



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date		Period end date	
From	01 Jan 2024	To	31st Dec 2024

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	Mary's Child
Other names charity is known by	
Registered charity number (if any)	1187206
Charity's principal address	'The Goldhay Centre'
	105 Paynels
	Peterborough
Postcode	PE2 5QP

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Rev Andrew Avery	Chair / Vice Chair	Became Chair Sept 24	
2	Rev Carol Avery	Chair	Resigned Sept 24	
3	Charlotte Walker		Resigned March 24	
4	Jackie Ashley			
5	Lucy Canham	Treasurer	Resigned March 24	
6	Rev Kenneth Clark	Vice Chair	Resigned March 24	
7	Rev Charlotte Lloyd- Evans		Resigned March 24	
8	John Mchattie		Resigned November 24	
9	David Mote		Resigned March 24	
10	David Barber		Appointed 1 September 2025	
11	Derek Arthur Hodgson Smith		Appointed 18 January 2025	
12	Angela Caputo		Appointed 18 January 2025	
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Charlotte Avery-Walker

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document
(eg. trust deed, constitution)

CIO

How the charity is constituted
(eg. trust, association, company)

CIO

Trustee selection methods
(eg. appointed by, elected by)

appointed by existing trustees

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

We also have a Local Management Board, it is comprised of local businesses, charities, service users and residents. The Chief Operating Officer heads this board, and they are responsible for the operational side of the charity. They help us ensure that we meet the demands of the community and not duplicating services.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The relief of financial hardship amongst people in Peterborough and surrounding areas or in other parts of the United Kingdom in such ways as the trustees from time to time think fit. In particular, but not exclusively by a) providing emergency food, essential toiletries, and household items to individuals and families in need or for distribution by charities or other organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty, b) such other means, including (but not limited to) the provision of support or signposting to relevant information and other advisory services.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Over this last year 'Mary's Child' has responded to the needs of our communities in this exceedingly challenging time of a living cost crisis. Our relationships in the community and with local councils, statutory organisations, have enabled us to respond to the needs as they arose. Our main referrals have come through the local councils, Social Services, Targeted Help, and local schools and individuals, in Peterborough. Hundreds of food parcels containing fresh and tinned/dried food have been delivered and many people have needed ongoing support as they found themselves in great need. This is continuing. As well as food we have had many requests for gas and electricity, blankets for those who were finding it hard to heat their homes, cleaning products, toiletries, and clothes. We have now been able to start delivering furniture again. Additionally, we have been called upon for legal advice as people needed to claim new benefits or found themselves in difficulties with housing or relationships issues. This support has reduced the stress of those who need clarity and information, helping them personally and saving a great deal of money for the local authorities. The impact is a reduction in stress, improvement in self-worth and developing greater independence. The impact of the charity overall has been to relieve individual and family 'immediate' poverty, particularly food poverty.

At the beginning of 2024, we still had nine trustees Four based in Kent and five based in Peterborough, which included the two founders Rev Carol Avery BEM and Rev Andrew Avery. In March 2024 Marys Child stopped operating in Dartford, Kent. The four trustees based in Kent resigned, as they had set up their own charity called MCK, which has nothing to do with Marys Child. Mary's Child is set up as a Charity Incorporated Organisation.

Since March 2024, Mary's Child is based in Peterborough and surrounding boroughs. We provide food parcels in and around the city. We continue to provide free legal advice in family law, welfare benefits and housing law. We also introduced a Family Support worker, to help individuals and families who needed one-to-one support. We also provided holiday clubs for families over the school holiday period. In 2024 we ran mother support groups, cooking demonstrations and community cafes. The aim of these extra activities is to tackle the isolation following the pandemic. In October 2024, we received a two-year grant from the National Lottery Community Fund. This allowed us to increase staffing hours and employ a Senior Family Support Practitioner. This allowed us to offer specialist support to families, prioritising families, individuals fleeing domestic violence.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Included within activities above.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

We keep two months running cost in unrestricted reserves. This is considered sufficient to cover the costs of any unknown future events that may impact the charity. The reserves held at the year-end totaled £20,000 of which £10,000 is restricted.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Marys Child decided not to continue to operate in Kent. This was due to the Kent trustees wanting to set up their own charity. Our main funding is through grant funding.

Section F

Other optional information

Section G

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)



Full name(s)

Derek Smith

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Trustee

Date

30/10/2025



Charity registration number 1187206 (England and Wales)

MARY'S CHILD
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

MARY'S CHILD

CONTENTS

	Page
Independent examiner's report	1
Statement of financial activities	2
Balance sheet	3
Notes to the financial statements	4 - 5

MARY'S CHILD

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF MARY'S CHILD

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Mary's Child (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011.

Independent examiner's statement

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared the financial statements in accordance with the relevant version of the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn. I understand that this has been done in order for the financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

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

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Charities Act 2011.
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of financial statements set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.

Moore
Rutland House
Minerva Business Park
Lynch Wood
Peterborough
PE2 6PZ
30 October 2025

MARY'S CHILD

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and grants		10,790	135,937	146,727	55,667	49,830	105,497
Investments		108	-	108	98	-	98
Other income		187	-	187	5,121	-	5,121
Total income		11,085	135,937	147,022	60,886	49,830	110,716
Expenditure on:							
<u>Raising funds</u>							
Fundraising and publicity		11,390	-	11,390	28,469	-	28,469
Charitable activities	1	62,120	89,478	151,598	42,027	38,839	80,866
Total expenditure		73,510	89,478	162,988	70,496	38,839	109,335
Net income/(expenditure)		(62,425)	46,459	(15,966)	(9,610)	10,991	1,381
Transfers between funds							
		23,320	(23,320)	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(39,105)	23,139	(15,966)	(9,610)	10,991	1,381
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 January 2024		49,252	10,991	60,243	58,862	-	58,862
Fund balances at 31 December 2024		10,147	34,130	44,277	49,252	10,991	60,243

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

MARY'S CHILD

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Current assets					
Cash at bank and in hand		44,277		60,243	
Net current assets			44,277		60,243
The funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	5		34,130		10,991
Unrestricted funds			10,147		49,252
			44,277		60,243

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 29/10/25

Mr DA H Smith
Trustee

MARY'S CHILD

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Charitable activities 2024 £	Charitable activities 2023 £
Direct costs		
Staff costs		
Food parcels/Community café	71,256	23,170
Community costs	35,189	34,937
Household Items for Family	-	3,045
Sports classes/equipment	599	578
Entertaining and events	-	1,865
	-	1,509
	<u>107,044</u>	<u>65,104</u>
Share of support and governance costs (see note 2)		
Support	44,554	15,762
	<u>151,598</u>	<u>80,866</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	62,120	42,027
Restricted funds	89,478	38,839
	<u>151,598</u>	<u>80,866</u>

2 Support costs allocated to activities

	Charitable activities 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Gas and electricity	2,551	175
Rent	7,902	-
Telephone	611	567
Internet	695	538
Sundry	4,539	4,655
Administrative costs	3,804	7,390
Training	1,920	48
Advertising	-	317
Bank charges	188	308
Transfers to MCK & loan repayments	22,344	1,764
	<u>44,554</u>	<u>15,762</u>

MARY'S CHILD

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

3 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

4 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

5 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 January 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Mothers union	4,020	-	(4,020)	-	-
Community Health	1,819	-	(1,819)	-	-
Community Garden	1,657	-	-	-	1,657
Living sport	3,495	-	(1,190)	-	2,305
HSF 5/6	-	32,250	(23,678)	-	8,572
National Lottery	-	103,687	(58,771)	(23,320)	21,596
	<u>10,991</u>	<u>135,937</u>	<u>(89,478)</u>	<u>(23,320)</u>	<u>34,130</u>

A transfer of £23,320 has been made from unrestricted funds relating to the restricted lottery fund. Of the £23,320, £22,236 relates to expenditure paid in the prior year; this related to lottery funding but due to the timing of the receipt was taken from unrestricted funds in the short term to allow activities to continue. The balance has been written off with the agreement of the fund provider.

6 Related party transactions

£10,000 was loaned to the charity by trustees in the prior year, a further £10,000 was loaned to the charity in the year to support charitable activities. The loan balance has been repaid in full in 2024.

Following the decision for Mary's Child not to continue to operate in Kent, £20,344 was transferred to MCK who set up their own charity.



Charity registration number 1187206 (England and Wales)

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	Page
Independent examiner's report	1
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