

HEAR TOGETHER
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

HEAR TOGETHER

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Nicholas Tedd (Chair)	(Appointed 1 April 2020)
	Claire Page (Treasurer)	(Appointed 1 April 2020)
	Julie Mather	(Appointed 1 April 2020)
Charity number	1188842	
Principal address	Martin Cottage The Woolrooms Coleorton Leicestershire LE67 8JN	
Independent examiner	Rogers Spencer Newstead House Pelham Road Nottingham NG5 1AP	
Bankers	CAF Bank 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME1 9TQ	

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TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's Constitution, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)".

Objectives and activities

Hear Together is dedicated to supporting people with hearing loss in Nottingham and Derby.

Our vision is that everyone lives well with hearing loss and fulfils their unique potential.

We believe that connecting and communicating with other people is fundamental to living well. We are passionate about helping deaf and hard of hearing children and adults to participate and thrive at home, in education and at work.

The charity's objects are "to relieve the needs of deaf and hard of hearing people in the UK to help them and their families to live well with hearing loss by providing person-centred services, advancing education and promoting hearing technology".

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

Services for Adults

Living well with hearing loss is more than just the provision of technology; knowledge, skills and community are critical to staying connected and participating in life. Using hearing aids and implants largely has a positive impact on quality of life, helping deaf and HoH people to actively participate in family, work and social lives and reducing the risk of issues such as loneliness, under-employment and mental health difficulties.

Current issues

- Many Deaf/HoH people find challenges in using their hearing tech effectively, keeping it in good working order or using it to its best effect. This might be due to a lack of skills, knowledge and confidence of the individual (or their carer) and limited access to local support services.
- Even with good technology, listening and communication can still be hard, so it's important to learn ways to manage hearing loss and how other people can help.
- Limited opportunity to meet other deaf/HoH people socially.

Long term objectives

People have the skills, knowledge and local support to manage their hearing loss effectively and confidently in order to participate to their full potential and live well.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Services for Children and Young People

Deaf children in the UK now benefit from amazing technology to provide the essential doorway to sound. Auditory implants and hearing aids are freely available on the NHS and hearing screening is routine practice for all new-born babies. Early diagnosis and management have brought significantly improved opportunity for deaf children to develop age-appropriate spoken language and intelligible speech.

Current issues

However, despite this, young deaf people frequently experience difficulties with the social communication skills needed to make and maintain friends. Many are isolated as the only deaf child in their school and loneliness presents a real risk to their mental health. Self-esteem, confidence, and the ability to self-advocate are vital to enable us all to thrive, yet many deaf children lack understanding of their hearing and communication needs and have limited expectations of themselves.

Many deaf children and their families value meeting others in a similar situation; however, there are limited opportunities for local children to get together to have fun, make friends and for families to share ideas and information.

Long term objectives

Deaf children have the skills, knowledge and confidence to manage their hearing loss effectively and the self-confidence, self-esteem and resilience to thrive & fulfil their unique potential.

Training, information and resources

Current issues

Since the closure of The Ear Foundation, there remain gaps in the market for training, up-to-date information and resources which are accessible, practical, person-centred and delivered by professionals with expertise and experience.

Long term objectives

Hear Together will be a trusted, go-to source for training, information and resources with a clear person-centred approach to helping people to live well with hearing loss.

Achievements and performance

Hear Together was first registered as a charity in April 2020. Between April and November, the team did not receive remuneration. However, during this time, we appointed our Board of Trustees, wrote a Business Plan and started work towards achieving our initial objectives. The Business Plan was presented to the Board of The Ear Foundation and in total, Hear Together received legacy funding of £124,266 securing 3 years funding for core services.

Despite the global Covid-19 pandemic preventing face-to-face services and meetings; we achieved and exceeded our Year 1 targets, including:

- Robust finance system in place; appointed accountants, accountancy systems and HR.
- Development of the infra-structure to work remotely as a team and deliver services online.
- Online engagement with primary children, teenagers and adults.
- Development and launch of a new website providing an online hub and 'shop window' for information, resources and signposting.
- Successful grant application to National Lottery resulting in £3570 funding.
- Establishment of an active, engaged community, including a strong social media presence on Facebook and Instagram.
- User engagement through surveys and social media.

Financial review

In 2020, Hear Together received legacy funding from The Ear Foundation in 2020 and a grant from the National Lottery.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six month's expenditure. The trustees considers that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year.

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

Current issues

Hear Together has sufficient reserve funds to provide the current level of services until 2023. This includes the core costs associated with up to 0.4 WTE staffing delivering primarily online services. To ensure Hear Together has a longer term future and to develop new services, there needs to be robust financial planning to generate sustainable income.

Long term objectives

Hear Together will generate sufficient annual income to cover the costs of delivering all its services. Hear Together is a relatively new organisation set up without funding during a global pandemic. Basic governance has been put in place and we have achieved accreditation from the Charity Excellence Framework, an industry-recognised checklist for charity management.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. Organisations need structure, processes and systems, which also require review. While Hear Together has covered basic requirements, the Charity Excellence Framework identifies areas of improvement which would make it more robust.

Hear Together Team

Laura Ainsworth	(Appointed 1 April 2020)
Clare Allen	(Appointed 1 April 2020)
Sarah Allen	(Appointed 1 April 2020)
Diana Harbor	(Appointed 1 April 2020)

The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Nicholas Tedd (Chair)	(Appointed 1 April 2020)
Claire Page (Treasurer)	(Appointed 1 April 2020)
Julie Mather	(Appointed 1 April 2020)

None of the trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All of the trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

The company's current policy concerning the payment of trade creditors is to follow the CBI's Prompt Payers Code (copies are available from the CBI, Centre Point, 103 New Oxford Street, London WC1A 1DU).

The company's current policy concerning the payment of trade creditors is to:

- settle the terms of payment with suppliers when agreeing the terms of each transaction;
- ensure that suppliers are made aware of the terms of payment by inclusion of the relevant terms in contracts; and
- pay in accordance with the company's contractual and other legal obligations.

Hear Together is a well-managed organisation with robust governance, which meets the standards required by the Charity Excellence Framework.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

N. Tedd
.....
Nicholas Tedd (Chair)
Trustee
Dated: 20/1/22

HEAR TOGETHER

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF HEAR TOGETHER

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Hear Together (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement


Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

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

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



.....
Alistair Allcock ACA
for and on behalf of Rogers Spencer
Chartered Accountants
Newstead House
Pelham Road
Nottingham
NG5 1AP

Dated: 25/11/22

HEAR TOGETHER

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2021 £
<u>Income from:</u>		
Donations and legacies	2	124,266
Investments	3	2
Total income		124,268
<u>Expenditure on:</u>		
Charitable activities	4	25,068
Net income for the year/ Net movement in funds		99,200
Fund balances at 1 April 2020		-
Fund balances at 31 March 2021		99,200

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

WEAR TOGETHER
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	2021 £	£
Current assets			
Debtors	8	469	
Cash at bank and in hand		100,892	
		<u>101,361</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(2,161)	
Net current assets			<u>99,200</u>
Income funds			
Unrestricted funds			<u>99,200</u>
			<u>99,200</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on

20/1/22

N. Tedd
Nicholas Tedd (Chair)
Trustee

NICHOLAS TEDD

HEAR TOGETHER

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Hear Together is a charitable incorporated organisation registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales. The charity's principal office address is Martin Cottage, The Woolrooms, Coleorton, Leicestershire, LE67 8JN.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprise the promotional costs to the charity.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs, including costs of governance.

1.6 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

2 Donations and legacies

Unrestricted
funds

2021
£

Donations and gifts	124,266
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3 Investments

Unrestricted
funds

2021
£

Interest receivable	2
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

4 Charitable activities

	Total 2021 £
Staff costs	16,917
Advertising and marketing	2,246
Staff training	35
Computer costs	2,480
Printing and stationery	441
Legal and professional fees	530
Bank charges	59
Sundry expenses	860
	<u>23,568</u>
Share of governance costs (see note 5)	<u>1,500</u>
	<u>25,068</u>

5 Governance costs

	Support costs £	Governance costs £	2021 £
Audit fees	-	1,500	1,500
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>1,500</u>
Analysed between Charitable activities	-	1,500	1,500
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>1,500</u>

Governance costs includes payments to the independent examiner of £1,500 for independent examination fees.

6 Trustees

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

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

7 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2021 Number
Employees	2

Employment costs

	2021 £
Wages and salaries	16,917

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel is as follows:

Aggregate compensation	4,667
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There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

8 Debtors

	2021 £
Amounts falling due within one year:	
Prepayments and accrued income	469

9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £
Other taxation and social security	201
Trade creditors	343
Other creditors	117
Accruals and deferred income	1,500
	2,161

10 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year.