

Charity Registration Number: 11808870

The Phoenix Group for Deaf Children and Young Adults
(formerly the Phoenix Group for Deaf Children)

Report of the Trustees and Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2023

The Phoenix Group for Deaf Children and Young Adults

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The Phoenix Group for Deaf Children and Young Adults

Organisational Information

Registered Charity Number	1180870
Address	The Hyde Out 2-6 The Hyde Stevenage Hertfordshire SG2 9SE
Trustees	V Copenhagen (Chair) E Vejziu (Treasurer) A Ansell L Santos (Appointed 28th March 2023) B Juralovic (Resigned 24th November 2022) J Hime (Resigned 31st January 2022)
Independent Examiner	Paul O'Brien (ICPA) Dragonfly (Accounting & Financial Management) Ltd 34 King James Close Fordham, Ely Cambridgeshire CB7 5ZH

The Phoenix Group for Deaf Children and Young Adults

Report of the Trustees
For The Year Ended 31 March 2023

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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) (effective 1 January 2015).

Our annual report for 2022/23 looks back at the work of Phoenix Group during a year which has become more settled internally, after a difficult year with recruitment. Our staff team, who work predominantly from the office at the Hyde Out, have been productive and continue to help deaf children and young adults to develop in so many ways.

Charity Objectives

To advance the education of Deaf Children and young people and their families in particular, but not exclusively, by the provision of training and resources to empower children, promoting independence and social inclusion.

The following lists the activities that have been delivered this year, including new projects as a result of consultation with our members:

Short Breaks Local Offer (HCC) Holiday programmes for Flyers (8-13) and Youth (11-17)

NEW HAPpy Activity Programme in the summer holidays

Holiday programmes for Early Birds (0-7) and Phoenix Plus (17-30)

Individual support

British Sign Language tutoring for individuals and families in need of developing communication.

NEW Monthly Saturday Youth Group

NEW Phoenix Plus Life skills project

Work skills opportunities for young people

NEW Monthly Family project 'Saturday Hide Out'

NEW LGBTQ+ weekly online support /social group

NEW The Duke of Edinburgh Award

NEW Parents termly meetings

Cycling proficiency training

NEW First Aid training for Phoenix Plus

NEW BSL Chat Club in Welwyn Garden City and St Albans

Deaf Awareness and Introduction to British Sign Language courses

The Phoenix Group for Deaf Children and Young Adults

Report of the Trustees
For The Year Ended 31 March 2023

Future Plans

Phoenix continues to navigate the changing national landscape, responding to the local effects of the cost of living crisis and needs of the families we support. Our key plans for the next year include:

- Development of Deaf Awareness and BSL training as we increase our efforts towards sustainability
- Continuing to engage and hear the views and thoughts of our members
- Delivery of our existing programmes and the creation of new projects as needs are identified.
- Developing and nurturing partnerships with local and national organisations such as the National Deaf Children Society and Hertfordshire County Council.
- Continue to establish a transparent structure and build a balanced Board with the right skills to grow the organisation and ensure continued financial and governance sustainability.
- To recruitment new trustees to bring new skills and insight to the Board.
- To secure financial support from a wide range of partners and organisations to support the sustainability of the organisation.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Charity Structure – Achievement and Performance

This year, Phoenix, like other organisations, has been affected by recruitment challenges and we certainly felt the impact of staff shortages. There has been a need for all staff members to be flexible in their roles so that we could continue to offer a quality service to our membership and I am thankful to the staff team for their invaluable support and hard work during this time. I am also extremely grateful to our volunteers as without their support we would have not had the capacity to have delivered all of the services that we did.

The development of partnerships and projects continues to grow. We are delighted to be delivering the Duke of Edinburgh Award in partnership with HCC and Knightsfield and Heathlands Schools, this brings great opportunities for deaf young people and it is something which we hope to continue in the future.

Our communications with families is strong, which helps us to remain user led and very well connected to our members.

On behalf of the Board I would like to extend our enormous gratitude and appreciation to all our staff

The Phoenix Group for Deaf Children and Young Adults

Report of the Trustees
For The Year Ended 31 March 2023

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Trustees are appointed and removed by the members at the Annual General Meeting.

Organisational Structure

There is currently a board of 4 trustees, who meet regularly to administer the charity. Two Trustees are deaf and another is a parent of two deaf children. There are also one other non-voting, Advisory Member on the Management Committee who is not a Trustee. A CEO is appointed by the trustees to manage the day to day operations of the charity. All trustees are given a copy of the trustee induction pack to familiarise themselves with the organisation of the charity. All potential new trustees attend a minimum of two trustee meetings as observers to familiarise themselves with the running and operations of the charity, before deciding whether they wish to become formal trustees and put themselves forward for election at the AGM.

Valerie Copenhagen remains as Chair of Trustees, and we are delighted to welcome Lilia Santos who is a mother of two deaf children and who is very much looking forward to contributing her business experience to the board. Due to unforeseen circumstances Jacquie Hime has needed to resign from the role but remains in contact with the charity to offer her much valued expertise. Barbara Juralovic has moved abroad and has also sadly needed to resign from her role as Trustee. We thank both Jacquie and Barbara for their contributions to the charity for which we are most grateful.

We continue to encourage other potential trustees or advisors who believe they can contribute to the charity to take the opportunity to join our trustee meetings initially as an observer, with the potential to join on a formal basis should interests align.

Looking ahead to a future without Lottery Fund dependency, we are positive and working towards achieving funding through alternative means, including increasing contracted work with Hertfordshire County Council, increasing our training offer and developing partnerships with statutory organisations who have a corporate responsibility.

Financial Performance

For the financial year ended March 2023, overall income came in at £198,572 principally comprising our primary grant funding from The National Lottery Community Fund, Comic Relief as well as a smaller grant from Hertfordshire County Council (Short Breaks) supplemented by other small grants and private donations. Following the lifting of the Covid-19 restrictions where The Hyde had been closed for significant periods in the previous year, the letting income was significantly increased.

The Phoenix Group for Deaf Children and Young Adults

Report of the Trustees
For The Year Ended 31 March 2023

The Trustees consider that reserves at this level, will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charities current activities whilst consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This year the sum of £30,000 has been transferred from the Charity's unrestricted moneys to a separate Designated Reserves account for this purpose.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Trustees

V Copenhagen

E Vejsiu

A Ansell

L Santos (Appointed 28 March 2023)

The trustees' annual report was approved on 2 August 2023 And signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



Ms V Copenhagen
Chair of Trustees

The Phoenix Group for Deaf Children and Young Adults

Independent Examiners report to the Trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2023

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Phoenix Group for Deaf Children and Young Adults (formerly The Phoenix Group for Deaf Children) for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on the following pages.

This report is made solely to the Charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. 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 this report and for no other purpose.

To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's trustees as a body, for my work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner

The Charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's 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.

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 commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- * 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 financial statements presented with those records.

It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements 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 financial statements present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statements below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - * to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act and
 - * to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave not been met or
- 2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

The Phoenix Group for Deaf Children and Young Adults

Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ended 31 March 2023

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Year Ended Mar-23 £	Year Ended Mar-22 £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Grants and donations	22,755	-	143,281	166,036	160,547
Income from other activities	2,410	-	-	2,410	13,218
Fundraising income	10,852	-	-	10,852	-
Other income	19,274	-	-	19,274	9,385
Total incoming resources	55,291	-	143,281	198,572	183,150
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Charitable activities	2,779	-	160,812	163,591	133,808
Cost of generating funds	-	-	-	-	638
Governance costs	184	-	-	184	260
Total resources expended	2,963	-	160,812	163,775	134,706
NET INCOMING RESOURCES	52,328	-	(17,531)	34,798	48,444
TRANSFER OF FUNDS	(30,000)	30,000	-	-	-
TOTAL FUNDS B/F	48,302	-	62,215	110,517	62,073
TOTAL FUNDS C/F	70,630	30,000	44,684	145,315	110,517

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

The Phoenix Group for Deaf Children and Young Adults

Statement of Financial Position
For the year ended 31 March 2023

	<u>Notes</u>	Total Mar-2023 £	Total Mar-2022 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	2	<u>787</u>	<u>1,050</u>
		787	1,050
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	3	39	39
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>147,245</u>	<u>112,184</u>
		147,284	112,223
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	4	<u>(2,756)</u>	<u>(2,756)</u>
NET ASSETS		145,315	110,517
FUNDS			
Unrestricted funds		70,630	48,302
Designated funds		30,000	
Restricted funds	8	<u>44,684</u>	<u>62,215</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		145,315	110,517

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on
and are signed on behalf of the board by:



Ms V Copenhagen
Chair of Trustees

The Phoenix Group for Deaf Children and Young Adults

Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 31 March 2023

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

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.

Equipment - 25% on cost

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

The Phoenix Group for Deaf Children and Young Adults

Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 31 March 2023

2. Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment £
COST	
At 1 April 2022	6,190
Additions	-
At 31 March 2023	<u>6,190</u>
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 April 2022	5,140
Charge of year	263
At 31 March 2023	<u>5,403</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 1 April 2022	<u>1,050</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u><u>787</u></u>

3. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Other debtors	<u>-</u>	<u>39</u>

4. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	-	-
Social security and other taxes	2,756	2,756
Other creditors	-	-
	<u><u>2,756</u></u>	<u><u>2,756</u></u>

5. Staff

The number of employees, based upon FTE (Full-time equivalent):

	2023	2022
Employees	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>
	<u><u>4</u></u>	<u><u>4</u></u>

The Phoenix Group for Deaf Children and Young Adults

Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 31 March 2023

8. Movement in Funds

	Balance at 01.04.2022	Amount received in year	Transfers	Amount expended in year	Balance at 31.03.2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds	48,302	55,291	(30,000)	(2,963)	70,630
Designated Funds	-	-	30,000	-	30,000
Bailey Thomas Fund	1,000	-	-	(1,000)	-
Big Lottery - Reaching Comm.	26,420	93,599	-	(102,106)	17,913
Bishops Stortford School	6,633	-	-	(481)	6,152
Care Vending	-	2,390	-	(75)	2,315
Childwick Trust	2,867	-	-	(2,867)	-
Comic Relief - Groundwork	-	12,438	-	(9,085)	3,353
Edward Gostling Foundation	4,203	-	-	(4,203)	-
Herts Community Foundation - Jubilee	-	4,484	-	(4,484)	0
Herts County Council - Happy Camps	-	5,277	-	(5,277)	-
Herts County Council - Kindness Project	-	489	-	(489)	-
Herts County Council - inc. Short Breaks	6,495	13,056	-	(20,447)	(896)
Herts Sport Partnership	-	4,850	-	(1,153)	3,697
National Deaf Children's Soc.	832	500	-	(1,332)	-
Shanley Foundation	-	1,406	-	(360)	1,046
St. Albans Council - Deaf Awareness	-	2,242	-	(2,242)	-
Stevenage Borough Council	796	-	-	(796)	-
Stevenage BC - LGBT Funding	-	1,500	-	(271)	1,229
		1,050	-	(1,050)	-

The Phoenix Group for Deaf Children and Young Adults

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities For The Year Ended 31 March 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES		
Donations	35,194	14,601
Gift aid	1,222	996
Grants	129,621	144,951
Fundraising events	10,852	2,510
Activities	2,410	10,708
Workshop & course fees	-	-
Interest receivable		
Other income	19,274	9,385
Total incoming resources	198,572	183,150
RESOURCES EXPENDED		
Staff costs	106,864	88,382
Pensions	3,527	3,785
Insurance	1,221	952
Activities	13,141	11,891
Fundraising expense	2,025	638
Workshops & course	1,302	-
Equipment	948	498
Premises costs	27,566	23,118
Office expenses	4,006	2,998
Governance costs	184	260
Professional fees	768	768
Travel	1,961	1,065
Depreciation	263	350
Total resources expended	163,775	134,704
Net income	34,798	48,445