

**Nottinghamshire Down's Syndrome Support Group**  
(Registered charity, number 1198404)  
**Financial statements**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2024**

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**Nottinghamshire Down's Syndrome Support Group  
Trustees' annual report  
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

**Full name** Nottinghamshire Down's Syndrome Support 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  
Miriam Rutherford,  
Philippa Dunham,  
Andrew Coppins, Treasurer  
Daryll Byrne, until 28/08/2024  
Rachel Howard  
Elizabeth Marder  
Aimee Prior  
Amanda Ackroyd, from 23/05/2025  
Bernadette Stanko, from 28/08/2024  
Ann-Marie Limer, from 28/08/2024  
Aisling McKay, from 28/08/2024

**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, young people and adults 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**

2024 has been a year of remarkable growth and outreach for NDSSG. We have significantly expanded our work beyond Nottingham, reaching families across Mansfield, North Nottinghamshire, and the wider county. This expansion has enabled us to engage with more families than ever before, offering a diverse programme of support, activities, and community-building opportunities.

To help illustrate the breadth of our work, we've provided a visual breakdown of activities by age group and location. While some events may appear to target specific age groups, please note the following:

- Our Baby and Toddler Group runs fortnightly throughout the year.
- Our Nottingham and Mansfield Warriors Football, Nottingham, Mansfield and North Notts Dance Warriors, and the Sing & Sign Choir sessions run weekly and are inclusive of all ages and learning disability, from approximately 4–5 years old through to individuals in their 40s and 50s. By the end of the year these groups were seeing in excess of 100 members every week.

All age-specific activities are accessible to all members, regardless of their location across the county.

## **Nottinghamshire Down's Syndrome Support Group**

### **2024 Activity & Impact Timeline**

#### **January**

- Nearly 300 'Our Journey' books sold to families and professionals.
- BBC News featured the Nottingham Dance Warriors, resulting in approximately 10 new volunteers.
- New groups launched: Mansfield Dance Warriors and Mansfield Warriors United FC.
- Existing weekly groups (Nottingham Dance Warriors, Nottingham Warriors United, Baby & Toddler Group) resumed after the holidays.
- Choir group Sing & Sign Together established as a regular session.
- NDSSG was selected as Charity of the Month by the Nottingham Panthers, raising £1,000.

#### **February**

- 16 baby welcome bags were distributed via local paediatricians in Nottingham and Mansfield ready for the year ahead.
- Hosted a Valentine's Disco for members aged 16+.

#### **March**

- Delivered five World Down Syndrome Day events across Newark, Mansfield, Retford, and Nottingham.
- Released our World Down Syndrome Day video.
- Nottingham Dance Warriors and the Choir performed a live show at the Squire Performing Arts Theatre.

#### **April**

- Hosted a sensory Easter event for young families, including music and an Easter egg hunt.
- Organised an Outdoor Pursuits Day (zip wire, climbing, campfire activities) for 8–15s and 16+ groups.
- Mansfield Dance Warriors and Choir performed at the Portland Newstart Theatre.
- Nottingham Warriors United took part in a penalty shootout at Notts County FC.

#### **May**

- Narrowboat trip and picnic for 8–15s, including park games.
- Bowling event for Nottingham Dance Warriors.
- A group of 16+ members enjoyed a residential weekend at Butlin's.

#### **June**

- Narrowboat trip and BBQ games day for the 16+ group.



## **Nottinghamshire Down's Syndrome Support Group**

- Secured sponsorship from six local businesses to cover kits, trophies, and more for all Warriors United football teams.

### **July**

- Wrestling night out for 16+ members.
- BIG Nottingham Playhouse Dance Show with over 150 participants from all dance groups.
- Presented end-of-term awards to all Dance Warriors and Warriors United participants.
- Hosted a Summer Fun Day for young families with outdoor play, water activities, an ice cream van, and music.

### **August**

- Welcomed new trustees from across the county.
- Held a Pirate & Princess Workshop (dance, crafts, and games) for 5–15s.
- Organised a bowling and karaoke night for 16+ members.

### **September**

- All weekly clubs resumed following the summer break.
- Organised a trip to White Post Farm for under 5s, with over 150 participants.
- Following the closure of the Monty Hind venue, all Nottingham activities successfully relocated to Nottingham Girls' High School (special thanks to them).
- Launched North Notts Dance Warriors.

### **October**

- Distributed new football kits to Mansfield Warriors United and North Notts Dance Warriors.
- Hosted an all-age Fancy Dress Disco at Forest Town Arena.
- Ran Space-themed workshops (dance, crafts, games) for ages 3–15.
- Warriors United teams received their new sponsored shirts.
- Nottingham Warriors United attended a Nottingham Forest training session, including a press conference with Nuno Espírito Santo, which went viral!
- Mansfield Warriors United served as Guards of Honour at Mansfield Town FC.

### **November**

- Launched Saturday afternoon drop-in sessions for young families in Nottingham.
- Organised a pub meal for 16+ members.
- Nottingham Warriors United representatives Joseph & Matt featured in a photoshoot for Nottingham Forest's Christmas campaign.
- Warriors United players attended Forest vs Ipswich, completing a lap of honour and meeting club owner Evangelos Marinakis.

## Nottinghamshire Down's Syndrome Support Group

December

- We received the generous gift from Mr Marinakis of 10 season tickets for Warriors United players to attend Nottingham Forest matches for the rest of the season.
- Representatives Ashton, Isla, and Joseph participated in a BBC Radio interview about the link between Warriors United and Nottingham Forest.
- The BBC filmed a television feature on Mansfield Dance Warriors.
- Warriors United players attended a Nottingham Forest Christmas Party.
- Hosted our NDSSG Christmas Party, welcoming over 350 attendees for food, fun, dancing, prizes, crafts, and Santa Claus.
- Held dedicated Baby & Toddler Christmas party and a Warriors United Christmas event at Red Kangaroo.
- Delivered Christmas performances and discos across all Dance Warriors groups.
- Created a Christmas video featuring 135 individuals with Down syndrome, titled It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year.

### Closing Remarks

As we reflect on 2024, we extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who has contributed to this vibrant community:

- To all volunteers, whether offering time regularly or as a one-off—thank you. Your dedication makes all of this possible.
- To our fundraisers and donors—your generosity helps sustain and grow our work.
- To every participant, whether attending weekly or just once—thank you for showing up and being part of the NDSSG family.
- To those who have supported families quietly and compassionately behind the scenes—your kindness matters.

Thank you for being part of this incredible journey. We look forward to even more opportunities, inclusion, and connection in 2025.

### 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 1/10/25

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of  
Nottinghamshire Down's Syndrome Support Group  
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

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 2024.

**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').

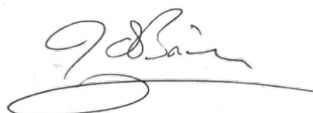
I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**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 03/10/2025  
John O'Brien MSc, FAIA, FCIE  
Employee of Community Accounting Plus

**Nottinghamshire Down's Syndrome Support Group**  
**Receipts & payments account**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2024**

2023				2024	
Total			Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Funds			Funds	Funds	Funds
£		Note	£	£	£
Receipts					
86	Bank interest (net/gross)		165	-	165
21362	Grants & donations	2	8438	8055	16493
15508	Fees from members		22911	-	22911
1995	Proceeds from events		2633	-	2633
1950	Book sales		945	-	945
40901	Total receipts		35091	8055	43147
Payments					
1800	Room Hire		-	-	-
-	Purchases		1233	-	1233
216	Equipment		251	30	281
4529	Trips (inc 16+ Group)		5610	391	6001
-	Events		3331	-	3331
2986	Christmas Party		-	-	-
294	Regular meetings		-	-	-
1064	Admin		1567	-	1567
-	Volunteer Expenses		154	-	154
39	Baby Bag Expenses		-	285	285
1050	Football Coaches		-	-	-
2203	Baby Group		50	1060	1110
7816	Dance Warriors		13681	2350	16031
918	Equipment – Football		-	-	-
1161	Football - Warriors Utd		3692	5323	9015
-	Fundraising costs		19	-	19
310	Makaton		493	1190	1682
1389	16+ Group		-	-	-
1785	Book costs		229	-	229
27560	Total payments		30310	10628	40939
13341	Net receipts/(payments)		4781	(2573)	2208
9976	Cash funds at start of this period		16121	7196	23317
23317	Cash funds at end of this period		20902	4623	25525

**Nottinghamshire Down's Syndrome Support Group**

**Statement of assets and liabilities  
at 31 December 2024**

2023				2024
£	Cash assets	Note		£
<u>23317</u>	Bank accounts			<u>25525</u>
<u>23317</u>				<u>25525</u>
	<b>Other monetary assets</b>			
<u>50</u>	Prepayments	4		<u>30</u>
<u>50</u>				<u>30</u>
	<b>Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>			
	General equipment.			
	<b>Liabilities</b>			
<u>(480)</u>	Creditors	5		<u>(564)</u>
<u>(480)</u>				<u>(564)</u>

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

Signed A. Coppins Date 2/10/25  
Andrew Coppins, Trustee

**Nottinghamshire Down's Syndrome Support Group**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2024**

**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 £
Total Skills Ltd	-	500	500
B S Handling	-	4000	4000
Techsmart	-	1500	1500
Edwalton PCC	-	455	455
Recon services	-	1000	1000
Barratt Foundation	1500	-	1500
RWB/Longleys	-	600	600
HMRC Charities	1277	-	1277
Sundry grants & donations	5661	-	5661
<b>Total</b>	<b>8438</b>	<b>8055</b>	<b>16493</b>

**3. Funds analysis**

	Opening balance £	Receipts £	(Payments) £	Closing balance £
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Winifred Eileen Kemp Trust	1401	-	(1401)	-
Football - Warriors Utd	339	7600	(5323)	2616
Music sessions	3620	-	(3620)	-
Nottingham University hospital charity	1836	-	-	1836
Edwalton PCC - baby bags	-	455	(285)	171
	<b>7196</b>	<b>8055</b>	<b>(10628)</b>	<b>4623</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General	16121	35091	(30310)	20902
	<b>16121</b>	<b>35091</b>	<b>(30310)</b>	<b>20902</b>



## Nottinghamshire Down's Syndrome Support Group

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

Winifred Eileen Kemp Trust – Funding for Makaton activities £1,190, 16+ group activities £211.

Football kits – Shirt Sponsorship of Warriors FC for kit and events

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

Nottingham University hospital charity/Edwalton PCC – 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. Prepayments

	£
Membership	30
	<u>30</u>

### 5. Creditors

	£
Independent examination fee	564
	<u>564</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.

## **Nottinghamshire Down's Syndrome Support Group**

### **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.