

Nottinghamshire Down's Syndrome Support Group
(Registered charity, number 1198404)
Financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2023

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COMMUNITY ACCOUNTING

**Nottinghamshire Down's Syndrome Support Group
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31 December 2023**

Full name Nottinghamshire Down's Syndrome Support Group

Other names by which the charity is known NDSSG

Organisation type Charitable incorporated organisation

Registered charity number 1198404

Principal address

32 Woolmer Road, Meadows, Nottingham NG2 2FB

Trustees

Diane Pastore, Chairman from 04/07/2023

Miriam Rutherford, from 06/09/2023

Philippa Dunham, from 06/09/2023

Andrew Coppins, Treasurer

Daryll Byrne

Rachel Howard

Elizabeth Marder

Aimee Prior

Kerri Boaden, until 04/07/2023

Claire Draper, until 04/07/2023

Victoria Tyreman, Secretary, until 04/07/23

Richard Danks, Chairman, until 04/07/23

Independent examiner

John O'Brien, employee of Community Accounting Plus, Units 1 & 2 North West, 41 Talbot Street, Nottingham, NG1 5GL

Governance and management

The charity is operated under the rules of its constitution adopted 28 March 2022.

We ask for members to come forward prior to the AGM and the current trustees are available to speak to them about what the role entails. We also have a third of the trustees step down each AGM on a rolling basis, but they are able to be put forward for re-election if they want to. Trustees are then voted in at the AGM. If there is still space in the Trustee board after the AGM and someone is interested during the year, then the Trustees can accept new Trustees in one of their Trustee meetings.

Objectives and activities

The relief of the needs of people with Down's Syndrome, their families and carers, for the public benefit, in particular, but not exclusively, by providing such people with information, advice, support, and educational, vocational, social, cultural and sporting opportunities and by raising awareness of Down's Syndrome within the local community, in order to maximise the opportunities for, and participation and inclusion of, such people into society within Nottinghamshire.

Nottinghamshire Down's Syndrome Support Group

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit

With the Charity Commission's guidance on 'public benefit' in mind, and with all the Trustees being aware of this, all of our charitable activities focus on enabling children and adults with Down's Syndrome to live full and rewarding lives within their communities. We also want their families and the people surrounding and supporting them to be given good support themselves. We also aim to raise awareness about Down's Syndrome in the wider community to add to the benefits that our beneficiaries bring to our communities. This is all done to bring public benefit.

Public benefit statement

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

Summary of the main achievements during the period

The main achievements during the year can be split over the different groups and activities that take place during the year:

The 16+ group have had a variety of activities during the year, including a Wrestling workshop in February, a trip to Cadbury World in April, a Swimming Party in May, the amazing weekend away in Butlins in June, a narrowboat trip in July along with a joint disco at Monty Hind Youth Centre with a DS group from Cambridge who were staying in their residential centre. A pub meal followed in October, with some bowling and karaoke in November and then over 100 teenagers and adults went and saw Jack and the Beanstalk at the Nottingham Playhouse, which was a great highlight for the group. A busy year for the 16+ group, in its first full year of activity!

The Warriors United Football group continued to go from strength to strength with increasing numbers and the players were invited to perform a penalty shootout at half time at the Notts County FC ground for the Notts County Women's match in May, which those that attended enjoyed and lapped up the attention! We had the usual much appreciated trophy awards evening in July, where the members all receive a trophy and certificate to show them what valued members of the club they are. Also later in the year in August, to celebrate and encourage our England Lionesses, we created a signing video for the Euro's final, which all the members enjoy doing, and raises the profile of the club and NDSSG.

Nottingham Dance Warriors also continued to develop, and this year as well as the weekly sessions, the amazing members actually started performing their skills to audiences! Their first show took place in April at the Squire Theatre to an audience of 200 friends and family and went down to rave reviews! If one show wasn't enough, they decided they would do an end of year one in July at Emmanuel School which again was a big hit with the members and families alike. They were then invited to perform at the Sport Nottinghamshire Awards at Highfields in October, to an audience of people who didn't know them, and again they were well received there too! An extension to the Dance Warriors family was piloted in November and

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December when Mansfield Dance Warriors taster sessions were held, which proved to be very popular and showed that there was a desire for a new group to be formed so plans were made for a new group to start in the New Year, as we further develop links in Mansfield along with the regular Mansfield support group that takes place is a great development.

The Baby and Toddler group continued to meet every other week throughout the year and had a couple of trips too. The first was to Stonebridge Farm where they also had a music workshop session with Rainbow Stripes. Their second outing was to White Post Farm in October which was a real success for people to meet up again and share a lovely day out. In September we also started working with JA Music Interaction to support the group who has been attending the weekly session and organising music and interactive activities that the children and parents can get involved with. It's been a great addition to the group which the families have greatly enjoyed.

The number of individual events this year has been lower than in previous years, possibly because the number of regular activities, and their associated events, has increased so much, and the organisation of these has taken a lot of time and organising. However, the usual World Down's Syndrome Day events that we always hold were even bigger and better than before – with our excellent hub volunteers organising 5 regional hubs (Mansfield, Bassetlaw, Newark and 2 in Nottingham) each organising activities for their area, and creating one huge mural on or around 21st March – World Down's Syndrome Day. There was also an Under 8's Easter Fun day which included the obligatory Easter egg (and lots of other goodies) hunt!

The run up to Christmas was especially busy this year. It started with the development of a new venture for NDSSG, the Sing & Sign Choir, which started off in November to practice, as a way of fundraising by Carol Singing in December at Tesco and Wheatcrofts, but members enjoyed it so much that they requested it to continue, so this will happen in the New Year too. The Christmas party took place with 85 families attending to have fun together, meet Santa, play party games, have a go on the raffle, etc. It was a great event, and this year Warriors Dance group and Sing and Sign choir also performed, which was a welcome addition. A Christmas video was also produced which is always popular with members and 121 people got involved to make it an amazing video which all members and their families really enjoyed. The Warriors FC and Dance Warriors had their own Christmas parties too, so it was a busy time.

And to top it all off December saw the launch of our brand new book by NDSSG – 'Our Journey, Navigating Life with Down Syndrome'. This is a collection of stories of our families from birth to adulthood and covers all aspects and experiences our families have had, told from their perspective. We ordered 300 copies not knowing how many would sell, and most were sold by the end of the year – it was an amazing piece of work – and we want to thank all of the families for sharing their stories and to Helen for pulling it all together over the many months in the run up to it being launched.

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None of the above would be possible without the huge numbers of volunteers and the staff we have leading the activities. So a huge thank you to the volunteers who give up their time to support our children, young people and adults in the various groups and at the various events that happen, you do amazing work and all the time you spend supporting NDSSG is so appreciated.

The charity's policy on reserves

The charity has no specific policy with regard to the level of reserves.

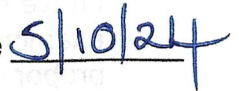
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signed



Diane Pastore, Chairman & Trustee

Date



**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of
Nottinghamshire Down's Syndrome Support Group
for the year ended 31 December 2023**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Nottinghamshire Down's Syndrome Support Group (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity 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 all 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 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.

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.

Signed  Date 17/10/2024
John O'Brien MSc, FCCA, FCIE
Employee of Community Accounting Plus

Nottinghamshire Down's Syndrome Support Group
Receipts & payments account
for the year ended 31 December 2023

2022			2023
Total		Unrestricted	Total
Funds		Funds	Funds
£	Note	£	£
	Receipts		
-	Bank interest (net/gross)	86	86
13971	Grants & donations	2 8987	21362
7117	Fees from members	15508	15508
1925	Proceeds from events	1995	1995
-	Book sales	1950	1950
4382	NDSSG Community organisation	-	-
<u>27395</u>	Total receipts	<u>28526</u>	<u>40901</u>
	Payments		
930	Room Hire	1800	1800
-	Equipment	216	216
2117	Trips	4529	4529
256	Summer Fun Day	-	-
2098	Christmas Party	2186	2986
642	Regular meetings	294	294
305	Admin	1064	1064
144	Baby Bag Expenses	-	39
640	Football Coaches	1050	1050
-	Baby Group	1323	880
1471	Dance Group	6816	1000
1179	Equipment – Football	918	-
5899	Football Kits	-	1161
1738	Sports Week	-	-
-	Makaton	-	310
-	16+ Group	400	989
-	Book costs	1785	-
<u>17419</u>	Total payments	<u>22381</u>	<u>5179</u>
9976	Net receipts/(payments)	6145	7196
-	Cash funds at start of this period	9765	211
-	Transfers between funds	211	(211)
<u>9976</u>	Cash funds at end of this period	<u>16121</u>	<u>7196</u>
			<u>23317</u>

Nottinghamshire Down's Syndrome Support Group
Statement of assets and liabilities
at 31 December 2023

2022				2023
£				£
9976	Cash assets			23317
	Bank accounts			
-	Cash in hand			-
<u>9976</u>				<u>23317</u>
	Other monetary assets			
-	Debtors - Prepayment	4		50
<u>-</u>				<u>50</u>
	Assets retained for the charity's own use			
	General equipment.			
	Liabilities			
-	Creditors	5		(480)
<u>-</u>				<u>(480)</u>

These financial statements are accepted on behalf of the charity by:

Signed 
 Andrew Coppins, Trustee

Dated 5/10/24

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Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 December 2023

1. Receipts & payments accounts

Receipts and payments accounts contain a summary of money received and money spent during the period and a list of assets and liabilities at the end of the period. Usually, cash received and cash spent will include transactions through bank accounts and cash in hand.

2. Grants & donations

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£
Winifred Eileen Kemp Trust	-	8000	8000
JN Derbyshire Trust	-	1000	1000
Techsmart Services	-	1500	1500
Nottingham University Hospital charity	-	1875	1875
Donations	8987	-	8987
	<u>8987</u>	<u>12375</u>	<u>21362</u>

3. Funds analysis

	Opening balance	Receipts (Payments)		Transfers	Closing balance
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds					
Sports week in half term	211	-	-	(211)	-
Winifred Eileen Kemp Trust	-	3500	(2099)	-	1401
Dance group	-	1000	(1000)	-	-
Football kits	-	1500	(1161)	-	339
Music sessions	-	4500	(880)	-	3620
Nottingham University hospital charity	-	1875	(39)	-	1836
	<u>211</u>	<u>12375</u>	<u>(5179)</u>	<u>(211)</u>	<u>7196</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General	9765	28526	(22381)	211	16121
	<u>9765</u>	<u>28526</u>	<u>(22381)</u>	<u>211</u>	<u>16121</u>

The transfer from the Sports week in half term fund to the General fund reflects the release of any restrictions on the use of these funds.

Description of restricted funds:

Sports week in Half term – Funded by Sport England Jubilee Fund Grant we were able to hold the Sports week in May half term 2022.

Winifred Eileen Kemp Trust – Funding for Makaton activities £1.5k, Christmas party £800, 16+ group activities £1.2k.

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Dance Group – Funding received from JN Derbyshire Trust to support our Dance group.

Football kits – Funding received from Techsmart Services to purchase football kits.

Music sessions – Winifred Eileen Kemp Trust – Funding received to support music sessions in our baby group £2k and Mansfield start up activities £2.5k.

Nottingham University hospital charity – Funding received to support the Baby Bags we put together to be given out through the paediatricians in hospitals in the county to all families who have a child with Down's Syndrome.

4. Debtors

	£
Membership	50
	<u>50</u>

5. Creditors

	£
Independent examination fee	480
	<u>480</u>

6. Trustees' remuneration

During the accounting period, the charity purchased Trustee Indemnity Insurance for the sum of £1,000,000 through the Down's Syndrome Association.

Trustees received no expenses, remuneration or benefits in this period.

7. Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in this period.

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8. Glossary of terms

Creditors: These are amounts owed by the charity, but not paid during the accounting period.

Prepayments: These are services that the charity has paid for in advance, but not used during the accounting period.

Restricted funds: These are funds given to the charity, subject to specific restrictions set by the donor, but still within the general objects of the charity.