

THE ASSOCIATION OF SAFEGUARDING PARTNERS

Charity no: 1186634

Report and Financial Statements

For the period ended 31 March 2023

The Association Of Safeguarding Partners

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**The Association of Safeguarding Partners
Report of the Trustees
For the period ended 31 March 2023**

The trustees present their annual report and the unaudited financial statements of the Charity for the period ended 31 March 2023 to comply with the Charities Act 2011.

The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014, effective from 1 January 2015, together with Update Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

Legal and Administration Information

Trustees:	Elected / Appointed	Date of appointment
Richard Burrows	Elected	01 December 2021
Marie Gresswell	Elected	01 December 2022
Sue Kirkley	Elected	01 December 2022
Christopher Miller	Elected	01 December 2022
Nazir Afzal	Appointed	16 September 2021
Amy Weir	Elected	16 September 2021
Dr Deborah Hodes	Appointed	16 September 2021
Alison Cutler	Elected	16 September 2021
Nasima Patel	Appointed	02 January 2021
Jenny Pearce	Appointed	01 September 2020

Principal Office:

36 Stock Lane
Shavington
Crewe
CW2 5ED

Accountants:

Afford Bond Holdings Limited
Chartered Accountants
31 Wellington Road
Nantwich
Cheshire
CW57ED

**The Association of Safeguarding Partners
Report of the Trustees
For the period ended 31 March 2023**

Reference and Administration Information

The Association of Safeguarding Partners ("the Charity") is registered on 28 November 2019 with the Charity Commission under the Charities Acts 2011 (No. 1186634).

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The Charity is governed by its Trust Deed dated 1 December 2019 (last amended) with the approval of The Charity Commission.

The policy and general management of the Charity is directed by a Board of Trustees. The Charity trustees comprise of combination of appointed and elected Trustees and at our Annual General Meeting one third of elected trustees will be elected; each elected trustee serving a term of three years in turn.

Trustees' Responsibilities

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare statement of accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the surplus or deficit of the charity for that purpose.

In preparing those financial statements, the trustees have:

- selected suitable accounting policies and applied them consistently;
- made judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- stated whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepared the financial statements on the going concern basis.

Governance and internal control

Organisational Management

The trustees have overall responsibility for ensuring that the Charity has appropriate systems of control, financial and otherwise. They are also responsible for keeping proper accounting records which 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 provisions of the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities, and to provide reasonable assurance that:

- the charity is operating efficiently and effectively;
- its assets are safeguarded against unauthorised use or disposition;
- proper records are maintained and financial information used within the charity or for publication is reliable; and that the charity complies with relevant laws and regulations.

- The systems of internal control are designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance against material misstatement or loss.

They include:

- Strategic Plan and Annual Budget approved by the trustees.
- Regular consideration by the Trustees of financial results, variance of budgets, non-financial performance indicators and benchmarking reviews.
- Delegation of authorities and segregation of duties.
- Identification and management of risks.

All Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits.

Through the risk management established for the Charity, the Trustees are satisfied that the major risks identified have been adequately mitigated where necessary. It is recognised that systems can only provide reasonable but not absolute assurance that major risks have been adequately managed.

1. Objectives

The Trustees shall hold the Trust fund, and its income, upon trust, to apply them for the following objects:

To promote for public-benefit the safeguarding of children and vulnerable people by:

- Supporting the different forms of partnerships that exist to coordinate and ensure the effectiveness of joint working arrangements to protect vulnerable people.
- Encouraging the enhancement of the skills and roles of those who take part in safeguarding partnerships.
- Helping partnerships and partners to set standards, achieve effective scrutiny that results in learning and assurance which has a positive impact.
- Promoting a shared and a consistent approach to safeguarding partnerships.

2. Background

2.1 The Charity was formed in November 2019 as a successor body to the Association of Independent LSCB Chairs – (“AILC”). AILC performed a similar function to that now carried by the Charity but as a company limited by guarantee.

2.2 TASP wishes to be a substantial influencing voice for safeguarding which represents and helps to develop the views of its members, while working to safeguard children and the vulnerable. To achieve this the Charity seeks to attract members from a wide range of safeguarding backgrounds.

3. Membership developments

3.1 Statutory Partnerships

3.1.1 There are 137 statutory safeguarding children partnerships / sets of arrangements in England. In addition, there are myriad bodies, whose remit is to safeguard the vulnerable in sports, religious and charitable settings.

- 3.1.2 Our goal is to have as members, at least 75% of statutory partnerships and as many other non-statutory organisations and feel that TASP is a place of support and advice for them.
- 3.1.3 In our first year we had 73 statutory safeguarding partnerships as members (56%). At the end of our second we had 80 members (59%) At the end of this third year we now have 86 members (63%).

3.2. Third Sector organisations and other bodies (corporate and incorporate)

- 3.2.1 We continue to explore opportunities with other non-statutory and non-safeguarding specific bodies as to how we can support them and how we can work with each other. We now have 8 such members.

3.3 Individuals

- 3.3.1 There are many individuals, involved in safeguarding who would value the opportunity to belong to an association that provides them with peer support, advice and networking.
- 3.3.2 We also have a goal to have individuals as members. This remains an emerging area for engagement and development.

4. **Activities**

4.1 Webinars and Podcasts

- 4.1.1 The principal activity of the Charity since its inception has been the hosting of webinars. Using a professional facilitator, the Charity in the past year has run 10 free webinars, which have attracted up to 250 attendees.

- 4.1.2 They have covered a wide range of subjects and we have been able to attract a series of high profile and expert speakers. The webinars have been recorded and are available on the Charity website (<https://www.theasp.org.uk>)

- 4.1.3 The webinar programme is supported by a reference group, who are able to ensure that content is pitched at the right level and covers the right subjects.

- 4.1.4 We also have a small number of podcasts, which have been produced occasionally as a follow up to our webinars.



4.2 Website

- 4.2.1 Our website is a repository for a range of material generated through webinars and posted by members and other organisations. We also have a vacancies section which enables those seeking experienced domain experts to access the right people directly.

4.3 Work with Kings College London and Others

- 4.3.1 The National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) launched an invitation to bid for a 2-year research project on evaluating the multi-agency child safeguarding reforms and TASP has partnered with Kings College London, University of Bedfordshire & Camden Safeguarding Children Partnership to complete this project (also in collaboration with Family Rights Group & Association of Child Protection Professionals). The aim of the project is to provide evidence about what makes LSPPs effective. For full details and up to date status reports, you can see our website at www.theasp.org.uk/MACS

4.4 The Business Managers' Network

- 4.4.1 Business Managers in a local partnership safeguarding setting are vital to ensuring quality outcomes for children. They are a highly skilled group of staff, who because of the nature of their work can be isolated. The Charity has runs a dedicated Network for business managers to provide opportunities for support and the sharing of good practice and emerging issues. These are very popular events, with up to 50 attendees at our monthly sessions. The charity also supports this network with a dedicated area on the website for shared resources and commentary at www.theasp.org.uk/BMNetworks

5. **Wider networks**

- 5.1 The Charity has welcomed a range of representatives from Government and from the National Panel¹. TASP has also been a part of the IICSA Changemakers' Group.²
- 5.2 The Charity continues to work closely with the Government's sector appointed facilitators.
- 5.3 An important part of these conversations with the wider safeguarding community is to enable the Charity to develop its voice and presence and how and on what basis future relationship with government might be developed.
- 5.4 TASP meets on a regular basis with ADCS and DfE. We keep in regular contact with the Safeguarding Reform Facilitators and the Archbishops Council (who are both also TASP members) and have built relationships with Kijiji (a not-for-profit membership association focused on helping Black Safeguarding Professionals) and the National SAB chairs network, amongst other ongoing conversations and relationships. TASP is also member

¹ The Child Safeguarding Practice Safeguarding Review Panel

² <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/iicsa-changemakers/>

of the Youth Custody Service Safeguarding Continuous Improvement Board, We actively encourage joint working with all individuals and organisations working in the space of safeguarding.

6. Plans for next year

6.1 We are committed to developing our offering to members and our influence among a wide group of safeguarding stakeholders. Our webinars will continue to be a focus for our work, but as Covid restrictions have become less onerous we are keen to explore the value of some face-to-face networking and engagement.

6.2 Scrutineers' Group

6.2.1 The Business Manager's Group has demonstrated the value of a specific interest group and in the next twelve months we intend to launch a scrutineer's group.

7. Financial Review

7.1 The Statement of Financial Activities for the year is set out on the following pages. The financial statements should be read in conjunction with their related notes. A summary of the financial results and the work of the charity is set out below. In the opinion of the Board of Trustees, the future prospects for the Charity are considered satisfactory.

7.2 The Trustees report a successful year in relation to our goal of growing into a strong and relevant safeguarding association.

7.3 We believe that we are helping to improve safeguarding knowledge and skills for those who belong to or work with our organisation.

7.4 We are currently in a reasonably strong position in relation to our finances and more importantly our growing reputation and footprint. We hope the members can see how their vision which we encapsulate is taking shape.

8. Reserves Policy

8.1 The Charity had cash at the bank totaling £8,316 at the balance sheet and total unrestricted reserves of £40,336; these funds are held in order to fund charitable activities and meet any unforeseen expenditure that may occur. We aim to strengthen this position going forward.

Approved by the Trustees on 17 Jan 2024... and signed on their behalf by:



Mr C Miller



Mr R Burrows

**Independent Examiners Report to the Board of Trustees on the Unaudited Accounts of
The Association of Safeguarding Partners
For the period ended 31 March 2023**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Association of Safeguarding Partners (registered charity number 1186634) for the period ended 31 March 2023.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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 2011 Act'). The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the 2011 Act and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the accounts are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act. It is my responsibility to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

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 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (FRS 102).

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.

David Bailey BA (Econ) FCA
Afford Bond Holdings Limited
Chartered Accountants
31 Wellington Road, Nantwich, Cheshire, CW5 7ED

David Bailey.....

17 Jan 2024

The Association of Safeguarding Partners

**Statement of Financial Activities
For the period ended 31 March 2023**

	Notes	General Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
INCOME RESOURCES					
Incoming resources from Charitable Activities					
Fees		77,496	-	77,496	67,766
Donations		598	-	598	1,446
Total Income		<u>78,094</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>78,094</u>	<u>69,212</u>
CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES					
Costs of activities in furtherance of the charity's objects	2	64,171	-	64,171	63,142
Governance	3	2,850	-	2,850	2,646
Total resources expended		<u>67,021</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>67,021</u>	<u>65,788</u>
Net incoming resources		<u>11,073</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,073</u>	<u>3,424</u>
Net movements in funds		<u>11,073</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,073</u>	<u>3,424</u>
Fund balances at 1 April 2022		<u>29,263</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>29,263</u>	<u>25,839</u>
Fund balances at 31 March 2023		<u><u>40,336</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>40,336</u></u>	<u><u>29,263</u></u>

The Association of Safeguarding Partners

Balance sheet As at 31 March 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Current assets			
Debtors	6	39,587	32,819
Cash at bank and in hand		8,316	7,104
		<u>47,903</u>	<u>39,923</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	(7,567)	(10,660)
		<u></u>	<u></u>
Net current assets		40,336	29,263
Net assets		<u>40,336</u>	<u>29,263</u>
Represented by:			
Funds:			
Unrestricted funds		40,336	29,263
Total funds		<u>40,336</u>	<u>29,263</u>

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with FRS102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS102"). The disclosure of section 1A of FRS102 have been applied.

Approved by the Trustees on 17 Jan 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Mr C Miller



Mr R Burrows

The Association of Safeguarding Partners

Notes to the financial statements for the period ended 31 March 2023

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, unless otherwise stated, and in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

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 £.

The Charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102), second edition issued October 2019, effective from 1 January 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The Charity does not include a cash flow statement on the grounds that it is applying FRS 102 Section 1A.

The significant accounting policies applied in the presentation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

1.2 Fund accounting

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

1.3 Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the SOFA when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

No amounts are included in the financial statements for time donated by volunteers in line with the SORP (FRS 102).

The Association of Safeguarding Partners

Notes to the financial statements for the period ended 31 March 2023

1.4 Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the charity and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

The charity is not registered for VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

Expenditure on charitable activities are those costs incurred by the charity in undertaking activities for the furtherance of its aims and objectives for the benefit of its beneficiaries and include support costs and costs relating to the governance and administration of the charity

Support costs are those functions which assist the work of the charity but do not directly represent charitable activities, including personnel, finance, administration and governance costs. Where support costs are unable to be directly attributed to particular activity headings they are allocated between the cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities on a basis consistent with the use of the resources. Where applicable, the basis of apportionment is stated in the analysis of support costs.

1.5 Debtors and creditors

Debtors and creditors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any discounts offered. Provisions arise where, at the balance sheet date, the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event which is probable to result in an outflow of economic benefits and the amount due to settle the obligation can be reliably estimated. Losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

1.6 Financial instruments

The charitable company only has basic financial assets and liabilities. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

The Association of Safeguarding Partners

Notes to the financial statements for the period ended 31 March 2023

2. Costs of activities in furtherance of the charity's objectives

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total £
Staff costs	5	44,136	-	44,136
Computer costs		8,066	-	8,066
Postage and stationery		590	-	590
Professional fees		10,290	-	10,290
Insurance		370	-	370
Telephone		719	-	719
		<u>64,171</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>64,171</u>

3. Governance of the charity

		Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Accountancy	4	2,850	-	2,850
Bank interest and charges		-	-	-
		<u>2,850</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,850</u>

Trustees remuneration

No trustees received any remuneration, other benefits or re-imbursement of expenses from the Charity during the year.

The Association of Safeguarding Partners

Notes to the financial statements for the period ended 31 March 2023

4. Independent examiner's remuneration

	2023 £	2022 £
Independent examination fee	450	450
Other fees paid to the independent examiner	2,400	2,196
	<u>2,850</u>	<u>2,646</u>

5. Staff Costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	40,448	39,457
Pension costs	3,688	3,049
	<u>44,136</u>	<u>42,506</u>

The average monthly number of employees and full-time equivalent employees during the period was 1. An employee spends part of their time working for the charitable activities of the charitable company but is also involved with governance. No employees received total employee benefits of more than £60,000.

6. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors - Subscriptions	39,045	32,819
Prepayments	542	-
	<u>39,587</u>	<u>32,819</u>

The Association of Safeguarding Partners

Notes to the financial statements for the period ended 31 March 2023

7. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	3,000	3,817
Accruals and deferred income	3,679	2,646
PAYE creditor	-	3,825
Pension creditor	888	372
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	7,567	10,660
	<hr/>	<hr/>

8. Analysis of net assets between funds

All funds are unrestricted.