



Charity Number 1188929.

**THRIVING LOCAL
CHILDREN AND
YOUNG PEOPLE**



**BUILDING A COMMUNITY OF
SUPPORT**

ANNUAL REPORT 2023/2024

WELCOME

Welcome to our Annual Report and Financial Accounts 2023/2024.

It has been an incredible year in which The Space has developed, grown and continued to build a Community of Support for local children and young people living in the Cheddar Valley.

We embarked on a Transition Plan to make us sustainable, able to meet future demands and a foundation on which to build.

We couldn't have done any of it without our amazing and talented staff and volunteers, our coworkers from voluntary and statutory organisations, our steadfast Funders, and of course, the constant support of our local community.

Without you we could not exist. Thank you



A Word from our Chair

Our local children and young people continue to seek help and support in increasing numbers, and for challenging and sometimes difficult experiences.

We see the need for support increasing at younger ages, characterised by inappropriate behaviour, worry, low confidence, being withdrawn and inability to form friendships.

Over the seven years since The Space's inception, the demand for our services has increased year by year and shows no sign of abating.

In 2023/2024 we took the 'milestone' step of radically changing our operations structure through a Transition Plan.

The benefits are sustainability, a wider reach, and a range of services that show measurable benefits to our children and young people's mental health, their parents and families and the wider community.

Next year will be equally amazing. Come and join us.

John Pimblott
Chair of Trustees

THE SPACE TEAM

Our Trustees

John Pimblott - Chair

Amanda Bancroft – Vice Chair

Sandra Legg

Ian Biggs (appointed 8th February 2024)

Stephen Kite (appointed 26th
September 2023)

Suzanne Smith (appointed 1st June
2023)

Our Team

Operations Manager
Katharine Thompson

Client Services Manager
Laura Wilcox

Performance, Events & Media Manager
Ruth Carter

Play Therapists
Counsellors

Youth Club Leaders

Connect Somerset Area Champion
Doreen Smith

And of course – our splendid
Volunteers



IMPACT

590 children and young people supported through a range of services. 2129 individual therapy sessions held.

83% of young people made a marked improvement showing significant progress in their mental health and emotional wellbeing indicators – developing emotional resilience, positive relationships and improved quality of life.

70% of children made an overall improvement with parents and carers reporting improved behavioural changes, decrease in headaches and not so easily scared.

Our Youth Club feedback includes an improved ability to express themselves through Chill and Chat, even boys, meet and make friends and improved self-esteem and reduced isolation.

The Holiday Activities boosted children's and young people's emotional resilience and positive relationships, with positive feedback including increased self-confidence, preventing loneliness, overcoming challenges, and a chance to make new friends.

Our impact on the community was to increase capacity for local community preventive mental health support for young people and their families, and to use green spaces to improve resilience, coping skills and children and young people's connection to the environment.



Achievements during the year

- We continued to offer a range of pro-bono services to children and young people despite increased numbers and complexities.
- We provided
 - Initial Assessments for everybody on our waiting list
 - Counselling for 9-17 years
 - Play Therapy for 8 years and under
 - A youth club with 90 members and 30/35 weekly attendance
 - Holiday activities using the outdoor environment and indoor craft activities
 - A Roots and Shoots allotment using gardening and a green space as a therapeutic tool
 - Working with environmental volunteer groups
- We established a physical hub in the centre of Cheddar as a base and providing a therapy room and large space for future development
- We committed to work with a mentor to develop a Transition Plan to translate anticipated requirements and demands into a future organisation and support structure that was sustainable, could meet upcoming challenges and able to work with Partners in upcoming landscape changes to children and young people's mental health support.
- We implemented our Transition Plan aim of a new organisation and support structure employing 11 staff resulting in a permanence and team spirit focussed on the future.
- We were recognised with a Cheddar Community Award for our services to local children and young people, for increasing local capacity, and for using green spaces to improve their resilience, coping skills, relationships and their connection to the environment.



What we Learnt over the Year

- Parental support is vital and requires specific local programmes for self-care and parents and carers seeking support.
- Our impact is significant and appreciated by local children and young people, their parents, and the local community. Our parent and community work will strengthen in the coming year.
- Despite increasing staff levels to meet demand but our waiting list has grown,
- We need to continue learning and changing accordingly. The Transition Plan implementation and our staff focus have resulted in a 'one team' spirit determined to make a local difference. Local intervention can provide the necessary support when statutory services are lacking.
- Collaborative working is key going forward as is our belief that systematic and measurable change in children's and young people's mental health is driven 'bottom up'.



PLANS FOR 2024/2025

- Focus on therapy services for children 8 years and under as a precursor to the wellbeing of the young people's 9-17 years age range, i.e. establish improving techniques and systems for younger children they can use in later life.
- Implement a business plan for a local Parent support Hub to facilitate parent and carer support.
- Develop a funding strategy for multi-year grant and philanthropic funding, and increase local business and community funding significantly.

Structure, governance and management

The Space uses a risk management process to assess our exposure to a variety of risks and to implement mitigation. The risks to which the charity is exposed are reviewed regularly by the Board of Trustees.

The defined risks include health and safety, personal safety, reputation, financial, service delivery and governance. The impact of each risk is assessed together with the likelihood of its occurrence.

The product of these two factors is used to identify significant risks, to prioritise and assess adequacy of mitigation actions.

We are constantly working to safeguard all of the children and young people who we support. Given the nature of the services we provide and the vulnerability of the children and young people who need support, we ensure that all our staff and volunteers are trained and supported to ensure safety and to raise concerns appropriately and confidently. In practice we have robust safeguarding processes which are regularly reviewed.

These include:

- coordinating the needs of the child or young person with the capability of our staff and decision-making process the decision-making process
- systematic, thorough recruitment and screening procedures
- training programme for staff and volunteers
- extensive recruitment and vetting process
- continued, regular supervision of staff and volunteers supervised by an experienced Operations Director
- professional development of all members of the team
- internal audits conducted by the Designated Safeguarding Lead These requirements are implemented as part of our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy which is reviewed on an annual basis. As part of the risk management process is a review of our insurance policy to ensure risks are adequately covered.

Public benefit

The Trustees have referred to The Space Constitution and the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit at Trustee meetings, when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning current and future activities.

We fund services which complement services already provided by statutory bodies, including Somerset Unitary Authority and Somerset NHS and do not fund services and support which are within their statutory duty.

The Trustees are satisfied that our activities to preserve and protect the mental health of children and young people living in the Cheddar Valley Area meet our charitable purposes for the public benefit.

Our activities include pro-bono therapy services for ages 4-17 years, a youth club, holiday activities, a community wellbeing allotment, peer to peer collaboration, and social media awareness for our beneficiaries and general public.

Direct beneficiaries are children and young people while indirect beneficiaries are their direct and indirect family members and the community.

Annual report of the trustees

Administrative details

The Space is a registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) number 1188929.

The administrative office and operational address:

10 Hopwoods Corner	replaced in 2024	The Estate Office
Cheddar		Lower North Street
Somerset		Cheddar
BS27 3EU		BS27 3HA

Reporting accountants

Brooking Ruse
Chartered Accountants
2 Stafford Place
Weston-super-Mare
Somerset
BS23 2QZ.

Bankers

National Westminster Bank Plc

Purposes and aims

Our charity's purposes are set out in the charity's constitution dated 6th April 2020.

We aim to:

- preserve and protect the mental health of children and young people, in particular, but not exclusively aged between 4-18 living in the Cheddar Valley, Somerset through:
 - a) The provision of one-to-one counselling, support, advice and information;
 - b) Recreational and leisure time activities

Reserves

The Trustees of The Space CIO confirm that they adopt a Reserves Policy to provide reserves provision to cover three months unexpected operating costs at the 2024 forecast level of expenditure. Most operating costs are the cost of staff contracts with the reserve provision providing cover for potential contract termination costs.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the

charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity for that year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements, and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report was approved by the Board on the 6th November 2024 and signed on its behalf by John Pimblott, Chair of Trustees.



.....
Chair of Trustees

The Space (CIO)

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Space (CIO)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Space (CIO) for the year ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on pages 5 to 8.

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 Trustee's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and 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.

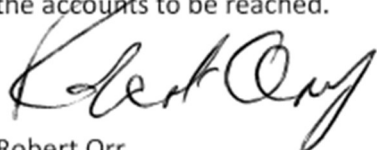
Under common practice, the accounting period headings used in the Statement of Financial Activities uses the current year and comparative figures headed by the year only, i.e. 2024 refers to the year ending 31st March 2024, and 2023 refers to the year ending 31st March 2023.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- (3) the accounts 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 accounts to be reached.



Robert Orr,
Brooking Ruse,
Chartered Accountants,
2 Stafford Place,
Weston-super-Mare,
Somerset, BS23 2QZ.

6/11/24

The Space (CIO)

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total 2024 £	2023 £
Incoming resources					
Grant Funding		135,500	30,004	165,504	133,340
Community Fundraising		-	19,504	19,504	32,466
Charitable Activities		-	1,322	1,322	-
Bank Interest		-	4,037	4,037	1,685
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		135,500	54,867	190,367	167,491
Resources expended					
Charitable Activities and Projects	4	99,664	46,203	145,867	102,943
Governance Costs	5	-	6,314	6,314	13,316
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		99,664	52,517	152,181	116,259
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources	6	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		35,836	2,350	38,186	51,232

The notes on pages 14 to 16 form an integral part of these financial statements.

The Space (CIO)

Statement of financial position as at 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		169,969	97,057
Debtors		554	-
		<hr/> 170,523	<hr/> 97,057
Current liabilities	6	(35,280)	-
		<hr/> 135,243	<hr/> 97,057
Net assets			
		<hr/> 135,243	<hr/> 97,057
The funds of the charity	7	<hr/> 135,243	<hr/> 97,057

The financial statements were approved by the board on 6th Nov 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



JOHN PIMBLOTT

Trustee

The notes on pages 14 to 16 form an integral part of these financial statements.

The Space (CIO)
Notes to the unaudited financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024

1. Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

(b) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The charity reported a surplus for the year of £38,186 which resulted in a valuation of funds held within the charity of £135,243 at 31 March 2024. The Trustees are confident of receiving the continued support from its members and on this basis, the Trustees have prepared the accounts on a going concern basis.

(c) Funds structure

Unrestricted income funds comprise those funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects. Unrestricted funds include designated funds where the trustees, at their discretion, have set aside resources for a specific purpose.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor.

(d) Incoming resources

All incoming resources are recognised once the charity has entitlement to the resources, it is certain that the resources will be received and the monetary value of incoming resources can be measured with sufficient reliability. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.

Incoming resources from grants, where there are performance or service deliverables required by the terms of the grant, are accounted for as the charity earns the right to payment through its performance.

Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified.

Investment income is included when receivable.

(e) Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as resources expended as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

(f) Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

The Space (CIO)

Notes to the unaudited financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2024 ...continued

2. Trustees remuneration

No members of the management committee received any remuneration during the year, nor were any expenses reimbursed to trustees.

3. Taxation

As a charity, The Space is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within sections 466 to 493 Corporation Tax Act 2010 (CTA 2010) or section 256 Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 (TCGA 1992) to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the charity.

4.	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total
Charitable activities and projects			
Staffing costs – including social security and training	99,664	21,476	121,140
Project costs	-	5,435	5,435
Community Hub	-	10,400	10,400
Communications, computer and software	-	4,360	4,360
General expenses - including travel and DBS	-	4,532	4,532
	99,664	46,203	145,867

5.	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total
Governance Costs			
Payroll and Human Resources	-	4,592	4,592
Independent examination	-	960	960
Insurance	-	601	601
Bank charges	-	161	161
	-	6,314	6,314

6.	£ 2024	£ 2023
Current liabilities		
Accruals	960	-
Deferred grant income	34,320	-
	35,280	-

The Space (CIO)

Notes to the unaudited financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2024 ...continued

7.		Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
	Funds of the Charity	Funds	Funds	
	At 1 st April 2023	55,889	41,168	97,057
	Surplus/(deficit) for the year	35,836	2,350	38,186
	As at 31 March 2024	<u>91,725</u>	<u>43,518</u>	<u>135,243</u>

The Space (CIO)

**The following pages do not form part of the
statutory financial statements of the charity**

The Space (CIO)

Statement of financial activities by project for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	The Space	Connect Somerset	Total 2024 £	2023 £
Incoming resources					
Grant Funding		135,500	30,004	165,504	
Community Fundraising		19,504	-	19,504	
Charitable Activities		1,322	-	1,322	
Bank Interest		4,037	-	4,037	
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		160,363	30,004	190,367	
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Resources expended					
Charitable Activities and Projects		(124,999)	(20,868)	(145,867)	
Governance Costs		(6,314)	-	(6,314)	
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		(131,313)	(20,868)	(152,181)	
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Contribution towards The Hub		9,136	(9,136)	-	-
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources		38,186	-	38,186	-
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

The Space (CIO)

Detailed expenditure accounts by project

for the year ended 31 March 2024

	The Space	Connect Somerset	Total
Charitable activities and projects			
Staffing costs – including social security and training	100,272	20,868	121,140
Project costs	5,435	-	5,435
Community Hub	10,400	-	10,400
Communications, computer and software	4,360	-	4,360
General expenses – including travel and DBS	4,532	-	4,532
	<hr/> 124,999	<hr/> 20,868	<hr/> 145,867
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Governance Costs	The Space	Connect Somerset	Total
Payroll and Human Resources	4,592	-	4,592
Independent examination	960	-	960
Insurance	601	-	601
Bank charges	161	-	161
	<hr/> 6,314	<hr/> -	<hr/> 6,314
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Funds of the Charity	The Space	Connect Somerset	Total
At 1 st April 2023	97,057	-	97,057
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	38,186	-	38,186
As at 31 March 2024	<hr/> 135,243	<hr/> -	<hr/> 135,243
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>