

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

England & Wales · Charity number 1188739

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2020-03-24

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 15 Station Road
Hockley
Essex
SS5 4BZ

Phone 07710503492

Email info@safessex.org.uk

Website www.safessex.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO ARE TO RELIEVE SICKNESS AND DISTRESS, AND ADVANCE THE EDUCATION, OF CHILDREN AND ADULTS WITH ASPERGER SYNDROME (AND CONDITIONS RELATED TO ASPERGER SYNDROME) AND THEIR FAMILIES AND CARERS.

Activities: SAFE provides a range of activities for children and adults with Asperger Syndrome, these include SAFE Stuff, SAFE Youth Activity Club, Hub Club Southend (run in conjunction with Southend Borough Council Early Help Community Team), A.S.A.P. (Asperger Syndrome Adults and Parents), we also have a group for Women only, and other support group meetings.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Disability
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities

Geography

- Essex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£29,136	£38,911	-	-
2024-03-31	£38,379	£37,656	-	-
2023-03-31	£44,504	£37,493	-	-
2022-03-31	£23,445	£25,739	-	-
2021-03-31	£29,654	£15,800	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
David Norman MBE	Chair	2019-10-23
Chris Sorrell		2007-10-09
FERN POTTER		2001-09-14
Keir Bancroft		2019-04-24
Peter Neale		2013-11-17
Shaila Evennett		2015-02-15
Tim Rennie		2022-04-01

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England & Wales - Charity number 1188739

Accounts

S.A.F.E. ESSEX

Charity registration number 1188739

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

S.A.F.E. ESSEX

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S.A.F.E. ESSEX

TRUSTEE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Legal and Administrative

Charity Number:

1188739

Date of Registration:

24th March 2020

Trustees:

D Norman (Chairman) - Resigned 20/11/2024

S Evennett (Secretary)

T Rennie (Treasurer)

K Bancroft

P Neale

F Potter

C P Sorrell

Registered Address:

15 Station Road

Hockley

Essex

SS5 4BZ



SAFE Annual Review of Activities

SAFE provides support for individuals on the autistic spectrum without learning disabilities and their families throughout the County of Essex including the Unitary Boroughs of Southend-on-Sea and Thurrock. SAFE advocates for the needs of people on the spectrum both at local and national levels. Monthly newsletters are produced for its members with vital information about its activities and other services on offer for our community group.

Membership

The SAFE membership stood at 82 families representing 90 people on the autistic spectrum disorder. Approximately 73% of those members were in the 18+ age group and 35% live in the unitary authorities of Southend-on-Sea or Thurrock.

Members are provided practical, emotional, and information-based support at regular meetings, and support groups, and enjoy monthly SAFE Newsletters and ad hoc emails specifically geared to pass on relevant items of interest to adults on the spectrum and families.

Ongoing activities and projects

SAFE STUFF continues to meet fortnightly with activities around the county. The core group during this year included approximately **8 children** attending. Over the year, the core group of SAFE STUFF members has been low. A combination of other organisations catering for young children as well as other social activities have reduced attendance this year. Parents and their children stay in touch via a WhatsApp group to offer each other support and advice and friendships also exist outside of SAFE STUFF. Those attending have enjoyed **18 sessions in total**, spread across Essex. The group was led by Lyann Kennedy until July 2024, and our new coordinator, Lesley Barnes began her Co-ordinating role in September 2024.

Activities enjoyed during the past year included:

- A 'Bat Evening' at South Hanningfield Nature Reserve – South Hanningfield
- Pottery painting at Ceramics on the Hop – Writtle
- Mini Gold Meadow Hill Garden Centre – South Woodham Ferrers
- Walk around Old Leigh in Leigh on Sea
- Woodland adventures in Belfairs wood with Essex Wildlife Trust – Leigh on Sea
- Adventures in Hyland Park – Chelmsford
- Essex Heritage Day at Roman Circus – Colchester
- Picking apples at Cherry Orchard Jubilee Country Park - Rochford
- Walking the Gruffalo Trail in Thorndon Country Park - Brentwood
- Walk around Thameside Nature Park – Thurrock
- Visit to The 13th Century Old House – Rochford
- Visit to German Christmas Market at Meadow Croft – Wickford
- Ceramic painting at Clay Cottage - Rayleigh
- Playing 10 pin bowling at CJ Bowling – Hockley
- Playing a range of Board games at Geek Retreat - Chelmsford
- Crazy golf at Mr Mulligan's – Basildon

- Pizza making at Bubus Café – Great Baddow
- Visit to Prittlewell Priory - Southend

We are grateful to the Sir Alastair & Patricia Stewart Fund for supporting SAFE STUFF activities.

SAFE Youth Club continued to meet monthly during 2024/25, under the leadership of Katie Ringer. Katie started by offering quieter sessions, but after a few sessions, the group went back to having more adventurous activities. There are now six regular members from five families, with three other teens dipping in and out. Around eight families engage with us overall, and there have been up to nine young people at some events.

Katie continues to promote independence within the group, as some members are still reliant on parent support during activities, despite being reminded about the need for autonomy. Other members have found it difficult to socialise when parents are present, which makes an already tricky situation more uncomfortable and can leave them feeling self-conscious—ultimately missing out on opportunities to connect with peers. Activities this year have included axe throwing, escape room, augmented reality darts, zip trekking and the big drop, outdoor mini golf, and bowling. Their next event is tubing, and Katie looking forward to welcoming three new members from two families who also attend SAFE STUFF and are now at the upper end of the youth group age range.

The young people currently attending regularly are brilliant at giving things a go. The activities chosen aren't easy, and it's great to see them trying and realising it's okay not to win or be great at something. Axe throwing in particular was difficult and frustrating, but Katie was asked to rebook another session before the group had even left! The teens went back and smashed it—still not needing to be good at it, just enjoying it, even if it was still frustrating! Parents are starting to chat together more, and Katie is hoping this will give them a space to connect. It's important to keep conversations out of earshot of the teens to help them feel comfortable during sessions. Hopefully, the group will continue to grow over the next year.

Community Group Activities

We offer a diverse range of peer support and social participation groups tailored to different demographics within the autistic community and their families, utilising a blend of in-person, virtual, and digital communication methods.

Alpha Sigma Delta (ASD) Group (Girls and Parents) - This group provides a safe, friendly environment for autistic girls aged Year 6 up to 18 years and their parents. Established specifically in response to parents' requests for an alternative to more boy-centric activities, the ASD Group successfully promotes friendships and lasting relationships. We now engage over 30 families.

- In-Person Attendance: Sessions vary, with an average of 12–15 attendees (girls and parents combined) and some sessions exceeding 20+.
- Digital Engagement: All members stay connected through a dedicated WhatsApp group, while a core group of 4–6 regulars attend supplemental sessions via Zoom when unable to meet in person.

SAFE Support Group (Southend) - SAFE's regular support group meetings serve as the central forum for adult members of SAFE, and parents or guardians of children to attend independently or alongside their parents or carers. It is an essential platform focused on mutual information sharing, networking, and open discussion and facilitates direct collaboration between members and leadership. A core and unique feature of these meetings, which attracts approximately 8 people per month, is the consistent presence of SAFE's Development Worker and SAFE Trustees. This provides attendees with a crucial opportunity to:

- Access Direct Guidance: Receive immediate, personalised input and direction from the Development Worker on current resources, support needs, and complex personal issues.

- **Strategic Engagement:** Meet the Trustees to gain understanding of SAFE's strategic direction, ask questions about organisational governance, and contribute valuable feedback that directly shapes the future of SAFE's services.
- **Community Building:** Connect with other adult members and parents to share experiences, build supportive networks, and exchange practical advice in a welcoming environment.

SAFE is grateful to Southend & District Reform Synagogue for providing the venue for meetings free of charge.

ASAP - SAFE's regular support group meetings for parents of children and for parents and adult members aged 18+ continues to meet monthly at the Chapter House in Chelmsford. One of ASAP's Members Edgar Marchall has been instrumental in organising the relaunch and keeping in touch with members via a WhatsApp group.

SAFE ASAP

SAFE ASAP is our dedicated monthly support group for autistic adult and their parents. As the first support group established specifically for adults, it continues to go beyond simple socialising to offer mutual, peer-led support focused on navigating the complexities of adult life. It is designed to be a constructive space where members can share experiences and develop practical strategies across several key areas:

- **Independent Living & Employment:** Support for securing supported employment, accessing training, and developing skills for independent living.
- **Social & Relational Skills:** Practical discussions around social communication and interaction, building friendships, and managing intimate relationships.
- **Welfare & Wellbeing:** Addressing crucial topics like access to adult social care, managing mental health challenges, and providing support for carers' issues.

By meeting monthly, SAFE ASAP ensures a consistent source of connection and holistic assistance for members facing shared experiences in adulthood. This group has a regular attendance of 12–15 members, with higher attendance at special events such as the ASAP Summer and Christmas parties, and most keep in touch via a dedicated WhatsApp group.

Adult Peer Support Groups

SAFE SPA (Social Participation for Adults)

The SAFE SPA group meets virtually on a weekly basis via Zoom. It maintains a core in-person attendance of approximately 6 adults, supplemented by a further 4-6 individuals who join remotely. The group is generously funded by the Southend Community Investment Board and Rosca.

SAFE Women's Group

Having run for approximately eight years, this established group boasts a membership of 30 women. They meet weekly via Zoom and hold a monthly in-person session in Great Baddow. In-person attendance averages 12 per session (with up to 18 members attending across different sessions). This year, the group successfully introduced a series of social walks in various locations, providing members with a valuable chance to connect in person while benefiting from being in nature. Members not attending in person utilise the weekly Zoom meetings or the active WhatsApp chat.

SAFE 18+ Young Adult Socials

SAFE 18+ Southend

Launched as a social event for young adults, this monthly gathering takes place at the exclusive-use Anke's Cafe in Westcliff. Attracting around 20 members, the event offers a safe space for card games, chatting, or simply relaxing with a drink. This group is particularly vital, providing some members who do not otherwise leave home with a critical opportunity to socialise and build friendships within the wider autistic community.

SAFE 18+ Basildon

Mirroring the success in Southend, we recently launched a SAFE 18+ group in Basildon in partnership with Kinder Essex, extending the same safe, monthly social opportunities to young autistic adults in that area.

SAFE Achievement Awards

Each year, with support from the Jack Petchey Foundation, SAFE awards two members with a diagnosis of autism without a learning disability, or are waiting for one, who has had a significant achievement during the year. Each Achievement Award given annually at our AGM, are given a cup, certificate and a cheque for £50. At last year's AGM, the winners were: Pablo Martinez Fasoro for the Under 18 Award, and Piers Woodham for the 18+ Award.

Digital Presence and Impact

Website, Advocacy, and Digital Reach

We successfully completed the transition to our new, professionally designed branding this year. Our new logo and website, created on a pro bono basis by Emily Hewitt from I Am Emily (<https://www.iamemily.co.uk>), have firmly replaced the old materials. This cohesive design has been applied across all mediums, including new posters, leaflets, and an information banner. The refreshed website has proven to be an invaluable tool for promoting SAFE's vital work and has significantly improved accessibility. The implementation of online joining has directly contributed to an increase in our overall membership numbers.

Our digital advocacy continues strongly via Facebook, where we focus on content concerning autism without a learning disability. Our page reach is substantial, with 1.6k people regularly following the SAFE Facebook page.

Selected Testimonials

The following four alternative testimonials offer different perspectives on the critical impact of our support groups:

- *"Before SAFE 18+, my world felt very small. This group is the one reason I leave the house every month. It's given me the confidence to finally meet other people who genuinely get it, and it feels like I've started building a real social life."* (From a young adult member)
- *"The weekly Zoom meetings have been a lifeline. Living remotely means I can't get to the in-person sessions, but the support and connection I get from the virtual group are just as powerful. It truly breaks the isolation."* (From a distance member)
- *"Finding the ASD Group changed everything for my daughter. She finally has a place where she can unmask and be herself. Watching her form true friendships and realise she's not alone has been the greatest gift."* (From a parent of a teen girl)
- *"I've been part of the Women's Group for over six years. The consistent, non-judgmental space we've created allows us to share advice, celebrate wins, and navigate life's challenges, knowing there's always a supportive ear."* (From a long-term member)

Fundraising

The Trustees would like to thank our volunteers who have helped to run our activities and, also our generous donors, charitable bodies and corporate organisation who have given us the funds and resources to enable us to provide the activities for our members, including donations of over £100 from T Randell, F Potter, and an anonymous donor. During **April 2024 - March 2025** external supporters included:

- Building Brighter Futures for SAFE's Girl's Group
- Easy Fundraising
- Essex Community Foundation for SAFE's Development Worker
- Fowler Smith & Jones for SAFE's Development Worker

- Give as You Live Ltd
- Interchurch Caring Trust for SAFE's Development Worker
- Masons
- Multiply Funding in partnership with MyOTAS & STRM
- Mid and South Essex Health Inequalities Fund for SAFE's Women's Group
- PROVIDE for ASAP
- ROSCA for Southend City Pride Project
- ROSCA for SAFE SPA
- Sir Alistair & Patricia Stewart Fund
- Southend & District Reform Synagogue for in-kind support of SAFE's monthly meetings.

Future Development

During the past year, the Executive focused on recruiting new members of its Executive to ensure the smooth running of the charity. This was particularly important, following our Chair, David Norman, needing to step down due to health reasons, and Shaila Evennett, providing notice of her desire to relinquish her role as SAFE's Secretary after 14 years. SAFE was delighted to welcome two new prospective Executive members who will be voted onto the Board at our AGM. SAFE has also commissioned adult member Mark Potter to take on the role of Editor for its monthly newsletter, a significant step forward for our community.

Additionally, the Executive, working with SAFE's Development Worker, and Emily Hewitt from *I Am Emily* developed its new website and promotional materials with our new branding and strapline 'Supporting Difference' to reflect the fact that diagnoses of Aspergers Syndrome are no longer being made. A promotional campaign about our work was also implemented to raise our profile more widely. This has already resulted in an increase of membership with the hope that with greater profile, SAFE will be able to increase its membership to previous levels, particularly among those who have younger children diagnosed on the spectrum.

SAFE encourages members to strongly consider whether they may be willing to join the Executive to safeguard the charity's future, as we still need to find a new Chair in the coming year.

Trustees:

D Norman (Chair – stepped down in November 2024) currently Honorary President

S Evennett (Secretary)

T Rennie (Treasurer)

K Bancroft

P Neale (temporary Co-Chair)

F Potter (temporary Co-Chair)

R Marchal

C P Sorrell

Registered Address: 15 Station Road, Hockley, Essex SS5 4BZ



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 March 2025

**Charity no
(if any)**

1188739

Set out on pages

1

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31/03/2025.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity 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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

David Robb

Date:

23/01/2026

Name:

David Robb

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

Associate of the Chartered Governance Institute
Affiliate member Association of Charity Independent Examiners
MBA

Address:

33 Clatterfield Gardens

Westcliff on Sea

SS0 0AU

S.A.F.E. ESSEX

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total £
Incoming resources				
Donations and legacies	2	2,176	-	2,176
Charitable activities	3	1,469	25,491	26,960
Total incoming resources		3,645	25,491	29,136
Resources expended				
Charitable activities	4	2,224	35,796	38,020
Expenditure on raising funds	5	891	-	891
Total resources expended		3,115	35,796	38,911
Net incoming (outgoing) resources		530	(10,305)	(9,775)
Transfer between funds		(7,557)	7,557	-
Net movement in funds		(7,027)	(2,748)	(9,775)
Total funds brought forward		13,975	16,202	30,177
Total funds carried forward		6,948	13,454	20,402

Notes on pages 9 to 12 form an integral part of these financial statements.

S.A.F.E. ESSEX

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets	6	232
Current assets		
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>20,170</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		-
Net current assets/(liabilities)		<u>20,402</u>
Net assets		<u><u>20,402</u></u>
Funds of the charity		
Restricted funds		13,453
Unrestricted funds		<u>6,949</u>
Total funds		<u><u>20,402</u></u>

Considered by the trustees on 19/11/2025

S.A.F.E. ESSEX

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1.1 Basis of the preparation of the accounts

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement on 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 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2011.

S.A.F.E. Essex (Supporting Asperger Families in Essex) constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

Cash Flow

The financial statements do not include a cash flow statement because the charity, as a small reporting entity, is exempt from the requirement to prepare such a statement under Financial Reporting Standard 1 "Cash flow statements".

1.2 Income recognition

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

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either; the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the Trust that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed as material.

Donated services or facilities are recognised when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use of the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time of the Friends is not recognised and refer to the Trustees' Annual Report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain these services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1.3 Expenditure recognition

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity.

1.4 Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected life as follows:

Equipment -11 years

1.5 Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are:

Unrestricted general funds:

These are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees.

Restricted funds:

These are funds that 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.

1.6 Merger

S.A.F.E Essex (Supporting Asperger Families in Essex) registered as a CIO in March 2020. In April 2020 the charity merged with S.A.F.E Essex (Supporting Asperger Families in Essex), charity number 1095075, in which month the operations, assets and liabilities of £10,882 were transferred to the Charity with no consideration paid. The assets and liabilities were included in incoming resources at their fair values at date of transfer. There has been no material fair value adjustments from book value.

2. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2025 £
Donations	2,176	-	2,176
Grants	-	-	-
	2,176	-	2,176

S.A.F.E. ESSEX

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2025
	£	£	£
Membership fees	1,469	-	1,469
Grants		25,491	25,491
	1,469	25,491	26,960

Costs of charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2025
	£	£	£
ASAP	-	1,800	1,800
SAFE SPA	-	3,880	3,880
Safe Womens Group	-	5,243	5,243
Safe 18+	-	1,424	1,424
SAFE STUFF (Activities)	-	442	442
SAFE STUFF (Facilitator Costs)	-	2,836	2,836
SAFE STUFF PLUS	-	295	295
Girls and Parents Group (ASD)	-	5,585	5,585
Hub Club 2 C	-	-	-
Face to Face	-	13,891	13,891
Achievement Awards	-	400	400
Advocacy	471	-	471
Admin (Ins., Post, Tel.)	866	-	866
Trustees/ Committee Expenditure	62	-	62
Volunteer Education & Training	245	-	245
Development	-	-	-
Misc. Expenses	503	-	503
Depreciation	77	-	77
	2,224	35,796	38,020

Governance costs:

Audit and accountancy	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	2,224	35,796	38,020

Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2025
	£	£	£
Fundraising costs	891	-	891
	891	-	891

S.A.F.E. ESSEX

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

6. Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment
Cost	£
As at 1st April 2024	1,350
Additions	-
As at 31st March 2025	1,350
Depreciation	
As at 1st April 2024	1,041
Charge for the year	77
As at 31st March 2025	1,118
Net book value	
As at 31st March 2025	232
As at 31st March 2024	309

7. Fund analysis

	Balance as at 01/04/2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance as at 31/03/2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds					
SAFE SPA	-	2,000	(3,880)	1,880	-
SAFE STUFF (Activities) Costs	-		(3,278)	3,278	-
Girls and Parents Group (ASD)	-	5,454	(5,585)	131	-
Hub Club 1 S	-				-
Hub Club 2 C	-				-
Safe Stuff Plus (SAFE South)	-		(295)	295	-
Safe Women's Group	-	1,500	(5,243)	3,743	-
Face to Face	-		(13,891)	13,891	-
ASAP	2,435	387	(1,800)		1,022
Safe 18+	7,312		(1,424)		5,888
Andrea - Southend Work	1,311	10,350		(11,661)	-
Achievement Awards	5,143	1,800	(400)		6,543
Unallocated	-	4,000		(4,000)	-
Total Restricted Funds	16,201	25,491	(35,796)	7,557	13,453
Unrestricted Funds	13,976	3,645	(3,115)	(7,557)	6,949
Total Funds	30,177	29,136	(38,911)	-	20,402

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

England & Wales - Charity number 1188739

Accounts

S.A.F.E. ESSEX

Charity registration number 1188739

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

S.A.F.E. ESSEX

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S.A.F.E. ESSEX

TRUSTEE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Legal and Adminastrative

Charity Number:

1188739

Date of Registration:

24th March 2020

Trustees:

D Norman (Chairman)

S Evennett (Secretary

T Rennie (Treasurer)

K Bancroft

P Neale

F Potter

C Sorrell

N Spalding

Registered Address:

43 Buttercup Way,

Southminster,

Essex,

CM0 7RY



SAFE Annual Review of Activities

SAFE provides support for individuals on the autistic spectrum without learning disabilities and their families throughout the County of Essex including the Unitary Boroughs of Southend-on-Sea and Thurrock. During 2023/24, SAFE modified its name to remove the term 'Asperger' and added a strapline under its new logo stating, 'Supporting Difference'.

In Memory of Carolann Jackson, Founding Chair & President of SAFE

It was with great sadness that during this year, SAFE lost its Founding Chair & President, Carolann Jackson. Carolann had a major impact on our community when she set up SAFE in 1997, the year her 14-year-old daughter Nita was diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome (then, the official diagnosis of what is now referred to as Autistic Spectrum Disabilities). She created SAFE in the hope of meeting other families affected by Asperger's as there were no other services available for our special group of people. During her more than 20 years of active involvement with SAFE, Carolann worked tirelessly, volunteering her time and energy to lobby government (local, county, and national) to push for support for people with Asperger's. After her daughter left school, and with no specialised services in sight for adults, she created ASAP – Asperger's Syndrome Adults and Parents, to specifically address issues adults on the spectrum were facing such as difficulties around finding employment, housing, and meaningful relationships. ASAP continues through the leadership of SAFE member Edgar Marshall and offers our community the chance to bridge the gap with activities for those who wish to socialise together and seek help. Carolann will be missed by all, and especially by her daughter Nita.

Membership

The SAFE membership stood at 66 families representing 74 people on the autistic spectrum disorder. Approximately 84% of those members were in the 18+ age group and 38% live in the unitary authorities of Southend-on-Sea or Thurrock.

Members are provided practical, emotional, and information-based support at regular meetings and enjoy monthly SAFE Newsletters and ad hoc emails specifically geared to pass on relevant items of interest to adults on the spectrum and families. SAFE advocates for the needs of people on the spectrum both at local and national levels. Monthly newsletters are produced for its members with vital information about its activities and other services on offer for our community group.

Ongoing activities and projects

SAFE STUFF continues to meet fortnightly with activities around the county. The core group during this year included a total of **87 children** attending. The age group increased to 11-16 with 3 members taking their GCSE's this year and finishing secondary school with the older participants, having been members of SAFE STUFF for many years. Over the year, the core group of SAFE STUFF members has been low with a couple of children attending on a trial basis throughout. A combination of exams as well as other social activities including theatre school have reduced attendance this year. There have been no new, younger children joining regularly. Parents and their children stay in touch via a WhatsApp group to offer each other support and advice and friendships also exist outside of SAFE STUFF. Those attending have enjoyed **20 sessions in total**, spread across Essex. This was Lyann's

last season with SAFE STUFF, having coordinated the group for 4 years. A new coordinator, Lesley Barnes will begin her Co-ordinating role in September 2024.

Activities enjoyed during the past year included:

- Walks with Essex Wildlife Trust: Bat Walk, Woodland Activities & South Hanningfield Nature Reserve
- Fairplay House - Canoeing on the Chelmer
- Ceramics on the Hop Writtle - Pottery painting
- Walks and Geocaching at Hylands Park
- Playing a range of Board games at Geek Retreat
- Playing 10 pin bowling at CJ Bowling
- Coffee & Cake, Music making & chilling at Time & Space
- Return visit to Rio Cinema Burnham to watch a Disney film
- Mini golf at Meadow Croft South Woodham Ferrers
- Walk around Old Leigh in Leigh on Sea

We are grateful to the Sir Alastair & Patricia Stewart Fund for supporting SAFE STUFF activities. Some memorable quotes from the outings included:

- *We really enjoyed this morning, Thanks (Belfairs EWT)*
- *Thanks, J & I had a lovely time (Belfairs EWT)*
- *It's so lovely to have a bit of warmth and sunshine! A lovely morning, kids had a great time (Hylands Park)*

SAFE Youth Club continued to meet monthly during 2023/24, with Katie Ringer taking up the voluntary role of leading the group in January 2024, following Clive Matthews stepping down after over 10 years of leading the group. The new group met twice between February and March 2024 and involved two families with a total of 3 young people participating in the activities booked: laser tag and augmented reality darts.

The Alpha Sigma Delta (ASD) Group supports autistic girls from Yr 6 up to 18 years and enables them and their parents to come together on a regular basis to make friends and form lasting relationships in a safe and friendly environment. The group was created at the request of parents who struggled to find an activity that was suited to their daughter, rather than the more boy-centric activity groups available. The group now includes in excess of 30 families with its reach extending beyond the girls and young women as it also includes their parents.

When meeting in person sessions vary in number of participants, but on average the group involves at least 12-15 attendees, girls and their parents attend different sessions according to their personal circumstances but stay in touch via a WhatsApp group. On Zoom there are a smaller number of regulars (around 4-6) who are unable to attend in person. Here is some feedback about this group:

- *I see the girls who struggle with communication & friendship become friends & how they change & grow into adults better able to manage, due to the support with education & navigating systems that have not been working for them.*
- *The group has been an absolute lifeline for me and E. When we first came to the group at Time & Space in Jan 22, E had been out of school for several months and had hardly spoken to anyone her own age. That evening she tentatively sat with two other girls, and they chatted and giggled for over an hour. Since then, we've tried to come whenever possible. For quite a while the group formed her only social life and she really appreciated the friendships she'd made at the group. The parents have got an active WhatsApp group and that too has been a lifeline for offloading or asking for advice. Without the group, I have no idea how we'd have met so many girls and parents in the same situation and it certainly meant that we both felt a lot less lonely, especially when E had to give up school.*

The **SAFE SPA** (Social Participation for Adults) group met virtually on a weekly basis via Zoom with a core number of around 6 adults who meet in person and in addition to these, a further 4-6 meet up via Zoom. The group is funded by the Southend Community Investment Board and Rosca.

The **SAFE Women's Group** also met weekly via Zoom and in person once a month in Great Baddow. This group has been running for around eight years and has a membership of 30 women. The in-person group regularly sees around 18 of these women attending at different times with an average of 12 per session; others prefer to meet up on Zoom or chat within the WhatsApp group.

ASAP - SAFE's regular support group meetings for parents of children and for parents and adult members aged 18+ continues to meet monthly at the Chapter House in Chelmsford. One of ASAP's Members Edgar Marchall has been instrumental in organising the relaunch and keeping in touch with members via a WhatsApp group.

SAFE 18+ was introduced as a social event for young adults wishing to meet monthly at an exclusive-use venue in Southend. Card games, chatting or just relaxing with a drink, members could meet others in the wider autistic community. Since launching, we have around 12-15 members taking part at Anke's Cafe in Westcliff. Some of these young people do not leave the home except for this group and have found a safe space in which they can be themselves and make friends.

SAFE Achievement Awards - Each year, with support from the Jack Petchey Foundation, SAFE awards two members with a diagnosis of autism without a learning disability, or are waiting for one, who has had a significant achievement during the year. Each Achievement Award given annually at our AGM, are given a cup, certificate and a cheque for £50. At last year's AGM, the winners were: Jamie Irwin for the Under 18 Award, and Alan Marriage for the 18+ Award.

Website and advocacy

SAFE has a new logo and website designed on a pro bono basis by Emily Hewitt from **I Am Emily** - <https://www.iamemily.co.uk/>. SAFE is grateful to Emily for providing this significant in-kind support. Once the website is finalised, SAFE will set out a campaign to advertise the launch of the new website, and the range of activities available to members, as a way of attracting new members. SAFE's presence on Facebook continues including posts concerning autism without a learning disability; there are now **1.5k people regularly 'following' the SAFE Facebook page**. Here is a selection of feedback received:

- *SAFE offered essential post-diagnosis support. SAFE was the first place that I found support following my daughter's late diagnosis of Autism. We had struggled with various difficulties over her lifetime & had invariably been dismissed.*
- *The support groups have also been invaluable to us as a family. Through these I have met other parents & people on similar journeys who have also become friends.*
- *We now have others to talk to and share our experiences My husband and I felt totally alone and thought we were the only ones facing such problems with our son. But having met so many lovely people at your meetings who are in the same situation, we now have others to talk to and share our experiences. (From parents of a 40-year-old man)*
- *SAFE is one of the few local groups able to help parents and young people. It is a real-life saver. The parents in the group form friendships that help them cope better with their young people and the pressures that they as adults have as a result of having a child with such need. It is a truly great group. (From a parent of a 15-year-old girl)*

Fundraising

The Trustees would like to thank our volunteers who have helped to run our activities and, also our generous donors, charitable bodies and corporate organisation who have given us the funds and resources to enable us to provide the activities for our members. We were delighted that during the year, two SAFE members ran Facebook fundraising campaigns in aid of SAFE: Fern Potter raised £548, and Rob Curly through his bungee jump raising £345. Other funders during the past year include:

- Community 360
- Easy Fundraising
- Give as You Live Ltd
- Essex Community Foundation
- Fowler, Smith, Jones
- Groundwork UK – TE GWUK
- Jack Petchey Foundation
- I Am Emily (pro-bono support for new website)
- Marconi
- The Masons - Essex Mark Province
- Pam Matthews ASD
- National Lottery Community Fund
- Provide Fund
- Rosca Trust
- Sir Alistair & Patricia Stewart Fund
- Southend Community Investment Board
- Tesco Community Grant

Future Development

During the past year, the Executive took on board comments from members about changing the name of our charity from SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX to SAFE, with a strapline ‘Supporting Difference’ to reflect the fact that diagnoses of Aspergers Syndrome are no longer being made. The new name was launched with a new look logo and a promotional campaign about our work with be a priority to implement in the coming year. The Executive believes with greater profile, SAFE will be able to increase its membership to previous levels, particularly among those who have younger children diagnosed on the spectrum.

Alongside the promotional campaign, SAFE will focus on recruiting new members to its Executive, to ensure smooth running of the charity. Without a strong Executive, SAFE will be limited in what it can achieve. Members are strongly asked to consider whether they may be willing to join the Executive to safeguard the charity’s future.



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 March 2024

**Charity no
(if any)**

1188739

Set out on pages

1

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31/03/2024.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity 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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

DA Robb

Date: 27/01/2025

Name:

David Robb

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

Associate of the Chartered Governance Institute
Affiliate member Association of Charity Independent Examiners
MBA

Address:

33 Clatterfield Gardens

Westcliff on Sea

SS0 0AU

S.A.F.E. ESSEX

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total £
Incoming resources				
Donations and legacies	2	114	-	114
Charitable activities	3	1,259	37,006	38,265
Total incoming resources		1,373	37,006	38,379
Resources expended				
Charitable activities	4	3,123	34,010	37,133
Expenditure on raising funds	5	523	-	523
Total resources expended		3,646	34,010	37,656
Net incoming (outgoing) resources		(2,273)	2,996	723
Transfer between funds		(152)	153	1
Net movement in funds		(2,425)	3,149	724
Total funds brought forward		16,400	13,053	29,453
Total funds carried forward		13,975	16,202	30,177

Notes on pages 6 to 9 form an integral part of these financial statements.

S.A.F.E. ESSEX

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets	6	309
Current assets		
Cash at bank and in hand		29,868
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		-
Net current assets/(liabilities)		30,177
Net assets		30,177
Funds of the charity		
Restricted funds		16,201
Unrestricted funds		13,976
Total funds		30,177

Approved by the trustees on 20/11/2024 and signed on their behalf by:



TIM RENNIE

TRUSTEE

S.A.F.E. ESSEX

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1.1 Basis of the preparation of the accounts

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement on 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 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2011.

S.A.F.E. Essex (Supporting Asperger Families in Essex) constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

Cash Flow

The financial statements do not include a cash flow statement because the charity, as a small reporting entity, is exempt from the requirement to prepare such a statement under Financial Reporting Standard 1 "Cash flow statements".

1.2 Income recognition

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

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either; the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the Trust that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed as material.

Donated services or facilities are recognised when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use of the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time of the Friends is not recognised and refer to the Trustees' Annual Report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain these services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1.3 Expenditure recognition

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity.

1.4 Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected life as follows:

Equipment -11 years

1.5 Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are:

Unrestricted general funds:

These are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees.

Restricted funds:

These are funds that 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.

1.6 Merger

S.A.F.E Essex (Supporting Asperger Families in Essex) registered as a CIO in March 2020. In April 2020 the charity merged with S.A.F.E Essex (Supporting Asperger Families in Essex), charity number 1095075, in which month the operations, assets and liabilities of £10,882 were transferred to the Charity with no consideration paid. The assets and liabilities were included in incoming resources at their fair values at date of transfer. There has been no material fair value adjustments from book value.

2. Donations and legacies

Donations
Grants

Unrestricted	Restricted	2024
£	£	£
114	-	114
-	-	-
114	-	114

S.A.F.E. ESSEX

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024
	£	£	£
Membership fees	1,259	-	1,259
Grants		37,006	37,006
	1,259	37,006	38,265

Costs of charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024
	£	£	£
ASAP	-	1,922	1,922
SAFE SPA	-	3,500	3,500
Safe Womens Group	-	3,505	3,505
Safe 18+	-	882	882
SAFE STUFF (Activities)	-	2,868	2,868
SAFE STUFF (Facilitator Costs)	-	247	247
SAFE STUFF PLUS	-	247	247
Girls and Parents Group (ASD)	-	6,757	6,757
Hub Club 2 C	-	-	-
Face to Face	-	13,646	13,646
Achievement Awards	-	436	436
Advocacy	1,211	-	1,211
Admin (Ins., Post, Tel.)	995	-	995
Trustees/ Committee Expenditure	361	-	361
Volunteer Education & Training	281	-	281
Development	-	-	-
Misc. Expenses	198	-	198
Depreciation	77	-	77
	3,123	34,010	37,133

Governance costs:

Audit and accountancy	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	3,123	34,010	37,133

Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024
	£	£	£
Fundraising costs	523	-	523
	523	-	523

S.A.F.E. ESSEX

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

6. Tangible fixed assets

Equipment

Cost

As at 1st April 2023

£

1,350

Additions

-

As at 31st March 2024

1,350

Depreciation

As at 1st April 2023

964

Charge for the year

77

As at 31st March 2024

1,041

Net book value

As at 31st March 2024

309

As at 31st March 2023

386

7. Fund analysis

	Balance as at 01/04/2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance as at 31/03/2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds					
SAFE SPA	-		(3,500)	3,500	-
SAFE STUFF (Activities) Costs	-		(3,115)	3,115	-
Girls and Parents Group (ASD)	2,030	700	(6,757)	4,027	-
Hub Club 1 S	-				-
Hub Club 2 C	-				-
Safe Stuff Plus (SAFE South)	-		(247)	247	-
Safe Women's Group	-		(3,505)	3,505	-
Face to Face	-	500	(13,646)	13,146	-
ASAP	4,057	300	(1,923)	1	2,435
Safe 18+	-	8,194	(882)		7,312
Andrea - Southend Work	1,977	23,512		(24,178)	1,311
Achievement Awards	3,779	1,800	(436)		5,143
Unallocated	1,210	2,000		(3,210)	-
Total Restricted Funds	13,053	37,006	(34,011)	153	16,201
Unrestricted Funds	16,400	1,373	(3,645)	(152)	13,976
Total Funds	29,453	38,379	(37,656)	1	30,177

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

England & Wales - Charity number 1188739

Accounts



SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

Charity registration number 1188739

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

CONTENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

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S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

TRUSTEE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Legal and Adminastrative

Charity Number:

1188739

Date of Registration:

24th March 2020

Trustees:

D Norman (Chairman)

S Evennett (Secretary

T Rennie (Treasurer)

K Bancroft

P Neale

F Potter

C P Sorrell

N Spalding

Registered Address:

43 Buttercup Way,

Southminster,

Essex,

CM0 7RY

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

TRUSTEE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

SAFE Annual Review of Activities

SAFE provides support for individuals with Asperger Syndrome (AS) or families with a member with AS throughout the County of Essex including the Unitary Boroughs of Southend-on-Sea and Thurrock.

Membership:

The SAFE membership stood at 84 families representing 93 people with AS. Approximately 72% of those with AS were in the 18+ age group and 35% live in the unitary authorities of Southend-on-Sea or Thurrock.

Members are provided practical, emotional, and information-based support at these regular meetings. Members also enjoy monthly SAFE Newsletters and ad hoc emails specifically geared to pass on relevant items of interest to adults with AS and families.

SAFE advocates for the needs of people with AS both at local and national levels. SAFE has representatives on the local authority Autism Partnership Boards in Essex and Unitary Authorities. Monthly newsletters are produced for its members with vital information about its activities and other services on offer for our community group.

Ongoing activities and projects:

SAFE STUFF continues to meet fortnightly with activities around the county. The core group is consistent, with a total of 112 children attending ranging in age from 9 – 15 years old, with the older participants, having been members of SAFE STUFF for many years. They continue to enjoy being part of SAFE STUFF and on occasions, siblings also attend activities as a family, strengthening bonds and to share experiences. There have been few new members joining during the year. One new attendee travelled from Hertfordshire/Essex border as they have not found any similar support nearer home.

A total of 106 parents attended during the past year and with their children and stay in touch via a WhatsApp group to offer each other support and advice. Activities during the past year included:

- Walks in Essex Country parks and visits to nature reserves & orchards
- Walks in Essex Country parks and visits to nature reserves & orchards
- Museums including Essex Police & Southend
- Earth Day with Essex Wildlife Trust
- Indoor activities including arts & crafts with Sally, Pottery painting, board gaming
- Outdoor activities at Prances Activity Centre and canoeing with Fairplay House
- Christmas Coffee & Cake, Music making at Time & pace
- Return visits to Rio Cinema Burnham and Manna's Ark therapy farm
- Canal Boat trip at Heybridge Basin

During the colder months we focused on indoor activities, visiting local museums, board game cafes, and hiring spaces for creative activities. Going outdoors is always a popular option. Canoeing, an activity requested by a long-term member using his Achievement Award from the Jack Petchey Foundation, was extremely popular. It was an activity that challenged everyone, which highlighted personal and team skills that had not been evident before. The courage displayed to get onto and remain on the water, as well as switch seats while still afloat was a huge achievement. It was a great session and one that will be repeated.

Some memorable quotes from the outings included:

- Lovely day out on the boat, we really enjoyed it.
- Thank you for a lovely day (boat trip)
- Had a great time (Wat Tyler Park)
- We had a lovely morning (Danbury Lakes)
- We had a great time (Prances)
- The boys loved the activities (Prances)

We are grateful to Lyann Kennedy for leading SAFE STUFF for the past three years. She has given notice that 2023-24 will be her final year and SAFE will recruit a new Co-ordinator to take over in the new year.

The SAFE Youth Club has functioned with reasonable attendance during 2022/23. A weekend away at Skreens Park was held successfully in June 2022.

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

TRUSTEE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The Alpha Sigma Delta (ASD) group supports autistic girls from Yr 6 up to 18 years and enables them and their parents to come together on a regular basis to make friends and form lasting relationships in a safe and friendly environment. All of the girls have social and communication difficulties and find the group invaluable in helping them develop these skills whilst parents meet others in a similar situation to share advice and peer support. The group meets in person twice a month in Battlesbridge and also via Zoom.

In the same way as the ASD group, the SAFE SPA (Social Participation for Adults) group met virtually on a weekly basis via Zoom with a core number of adults attending every session. A small but regular group meet in person twice a month in Southend.

The SAFE Women's Group also met weekly via Zoom and in person once a month in either Battlesbridge or Southend.

SAFE's regular support group meetings for parents of children and for parents and adult members aged 18+ with Asperger Syndrome (ASAP – Asperger Syndrome Adults & Parents) was relaunched with monthly meetings at the Chapter House in Chelmsford. One of ASAP's Members Edgar Marchall has been instrumental in organising the relaunch and keeping in touch with members via a WhatsApp group.

SAFE 18+ was introduced as a social event for young adults wishing to meet monthly at an exclusive-use venue in Southend. Card games, chatting or just relaxing with a drink, members had an opportunity to meet others within SAFE and in the wider autistic community.

SAFE's Hub Clubs based in Southend and South Woodham Ferrers, which are aimed at young people with AS/HFA that attend mainstream secondary school, were not able to meet during this period due to Covid restrictions. Attempts were made to run the groups virtually via Zoom but uptake was extremely poor due to participants not wishing to be seen on camera or to view others in this way.

Website and advocacy

SAFE's presence on Facebook continues and it continues to post details and articles concerning autism without a learning disability; there are now 1.4k people regularly 'following' the SAFE Facebook page.

Fundraising

The Trustees would like to thank our volunteers who have helped to run our activities and, also our generous donors, charitable bodies and corporate organisation who have given us the resources to enable us to provide the activities for our members. Funders during the past year include:

Essex Community Foundation
The Interchurch Caring Trust
Southend Community Investment Board
Leigh Lions
Community 360
EALC Micro Grant – Community Chest Fund
Tesco Community Grant
Provide
Hamptons
Masons
National Lottery Community Fund
Sir Alistair & Patricia Stewart Fund

Future Development

During 2022/23, SAFE Executive continued to function, eventually seeing activities re-established following the difficulties of Covid. We possess the key skills to provide good governance practices. One particular activity we have been able to re-introduce is an ASAP group meeting in Chelmsford.

During the year, members of the Executive took on board comments from members about possibly changing the name of our charity from SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX to SAFE ESSEX, to reflect the fact that diagnoses of Aspergers Syndrome are no longer being made. It will enable us to retain our recognizable identity, but with the inference that the A in SAFE stands for Autism. The decision will be offered to members to make at our AGM.

SAFE has returned to offering face to face support meetings and social activities for members and the Executive will review whether there is unmet need for members and seek funding to initiate or continue activities and advocate for the needs of people with AS.

Tim Rennie



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 March 2023

**Charity no
(if any)**

1188739

Set out on pages

1

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31/03/2023.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity 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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date:

29/01/2024

Name:

David Robb

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

Associate of the Chartered Governance Institute
Affiliate member Association of Charity Independent Examiners

Address:

33 Clatterfield Gardens
Westcliff on Sea
SS0 0AU

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total £
Incoming resources				
Donations and legacies	2	1,273	-	1,273
Charitable activities	3	2,180	41,051	43,231
Total incoming resources		3,453	41,051	44,504
Resources expended				
Charitable activities	4	3,490	32,456	35,946
Expenditure on raising funds	5	1,547	-	1,547
Total resources expended		5,037	32,456	37,493
Net incoming (outgoing) resources		(1,584)	8,595	7,011
Transfer between funds		-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(1,584)	8,595	7,011
Total funds brought forward		17,984	4,458	22,442
Total funds carried forward		16,400	13,053	29,453

Notes on pages 6 to 9 form an integral part of these financial statements.

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023 £
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets	6	386
Current assets		
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>29,067</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		-
Net current assets/(liabilities)		<u>29,453</u>
Net assets		<u><u>29,453</u></u>
Funds of the charity		
Restricted funds		13,053
Unrestricted funds		<u>16,400</u>
Total funds		<u><u>29,453</u></u>

Approved by the trustees on 15/11/2023 and signed on their behalf by:



Tim Rennie
Trustee

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1.1 Basis of the preparation of the accounts

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement on 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 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2011.

S.A.F.E. Essex (Supporting Asperger Families in Essex) constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

Cash Flow

The financial statements do not include a cash flow statement because the charity, as a small reporting entity, is exempt from the requirement to prepare such a statement under Financial Reporting Standard 1 "Cash flow statements".

1.2 Income recognition

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

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either; the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the Trust that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed as material.

Donated services or facilities are recognised when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use of the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time of the Friends is not recognised and refer to the Trustees' Annual Report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain these services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1.3 Expenditure recognition

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity.

1.4 Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected life as follows:

Equipment -11 years

1.5 Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are:

Unrestricted general funds:

These are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees.

Restricted funds:

These are funds that 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.

1.6 Merger

S.A.F.E Essex (Supporting Asperger Families in Essex) registered as a CIO in March 2020. In April 2020 the charity merged with S.A.F.E Essex (Supporting Asperger Families in Essex), charity number 1095075, in which month the operations, assets and liabilities of £10,882 were transferred to the Charity with no consideration paid. The assets and liabilities were included in incoming resources at their fair values at date of transfer. There has been no material fair value adjustments from book value.

2. Donations and legacies

Donations
Grants

Unrestricted	Restricted	2023
£	£	£
1,273	-	1,273
-	-	-
1,273	-	1,273

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Charitable activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023
	£	£	£
Membership fees	2,180	-	2,180
Grants		41,051	41,051
	2,180	41,051	43,231

Costs of charitable activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023
	£	£	£
ASAP	-	1,241	1,241
SAFE SPA	-	2,940	2,940
Safe Womens Group	-	4,543	4,543
Spouses Group	-	196	196
SAFE STUFF (Activities)	-	3,420	3,420
SAFE STUFF (Facilitator Costs)	-	261	261
SAFE STUFF PLUS	-	1,399	1,399
Girls and Parents Group (ASD)	-	4,465	4,465
Hub Club 2 C	-	4,021	4,021
Face to Face	-	8,733	8,733
Achievement Awards	-	1,237	1,237
Advocacy	1,312	-	1,312
Admin (Ins., Post, Tel.)	772	-	772
Trustees/ Committee Expenditure	435	-	435
Volunteer Education & Training	588	-	588
Development	-	-	-
Misc. Expenses	286	-	286
Depreciation	97	-	97
	3,490	32,456	35,946

Governance costs:

Audit and accountancy	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	3,490	32,456	35,946

Expenditure on raising funds	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023
	£	£	£
Fundraising costs	1,547	-	1,547
	1,547	-	1,547

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

6. Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment
Cost	£
As at 1st April 2022	1,350
Additions	-
As at 31st March 2023	1,350
Depreciation	
As at 1st April 2022	867
Charge for the year	97
As at 31st March 2023	964
Net book value	
As at 31st March 2023	386
As at 31st March 2022	483

7. Fund analysis

	Balance as at 01/04/2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance as at 31/03/2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds					
SAFE SPA	1,167	-	(2,940)	1,773	-
SAFE STUFF (Activities) Costs	-	-	(3,681)	3,681	-
Girls and Parents Group (ASD)	-	6,495	(4,465)	-	2,030
Hub Club 1 S	-	1,600	(1,789)	189	-
Hub Club 2 C	-	-	(2,232)	2,232	-
Safe Stuff Plus (SAFE South)	-	-	(1,399)	1,399	-
Safe Women's Group	-	451	(4,543)	4,092	-
Face to Face	-	375	(8,733)	8,358	-
ASAP	114	5,184	(1,241)	-	4,057
Spouses Group	-	-	(196)	196	-
Andrea - Southend Work	1,161	17,656	-	(16,840)	1,977
Achievement Awards	2,016	3,000	(1,237)	-	3,779
Unallocated	-	6,290	-	(5,080)	1,210
Total Restricted Funds	4,458	41,051	(32,456)	-	13,053
Unrestricted Funds	17,984	3,453	(5,037)	-	16,400
Total Funds	22,442	44,504	(37,493)	-	29,453

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

England & Wales - Charity number 1188739

Accounts



SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

Charity registration number 1188739

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

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S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

TRUSTEE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Legal and Administrative

Charity Number:

1188739

Date of Registration:

24th March 2020

Trustees:

D Norman (Chairman)

S Evennett (Secretary)

T Rennie (Treasurer) (co-opted March 2022)

K Bancroft

P Neale

F Potter

C P Sorrell

N Spalding

Registered Address:

43 Buttercup Way,

Southminster,

Essex,

CM0 7RY

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

TRUSTEE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

SAFE Annual Review of Activities

SAFE provides support for individuals with Asperger Syndrome (AS) or families with a member with AS throughout the County of Essex including the Unitary Boroughs of Southend-on-Sea and Thurrock.

Membership:

The SAFE membership stood at 89 families representing 102 people with AS. Approximately 73% of those with AS were in the 18+ age group and 29% live in the unitary authorities of Southend-on-Sea or Thurrock.

Members are provided practical, emotional, and information-based support at these regular meetings. Members also enjoy monthly SAFE Newsletters and ad hoc emails specifically geared to pass on relevant items of interest to adults with AS and families.

SAFE advocates for the needs of people with AS both at local and national levels. SAFE has representatives on the local authority Autism Partnership Boards in Essex and Unitary Authorities. Monthly newsletters are produced for its members with vital information about its activities and other services on offer for our community group.

Ongoing activities and projects:

SAFE has moved back to offering activities face-to-face and has also retained some Zoom meetings as requested. The SAFE Executive regularly meets via Zoom.

Projects that continued during this year included:

SAFE STUFF - Lyann Kennedy became the group's new Project Co-ordinator from August 2021 and organised 22 activities during the school year. The project continues to be extremely beneficial to many SAFE members and their children. Since September 2021, 113 children and 103 parents have taken part in various activities. SAFE STUFF remains vital for several families and helped to engage young children and their families during a stressful year caused by lockdowns and disruption of regular routines caused by the pandemic.

The SAFE South Youth Club has begun to function with good attendance during 2021/22. A weekend away at Skreens Park has been planned for June 2022.

The Alpha Sigma Delta (ASD) group for girls up to 18 years and parents moved to a new venue, Time & Space in Battlesbridge and met on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month. It saw increasing numbers of participants with roughly 24 members attending each session. The venue offers opportunities to split the group in to two separate areas and this proved entirely beneficial. ASD also met on Zoom on other Thursdays.

SAFE SPA (Social Participation for Adults) met on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month in Southend and on other Tuesdays virtually via Zoom with a core number of adults attending every session.

The SAFE Women's Group also met weekly via Zoom and on one Friday per month in Southend.

The Spouses Group were also not able to meet in person; members keep in touch by email and through Social Media platforms.

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

TRUSTEE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

SAFE 18+ is a new group launched to meet the needs of young people wishing to meet others in a safe and non-judgmental place. It was held monthly at a cafe in Southend and saw up to 25 young people attending at any one time.

SAFE's regular support group meetings for parents of children and for parents and adult members aged 18+ with Asperger Syndrome (ASAP - Asperger Syndrome Adults & Parents was unable to meet in person but offered a Zoom meeting twice each month. Additionally, the Chelmsford Friendship Club, formed by a group of ASAP members, kept in touch with members via social media and Zoom.

Website and advocacy

SAFE's presence on Facebook continues and it continues to post details and articles concerning autism without a learning disability; there are 1266 people regularly 'following' the SAFE Facebook page.

Fundraising

The Trustees would like to thank our volunteers who have helped to run our activities and, also our generous donors, charitable bodies and corporate organisation who have given us the resources to enable us to provide the activities for our members. Funders during the past year include:

Essex Community Foundation
Essex Police/Home Office (Covid Relief)
Fowler, Smith Jones Charitable Trust
Ground Works Company
Hamptons
Masons
National Lottery Covid Fund
Rosca Trust
Sir Alistair & Patricia Stewart Fund
Southend Emergency Fund

Future Development

During 2021/22, SAFE consolidated its Executive and was pleased to be joined by Tim Rennie who has taken on the role of treasurer. We possess the key skills to provide good governance practices. Trustees continue to review the effectiveness of the services SAFE provides and whether there is potential for further development or changes. One particular activity we hope to re-introduce is an ASAP group meeting in Chelmsford.

SAFE has begun to returned to offering face to face support meetings and social activities for members and the Executive will review whether there is unmet need for members and seek funding to initiate or continue activities and advocate for the needs of people with AS.

Tim Rennie

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £
Incoming resources				
Donations and legacies	2	2,774	-	2,774
Charitable activities	3	2,076	18,595	20,671
Total incoming resources		4,850	18,595	23,445
Resources expended				
Charitable activities	4	12,845	12,430	25,275
Expenditure on raising funds	5	464	-	464
Total resources expended		13,309	12,430	25,739
Net incoming (outgoing) resources		(8,459)	6,165	(2,294)
Transfer between funds		(1,391)	1,391	-
Net movement in funds		(9,850)	7,556	(2,294)
Total funds brought forward		17,662	7,074	24,736
Total funds carried forward		7,812	14,630	22,442

Notes on pages 6 to 9 form an integral part of these financial statements.

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	2022 £
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets	6	483
Current assets		
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>21,959</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		-
Net current assets/(liabilities)		<u>22,442</u>
Net assets		<u><u>22,442</u></u>
Funds of the charity		
Restricted funds		4,458
Unrestricted funds		<u>17,984</u>
Total funds		<u><u>22,442</u></u>

Approved by the trustees on 10/08/2022 and signed on their behalf by:



TIM RENNIE (Treasurer)

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1.1 Basis of the preparation of the accounts

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement on 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 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2011.

S.A.F.E. Essex (Supporting Asperger Families in Essex) constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

Cash Flow

The financial statements do not include a cash flow statement because the charity, as a small reporting entity, is exempt from the requirement to prepare such a statement under Financial Reporting Standard 1 "Cash flow statements".

1.2 Income recognition

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

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either; the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the Trust that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed as material.

Donated services or facilities are recognised when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use of the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time of the Friends is not recognised and refer to the Trustees' Annual Report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain these services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1.3 Expenditure recognition

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity.

1.4 Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected life as follows:

Equipment -11 years

1.5 Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are:

Unrestricted general funds:

These are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees.

Restricted funds:

These are funds that 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.

1.6 Merger

S.A.F.E Essex (Supporting Asperger Families in Essex) registered as a CIO in March 2020. In April 2020 the charity merged with S.A.F.E Essex (Supporting Asperger Families in Essex), charity number 1095075, in which month the operations, assets and liabilities of £10,882 were transferred to the Charity with no consideration paid. The assets and liabilities were included in incoming resources at their fair values at date of transfer. There has been no material fair value adjustments from book value.

2. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022
	£	£	£
Donations	1,774	-	1,774
Grants	1,000	-	1,000
	<u>2,774</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,774</u>

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Charitable activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022
	£	£	£
Membership fees	2,076	-	2,076
Grants	-	18,595	18,595
	2,076	18,595	20,671

Costs of charitable activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022
	£	£	£
ASAP	136	-	136
SAFE SPA	2,633	-	2,633
Safe Womens Group	2,086	-	2,086
Spouses Group	136	-	136
SAFE STUFF (Activities)	-	1,378	1,378
SAFE STUFF (Facilitator Costs)	-	1,334	1,334
SAFE STUFF PLUS	-	1,679	1,679
Girls and Parents Group (ASD)	-	3,246	3,246
Hub Club 2 C	-	1,902	1,902
Face to Face	5,181	-	5,181
Achievement Awards	-	2,891	2,891
Advocacy	176	-	176
Admin (Ins., Post, Tel.)	606	-	606
Trustees/ Committee Expenditure	230	-	230
Volunteer Education & Training	762	-	762
Development	-	-	-
Misc. Expenses	777	-	777
Depreciation	122	-	122
	12,845	12,430	25,275

Governance costs:

Audit and accountancy	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	12,845	12,430	25,275

Expenditure on raising funds	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022
	£	£	£
Fundraising costs	464	-	464
	464	-	464

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

6. Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment
Cost	£
As at 1st April 2021	1,350
Additions	-
As at 31st March 2022	1,350
Depreciation	
As at 1st April 2021	745
Charge for the year	122
As at 31st March 2022	867
Net book value	
As at 31st March 2022	483
As at 31st March 2021	605

7. Fund analysis

	Balance as at 01/04/2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance as at 31/03/2022 £
Restricted funds					
SAFE SPA	-	3,800	(2,633)	-	1,167
SAFE STUFF (Activities) Costs	-	3,000	(2,712)	(288)	-
Girls and Parents Group (ASD)	2,667	-	(3,246)	579	-
Hub Club 1 S	-	-	(679)	679	-
Hub Club 2 C	-	-	(1,223)	1,223	-
Safe Stuff Plus (SAFE South)	-	-	(1,679)	1,679	-
Safe Women's Group	-	-	(2,086)	2,086	-
Face to Face	-	3,125	(5,181)	2,056	-
ASAP	-	250	(136)	-	114
Spouses Group	-	-	(136)	136	-
Andrea - Southend Work	-	7,920	-	(6,759)	1,161
Achievement Awards	4,407	500	(2,891)	-	2,016
Total Restricted Funds	7,074	18,595	(22,602)	1,391	4,458
Unrestricted Funds	17,662	4,850	(3,137)	(1,391)	17,984
Total Funds	24,736	23,445	(25,739)	-	22,442

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

England & Wales - Charity number 1188739

Accounts

**S.A.F.E. ESSEX
(SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN
ESSEX)**

Charity registration number 1188739

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**



S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

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S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

TRUSTEE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Legal and Administrative

Charity Number:
1188739

Date of Registration:
24th March 2020

Trustees:
D Norman (Chairman)
S Evennett (Secretary)
J Whitelaw (Treasurer)
K Bancroft
Sam Clark-Smith (co-opted March 2021)
P Neale
F Potter
C P Sorrell
Nelida Spalding (co-opted January 2021)

Registered Address:
43 Buttercup Way,
Southminster,
Essex,
CM0 7RY

Independent Examiners:
Community360
Winsley's House
High Street
Colchester
CO1 1UG

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

TRUSTEE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

SAFE Annual Review of Activities

SAFE provides support for individuals with Asperger Syndrome (AS) or families with a member with AS throughout the County of Essex including the Unitary Boroughs of Southend-on-Sea and Thurrock.

Membership:

The SAFE membership stood at 140 families representing 146 people with AS. Approximately 76% of those with AS were in the 18+ age group and 29% live in the unitary authorities of Southend-on-Sea or Thurrock.

Members are provided practical, emotional, and information-based support at these regular meetings. Members also enjoy monthly SAFE Newsletters and ad hoc emails specifically geared to pass on relevant items of interest to adults with AS and families.

SAFE advocates for the needs of people with AS both at local and national levels. SAFE has representatives on the local authority Autism Partnership Boards in Essex. Monthly newsletters are produced for its members with vital information about its activities and other services on offer for our community group.

Ongoing activities and projects:

The impact of the Covid pandemic presented a major challenge to SAFE as with all organisations, but the charity was determined to find ways to continue to communicate with its members and provide ongoing support during the developing situation. During this period, SAFE moved support meetings online for members to access via Zoom as well as offering a limited number of face-to-face activities (primarily outdoors) to comply with Covid restrictions.

During the first lockdown all face-to-face activities ceased, with a number of activities shifting online via Zoom. When restrictions eased to allow outdoor activities, SAFE organised a number of activities for members of different ages following Covid-19 regulations.

Projects that continued during this year included:

SAFE STUFF – after 13 continuous years running SAFE STUFF, Clare Hudson stepped down in July and Lyann Kennedy became the group's new Co-ordinator. The project continues to be extremely beneficial to many SAFE members and their children. After an initial drop in attendance due to lockdown, since August, 79 children and 74 parents have taken part in various activities including our online lockdown activities. SAFE STUFF remains vital for several families and helped to engage young children and their families during a stressful year caused by lockdowns and disruption of regular routines caused by the pandemic.

The SAFE South Youth Club has not been able to meet during 2020/21 due to Covid. Leaders plan to reconvene as soon as lockdown restricts allow.

SAFE's Hub Clubs based in Southend and South Woodham Ferrers, which are aimed at young people with AS/HFA that attend mainstream secondary school, were not able to meet during this period due to Covid restrictions. Attempts were made to run the groups virtually via Zoom but uptake was extremely poor due to participants not wishing to be seen on camera or to view others in this way.

The Alpha Sigma Delta (ASD) group for girls up to 18 years and parents was unable to meet at its base at Megacentre in Rayleigh but met weekly via Zoom as an alternative. SAFE saw participation from several regular girls/young women and their mothers attending. SAFE also ran 'walk and talk' sessions with this group in locations such as Norsey Woods in Billericay and Hockley Woods.

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

TRUSTEE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

In the same way as the ASD group, the SAFE SPA (Social Participation for Adults) group met virtually on a weekly basis via Zoom with a core number of adults attending every session. When possible, the group arranged 'walk and talk' sessions on the seafront and in parks in and around Southend.

The SAFE Women's Group also met weekly via Zoom with several socially distanced walking sessions arranged in various locations for the group.

The Spouses Group were also not able to meet in person; members keep in touch by email and through Social Media platforms.

SAFE's regular support group meetings for parents of children and for parents and adult members aged 18+ with Asperger Syndrome (ASAP – Asperger Syndrome Adults & Parents) was unable to meet in person but offered a Zoom meeting twice each month. Additionally, the Chelmsford Friendship Club, formed by a group of ASAP members, kept in touch with members via social media and Zoom.

Website and advocacy

SAFE's presence on Facebook continues and it continues to post details and articles concerning autism without a learning disability; there are now 949 people regularly 'following' the SAFE Facebook page. SAFE has also been involved in consultations with Chelmsford City Council and Essex County Council regarding the provision of purpose built, sheltered housing for adults with Asperger Syndrome.

Fundraising

The Trustees would like to thank our volunteers who have helped to run our activities and, also our generous donors, charitable bodies and corporate organisation who have given us the resources to enable us to provide the activities for our members. Funders during the past year include:

Essex Community Foundation
Essex Police/Home Office (Covid Relief)
Fowler, Smith Jones Charitable Trust
Ground Works Company
Hamptons
Masons
National Lottery Covid Fund
Rosca Trust
Sir Alistair & Patricia Stewart Fund
Southend Emergency Fund

Future Development

During 2020/21, SAFE increased its Executive to bring in key skills in accordance with good governance practices. Trustees continue to review the effectiveness of the services SAFE provides and whether there is potential for further development or changes.

As soon as the guidelines allow, SAFE will return to offering face to face support meetings and social activities for members and the Executive will review whether there is unmet need for members and seek funding to initiate or continue activities and advocate for the needs of people with AS.

J Whitelaw

S.A.F.E ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

I report on the accounts of S.A.F.E Essex (Supporting Asperger Families in Essex) for the year ended 31st March 2021 which are set out on pages 5 to 10.

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 Act) but 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 Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and - To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's Statement My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 considerations 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

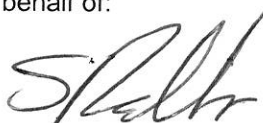
Independent examiner's statement In the course of my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- 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 the 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 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.

Shelley-Marie Rudling FMAAT AATQB for and on behalf of:

Community360
Winsley's House, High Street, Colchester, Essex



Date 15th November
2021.

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2021 Total £
Incoming resources				
Donations and legacies	2	20,687	-	20,687
Charitable activities	3	1,575	7,392	8,967
Total incoming resources		22,262	7,392	29,654
Resources expended				
Charitable activities	4	8,135	7,297	15,432
Expenditure on raising funds	5	368	-	368
Total resources expended		8,503	7,297	15,800
Net incoming (outgoing) resources		13,759	95	13,854
Transfer between funds		516	(516)	-
Merger Income	1.6	3,387	7,495	10,882
Net movement in funds		17,662	7,074	24,736
Total funds brought forward		-	-	-
Total funds carried forward		17,662	7,074	24,736

Notes on pages 7 to 10 form an integral part of these financial statements.

S.A.F.E. ESSEX

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	2021 £
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets	7	605
Current assets		
Cash at bank and in hand		24,581
		<u>24,581</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	450
Net current assets/(liabilities)		<u>24,131</u>
Net assets		<u><u>24,736</u></u>
Funds of the charity		
Restricted funds		7,074
Unrestricted funds		17,662
Total funds		<u><u>24,736</u></u>

Approved by the trustees on the 27/10/21 and signed on their behalf by:



J Whitelaw

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1.1 Basis of the preparation of the accounts

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement on 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 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2011.

S.A.F.E. Essex (Supporting Asperger Families in Essex) constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

Cash Flow

The financial statements do not include a cash flow statement because the charity, as a small reporting entity, is exempt from the requirement to prepare such a statement under Financial Reporting Standard 1 "Cash flow statements".

1.2 Income recognition

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

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either; the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the Trust that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed as material.

Donated services or facilities are recognised when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use of the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time of the Friends is not recognised and refer to the Trustees' Annual Report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain these services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1.3 Expenditure recognition

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity.

1.4 Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected life as follows:

Equipment - 11 years

1.5 Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are:

Unrestricted general funds:

These are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees.

Restricted funds:

These are funds that 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.

1.6 Merger

S.A.F.E Essex (Supporting Asperger Families in Essex) registered as a CIO in March 2020. In April 2020 the charity merged with S.A.F.E Essex (Supporting Asperger Families in Essex), charity number 1095075, in which month the operations, assets and liabilities of £10,882 were transferred to the Charity with no consideration paid. The assets and liabilities were included in incoming resources at their fair values at date of transfer. There has been no material fair value adjustments from book value.

2. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 £
Donations	2,911	-	2,911
Grants	17,776	-	17,776
	<u>20,687</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,687</u>

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

3. Charitable activities	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 £
Membership fees	1,575	-	1,575
Grants	-	7,392	7,392
	1,575	7,392	8,967
4. Costs of charitable activities	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 £
ASAP	16	-	16
SAFE SPA	1,159	-	1,159
Safe Womens Group	1,079	-	1,079
Spouses Group	32	-	32
SAFE STUFF (Activities)	-	840	840
SAFE STUFF (Facilitator Costs)	-	1,979	1,979
Girls and Parents Group (ASD)	-	749	749
Hub Club 2 C	-	16	16
Face to Face	2,630	-	2,630
Advocacy	280	-	280
Admin (Ins., Post, Tel.)	774	-	774
Trustees/ Committee Expenditure	132	-	132
Volunteer Education & Training	394	-	394
Develop-ment	927	3,713	4,640
Misc. Expenses	340	-	340
Depreciation	122	-	122
	7,885	7,297	15,182
Governance costs:			
Audit and accountancy	250	-	250
	250	-	250
	8,135	7,297	15,432
5. Expenditure on raising funds	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 £
Fundraising costs	368	-	368
	368	-	368

S.A.F.E. ESSEX (SUPPORTING ASPERGER FAMILIES IN ESSEX)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

6. Tangible fixed assets	Equipment				
Cost	£				
As at 1st April 2020	1,350				
Additions	-				
As at 31st March 2021	1,350				
Depreciation					
As at 1st April 2020	623				
Charge for the year	122				
As at 31st March 2021	745				
Net book value					
As at 31st March 2021	605				
As at 31st March 2020	727				
7. Creditors; amounts falling due within one year	2021				
	£				
Accruals	450				
	450				
8. Fund analysis					
	Balance as at 01/03/2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance as at 31/03/2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds					
SAFE from Homelessness	-	516	-	(516)	-
SAFE STUFF (Activities) Costs	-	2,917	(2,917)	-	-
Girls and Parents Group (ASD)	-	4,500	(1,833)	-	2,667
Hub Club 1 S	-	493	(493)	-	-
Hub Club 2 C	-	902	(902)	-	-
Safe Stuff Plus (SAFE South)	-	99	(99)	-	-
Face to Face	-	1,053	(1,053)	-	-
Achievemnt Awards	-	4,407	-	-	4,407
Total Restricted Funds	-	14,887	(7,297)	(516)	7,074
Unrestricted Funds	-	25,649	(8,503)	516	17,662
Total Funds	-	40,536	(15,800)	-	24,736



SAFE Annual Review of Activities

SAFE provides support for individuals with Asperger Syndrome (AS) or families with a member with AS throughout the County of Essex including the Unitary Boroughs of Southend-on-Sea and Thurrock.

Membership:

The SAFE membership stood at 133 families representing 145 people with AS. Approximately 75% of those with as were in the 18+ age group and 38% live in the unitary authorities of Southend-on-Sea or Thurrock.

Members are provided practical, emotional, and information-based support at these regular meetings. Members also enjoy monthly SAFE Newsletters and ad hoc emails specifically geared to pass on relevant items of interest to adults with AS and families.

SAFE advocates for the needs of people with AS both at local and national levels. SAFE has representatives on the local authority Autism Partnership Boards in Essex. Monthly newsletters are produced for its members with vital information about its activities and other services on offer for our community group.

Ongoing activities and projects:

The impact of the Covid pandemic presented a major challenge to SAFE as with all organisations, but the charity was determined to find ways to continue to communicate with its members and provide ongoing support during the developing situation. During this period, SAFE moved support meetings online for members to access via Zoom as well as offering a limited number of face-to-face activities (primarily outdoors) to comply with Covid restrictions.

During the first lockdown all face-to-face activities ceased, with a number of activities shifting online via Zoom. When restrictions eased to allow outdoor activities, SAFE organised a number of activities for members of different ages following Covid-19 regulations.

Projects that continued during this year included:

SAFE STUFF – after 13 continuous years running SAFE STUFF, Clare Hudson stepped down in July and Lyann Kennedy became the group's new Co-ordinator. The project continues to be extremely beneficial to many SAFE members and their children. After an initial drop in attendance due to lockdown, since August, 79 children and 74 parents have taken part in various activities including our online lockdown activities. SAFE STUFF remains vital for several families and helped to engage young children and their families during a stressful year caused by lockdowns and disruption of regular routines caused by the pandemic.

The SAFE South Youth Club has not been able to meet during 2020/21 due to Covid. Leaders plan to reconvene as soon as lockdown restricts allow.

SAFE's Hub Clubs based in Southend and South Woodham Ferrers, which are aimed at young people with AS/HFA that attend mainstream secondary school, were not able to meet during this period due to Covid restrictions. Attempts were made to run the groups virtually via Zoom but uptake was extremely poor due to participants not wishing to be seen on camera or to view others in this way.

The Alpha Sigma Delta (ASD) group for girls up to 18 years and parents was unable to meet at its base at Megacentre in Rayleigh but met weekly via Zoom as an alternative. SAFE saw participation from several regular girls/young women and their mothers attending. SAFE also ran 'walk and talk' sessions with this group in locations such as Norsey Woods in Billericay and Hockley Woods.

In the same way as the ASD group, the SAFE SPA (Social Participation for Adults) group met virtually on a weekly basis via Zoom with a core number of adults attending every session. When possible, the group arranged 'walk and talk' sessions on the seafront and in parks in and around Southend.

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Trustees:

D Norman (Chairman)
S Evennett (Secretary
J Whitelaw (Treasurer)
K Bancroft
Sam Clark-Smith (co-opted March 2021)
P Neale
F Potter
Kath Salmon (co-opted March 2021)
C P Sorrell
Nelida Spalding (co-opted January 2021)

Registered Address: 43 Buttercup Way, Southminster, Essex CM0 7RY