundry costs	196		196	1,814
Total expenditure on raising funds	<u>196</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>196</u>	<u>1,814</u>
Expenditure on charitable activities:				
Sessions	7,885	997	8,882	5,959
Venue Hire	-			-
Events	-		-	2,182
IT Costs	5		5	98
Health and Safety	480		480	160
Insurance	2,471	60	2,531	-
Compliance	529	104	633	316
Office Supplies	1,098		1,098	9
Staff Costs	52,270	51,142	103,412	56,483
Pension	1,377	0	1,377	1,605
Training	209	460	669	128
Subscriptions	1,493		1,493	951
Rent	12,251		12,251	-
Repairs and Maintenance	1,066		1,066	-
Marketing	622		622	-
Telephone and Broadband	356	65	421	2,185
Sundry	-		-	-
Total expenditure on charitable activities	<u>82,112</u>	<u>52,828</u>	<u>134,940</u>	<u>70,076</u>

Walthamstow Toy Library and Play Centre CIO

Note 3 Expenditure

Other				
Accountancy	2,178		2,178	2,645
Depreciation	1,065		1,065	1,065
Total other expenditure	3,243	-	3,243	3,710
Total Expenditure	85,550	52,828	138,378	75,600

Walthamstow Toy Library and Play Centre CIO

Note 4 Independent Examiners Fees

	2022	2021
	£	£
Independent examiner's fees	250	250

Note 5 Staff Costs

	2022 £	2021 £
Salaries and wages	103,412	56,483
Pension costs (defined contribution scheme)	1,377	1,605
Total staff costs	104,789	58,088

No employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period of more than £60,000

	2022 £	2021 £
Key Management Personnel	32,342	25,011

	2022	2021
Average Head Count		
Fundraising	0.4	0.3
Charitable Activities	4.0	2.7
Total	4.4	3.0

Note 6 Tangible assets

		Fixtures and Fittings £
Cost	At April 2021	5324
	Additions	0
	At March 2022	5324
Depreciation	At April 2021	3195
	Charge for the year	1066
	At March 2022	4260
Net Book Value	At 31 March 2022	1064
	At 31 March 2021	2129

Walthamstow Toy Library and Play Centre CIO

Note 7 Debtors and prepayments

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade debtors	1,442	310
Prepayments and accrued income	1,652	2,694
Total	3,094	3,004

Walthamstow Toy Library and Play Centre CIO

Note 9 Cash at the bank and in hand

	2022 £	2021 £
Cash at bank and on hand	138,056	71,131
Total	138,056	71,131

Walthamstow Toy Library and Play Centre CIO

Note 11 Related parties

No related party transactions took place in the year to 31 March 2022. None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with the charity or a related entity

Walthamstow Toy Library and Play Centre CIO

Note 8 Creditors and deferred income

	Amounts falling due within one year	
	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors	1,860	440
Accruals and deferred income	27,692	2,747
Taxation and social security	656	(69)
Total	30,208	3,118

Walthamstow Toy Library and Play Centre CIO

Note 10 Funds movement in current year

	Fund balances brought forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Fund balances carried forward £
Unrestricted funds					
General Fund	73,946	118,217	(85,550)	-	106,613
				-	-
Restricted Funds	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted Fund	199	58,420	(52,828)	-	5,393
Total Funds as per balance sheet	73,747	176,637	(138,378)	-	112,006