

Sign return
please

Company registration number: 01546053

Charity registration number: 282803

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 December 2024



WESTCOTTS

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
& BUSINESS ADVISERS

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Contents

Reference and Administrative Details	1
Trustees' Report	2 to 14
Independent Examiner's Report	15
Statement of Financial Activities	16
Balance Sheet	17
Notes to the Financial Statements	18 to 31

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Reference and Administrative Details

Chairman	B S Fearnley
Trustees	A M Rodgers H Brown M T Shepherd M Macari D T V Kroonenburg R Paice A L Towsey B S Fearnley
Secretary	R Paice
Charity Registration Number	282803
Company Registration Number	01546053
Registered Office	The charity is incorporated in England and Wales, St Boniface House Ashburton Devon TQ13 7JL
Independent Examiner	Westcotts Plym House 3 Longbridge Road Plymouth Marsh Mills Devon PL6 8LT
Solicitors:	Tozers LLP Broadwalk House Southernhay West Exeter Devon EX1 1UA

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Trustees' Report

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Structure

The Society is a company limited by guarantee, not having share capital, and governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. [In the event of the Company being wound up, the liability of each member is limited to £ 10].

Control of the Society and its property and funds are vested in a Committee, whose Members, Chair and Deputy Chair are formally appointed by the Roman Catholic Bishop of Plymouth and who constitute the charity trustees of the Society and directors under company law and are known as the Board of Trustee Directors.

However, at present the Plymouth Diocese are without a Bishop. Canon Paul Cummins is the Diocesan Administrator, who can appoint new trustees to CCSP.

Governance, Decision-making and Recruitment and Appointment of Trustee Directors

Details of the structure of the Charity and its Governing Document are given above. The business of the Society is managed by this Board, which may consult with the Bishop/Acting President on the business of the Society whenever it is deemed appropriate, and which must do so on any matter which significantly affects the character and ethos of the Society. The Board meets as often as considered necessary to manage the business of the Society but must meet at least three times a year. The Board may delegate any of its functions to sub-committees, (provided at least two members of each sub-committee are members of the main committee) and regulate them as appropriate and in addition may appoint sub-committees to act purely in an advisory capacity. The Board review and set up sub-committees where needed, an example of this being sub-committees were created for an action plan, topics being CCSP moving forward and reviewing finances, expenses, fundraising and communication with the Bishops Office. Face to face meetings take place, along with Teams meetings where appropriate, as well as some phone conversations.

Recruitment of members takes place from advertisements placed across the Catholic Diocese of Plymouth, as we have an expectation that members will live within the area in which the charity provides its services. The Board members are recruited from all backgrounds, faiths, and experiences, and although some have specialist skills and knowledge to share with the Board it is considered of primary importance that the members have an interest in the care and welfare of children, young people, and families.

Candidates for membership of the Board are invited to attend one or two Board Meetings as observers, to meet existing members and gain an insight into the workings of the Charity and its Board. At that time and on appointment to the Board, they are supplied with a copy of the last Statutory Financial Statements of the Charity, a copy of its Memorandum and Articles and Charity Commission publications explaining their responsibilities as Trustee Directors. New Board Members complete declarations accepting membership of the Charity and of their willingness to act as Trustee Directors of the Charity and are vetted in accordance with the guidance issued by the Charity Commission.

All new Board members are encouraged to ask questions at Board meetings, and where appropriate to seek additional training or guidance on any aspect of the Society's work. Members of staff and Trustees are available for any questions.

Trustee Directors receive no remuneration for their work governing and supporting the charity, although due to the large area covered and to ensure recruitment and retention of Board members, reasonable travel expenses are reimbursed.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Trustees' Report

Staff

During 2024 the Society employed three paid staff, all of whom worked part time.

- Pro-active Parenting Lead/Rainbows Director - providing and facilitating all Pro-active Parenting courses to support parents/carers and liaising with schools. The Pro- active Parenting member of staff is also trained to deliver Rainbows GB bereavement and loss training: to support members of staff in CAST schools to deliver the rainbows programme to children.
- Fundraiser & Communications Officer - obtaining all grants and funding for the charity and updating parishioners/Diocese/supporters of the work CCSP carry out through the year.
- Administrator, Finance and Essential Grants Manager - Essential grant programme, admin for Trustees/charity and finances.

Patron

Our sincere thanks go to Professor Shelia the Baroness Hollins who is our Patron, she is regularly updated.

Volunteers

Throughout the Diocese, a few people in parishes volunteer to help the Society by acting as coordinators for the annual appeal collection. Others have given much time and effort to fundraising and publicity. The Society is most grateful to all who have given help in any way.

CCSP plan to continue to actively promote the Parish Volunteer role.

Other relationships

The Society is supported by the Plymouth Diocesan Trust, also a Registered Charity (No. 213227). The Diocesan Trust provides the accommodation occupied by the Society's Registered Office and expects reimbursement for the office consumables such as stationery, telephone, and postage. A small sum is payable for other administrative services provided by the Diocese such as payroll and personnel support. The Society is exceedingly grateful for the support the Diocese offers in this way.

Caritas

Caritas continues to thrive and develop.

It supports and shares the Mission of the Catholic Church, supporting the network of social action charities and parishes within the Plymouth Diocese. We have a strong partnership with Caritas Plymouth. As one of the founder members of the Caritas team we are helping to draw this initiative forward, helping to reach more disadvantaged families' and children. We have worked collaboratively with Caritas in identifying the needs of families in crisis in the Dioceses. Helping those of faith and of none.

Compliance with the governing document and current statutory requirements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the governing document of the Society, current statutory requirements, and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS102): Accounting and Reporting by Charities. The Board of Trustee Directors have complied with their duty and with due regard to the guidance on public benefit given by the Charity Commission when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance was relevant.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Trustees' Report

Investment Powers

Under the Memorandum and Articles, the Charity has the power to deposit or invest funds in any manner (but to invest only after obtaining advice and having regard to the suitability of investments and the need for diversification). The Charity holds a policy on ethical investment and has a statement of investment principle and risk of which our investment advisors are aware.

Objectives

The objectives of the Society are to relieve the charitable needs of children, young persons and families of those of the Catholic faith, those of all faiths and none.

Activities Undertaken by the Society in connection with the objectives stated.

The stated objective of the Society is to support family life across the Catholic Diocese of Plymouth, which covers all of Cornwall, Devon, and part of Dorset.

Currently this is achieved by the provision of the Pro-active Parenting Project, Rainbows bereavement and loss training, the Good Shepherd Programme for schools, and an Essential Grant Programme.

These are all supported by various fundraising initiatives and donations from schools, parishes, and individuals, as well as from a number of grant giving organisations. Our investment strategy provides reserves to ensure there are sufficient funds available to support these activities for at least the coming financial year in the event of a financial deficit caused by lack of income. This is necessary due to the fluctuating nature of our grant giving, which is dependent on need and can vary greatly month to month.

The Pro-active Parenting Project is designed to support parents and carers. The programmes cover differing age ranges so that parents or carers have a choice of platform to suit their needs. Efforts are made to overcome any barriers to participation, such as literacy or language, and venues are selected to cover a wide-ranging area and with appropriate facilities for all participants.

These programmes are provided free of charge to all parents and carers and although voluntary donations to help defray expenses are welcomed, they are not expected. CCSP also has an SLA agreement with CAST [Plymouth CAST, Multi Academy Trust], in order to be able to offer the Pro-active Parenting Courses within these schools.

As local authority budgets are cut further, the number of non-statutory parenting programmes provided by local authorities continue to fall year on year. The Pro-active Parenting project strives to bridge the gap for parents by providing programmes in their locality.

The Pro-active Parenting member of staff is also trained to deliver Rainbows GB bereavement and loss training to support members of staff in CAST schools to deliver the rainbows programme to children.

The Board of Trustee Directors review the Project to ensure cost efficiency, value for money, along with effectiveness and impact are being met.

Our Good Shepherd programme is promoted in schools to encourage young people to think of the needs of others. Along with the organization of sponsored events to raise awareness and funds for CCSP.

We also purchased essential items for families through our Essential Grant Programme. Helping to support families of all faiths or none. All grant applications the Society receive are assessed on individual/families/carers need; in order that CCSP can be sure that all donations/funding received are being used with consideration and efficiency.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Trustees' Report

Applications must be supported by a professional agency supporting the family, an example of this being a school, housing association or medical professional. Guidance is offered to applicants and referees through documents publicly available on our website or on request. The main criteria for acceptance remains that the item required must directly benefit children within the family, and be of an essential nature, and not available through statutory aid. The Essential Grant programme will continue to be reviewed.

The Board of Trustee Directors have provided all these services and complied with their duty and with due regard to the guidance on public benefit given by the Charity Commission when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance was relevant.

Summary of achievements in 2024, report from the Acting Chair of Trustees.

This has been one of our most successful years for fundraising, certainly since the pandemic. As our charity has become better known throughout the diocese of Plymouth, more organisations are applying for our essential grants for some of the most vulnerable families in the diocese. As ever our essential grants are open to families in need, of faith or no faith. Our most challenging demographic areas are Torbay, Plymouth, Cornwall, parts of North Devon and some small areas of Dorset.

Headteachers, SENDCOs and pastoral support workers in CAST and non-CAST schools have been able to apply for essential grants on behalf of individual families. In response and in thanks, many schools are holding fundraising events for CCSP.

Our requests continue to come from many different professionals, the CAB, mental health, health visitors, per mental health workers, DA support services and many more. As the cost-of-living crisis continues to impact the whole of our diocese, so many more families are struggling from day to day. We continue to help, families with disabilities, families impacted by very serious and unexpected illness, those who have suffered the impact of bereavement, pregnant women, those with very serious mental health needs, asylum seekers, DA survivors and so many more.

Our Pro-active Parenting support worker, Sarah Davies, has been able to get into more schools to offer the benefit of her training and expertise. In her second role as a registered director for Rainbows GB bereavement and loss, she has trained staff in a number of schools to deliver bereavement and loss programmes to children. She has also responded to the needs of schools where tragedy has happened, for example when a member of staff has died.

As Acting Chair, I feel, it is very important for our charity to move forward, this is particularly so in how we gain and manage our funds. We are always cognizant, that all we do aligns with the charity's ethics, objects and mission statement. All Trustees and employees have taken part in safeguarding training. We have offered CPD opportunities to all three of our employees, which have been successful in supporting their different areas of work for the charity. Each employee has an annual appraisal.

Historically the Bishop of the diocese is also our President, giving validation and support to the work of our charity, however the diocese has been without a Bishop for more than two years, but we are grateful for the support of Canon Paul Cummins, Diocesan Administrator who continues in the role of president of CCSP.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Trustees' Report

We have been effective in our efforts to provide more outreach to Cornwall and Dorset but there is more to be done. In the coming year our summer fundraising event will be in Cornwall, as will our annual mass. We continue to visit and give presentations at Deanery meetings and work in collaboration with Caritas workers in all areas of the diocese.

As Acting Chair, I have been part of the Caritas advisory group, working with a number of partner charities, which give mutual awareness and support. Caritas is a Catholic Social Action Charity, active in our diocese.

We are keen to increase our number of Trustees and encourage diversity in the makeup of our Board. We are always looking to recruit Trustees to complement the skill set within the current board.

We are so very grateful to our many loyal donors who support our annual appeals but also fundraising in parishes. This may take the form of Lenten lunches, Cribfests, raffles etc. or individuals who donate on a regular or one-off basis. We are so grateful to our supporters who recognise the impact of the charity's work in all we try to achieve. We are also thankful for legacies received during this financial year

Summary of achievements in 2024 - Pro-active Parenting/Rainbows.

Continuing professional Development

There has been the opportunity to have some further training to aid the courses that I deliver that we have managed to obtain for travel costs only by joining other consortiums of services as well as the annual training required by the diocese.

- ASSIST training by Pete's Dragon
- Mental Health First Aid by First Aid England
- Assessing Mental Capacity Training
- Children with epilepsy training
- Conflict Resolution Training
- Managing Anxiety training
- Therapeutic Parenting
- Cyber security understanding cyber risk. Diocese Training
- Cyber security staying safe online. Diocese Training
- Data Privacy Diocese Training
- Personal Safety Diocese Training
- Fire Safety Diocese Training
- Risk Assessments Diocese Training
- Electrical Safety Diocese Training
- Manual Handling Diocese Training
- Slips and Trips Diocese Training
- Your Health and Safety Diocese Training
- Display Screen Equipment Diocese Training

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Trustees' Report

Pro-Active Parenting

We successfully ran courses in several schools including:

- St Johns Penzance
- St Mary's Camborne
- St Joseph Exmouth
- St Mary's Buckfast
- Our Lady's Torquay
- Our Lady's Teignmouth
- St Peters Plymouth
- St Mary's Dorchester

Promoting the courses that we have to offer has gone well, advertising through the CAST portal and direct communications with schools via email. It is becoming increasingly difficult for schools to find the space and for parents to attend. The aim for the future is to look at the ability to run courses off the school grounds.

Rainbows

We offer bereavement and loss training to staff in our Catholic schools, enabling them to deliver the peer support style Rainbows, Sunbeams and Spectrum programme. We offered continued support for Weymouth, training their facilitators in January 2024 and Our ladies in Torquay, both whole school CPD as well as facilitator training in February, as well as some online training for St Peters Bournemouth. One to one school support was given in Torquay in December.

Out of 25 CAST schools and 3 independents in the diocese we have 22 registered sites, with more to come in 2025 towards the goal of every school offering this support and service.

Good Shepherd

Our Good Shepherd program continues to encourage children in our Catholic schools to think of others.

Sleep on the floor 2024 ran and we had participation from several schools. School involvement continues to be low, but we find that if schools have not run the actual initiative, then they will do a fundraiser of some kind for us in the year.

We have offered other planned fundraisers like the CAST anniversary drop down day material with very limited support. The plan for 2025 is to minimize workload by combining Jubilee of Sport and the Good Shepherd with the St Aloysius non uniform day in hope that more schools will support.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Trustees' Report

Volunteers

We managed to make some new contacts in Dorset last year as we visited Weymouth and Poole for a couple of our annual events. We recruited two new Parish Volunteers, and had interest from a few more, it is pleasing to see that more parishes are running their own innovative fundraising ideas, even without the formal role of a Parish Volunteer.

We continue to promote the role of the Parish Volunteer throughout the Diocese, where we look for one parishioner or even a small number of people in a parish to volunteer to help the charity by acting as coordinators for our annual appeal and crib appeal, as well as other diocesan wide fundraising events. We are considering the production of a Parish Volunteer newsletter and zoom meetings to provide support and training to the Parish Volunteers we have recruited. The charity is very grateful to all our loyal supporters who continue to help raise much needed funds.

Over the last two years, we have now visited all five Deanery meetings to actively promote how parishes can help us with our fundraising, and we plan to ask to attend these Deanery meetings every three years.

Legacies

During 2024 CCSP received 2 legacies for which we are extremely grateful. This enables us to continue to support families within the Diocese, this also supports the charity's future. We are grateful for those people who left a donation in their will for CCSP, we are thankful for the support we receive.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Trustees' Report

Summary of achievements in 2024 - Fundraising

2024 was a wonderful year for CCSP as our Annual Appeal, crib appeal, Great Big Diocesan Quiz, orange box recycling scheme and ink cartridge recycling scheme all raised record breaking totals. We are extremely grateful for all the support we receive throughout the Diocese.

'Believe, Love, Share - Transforming Lives' was the theme of our 2024 Annual Appeal, which raised well over £20,000 compared to just over £17,000 in both 2023 and 2022. We continue to use a QR code wherever possible, which has helped to make it much easier for donations to be made. In addition, we received a record number of donations to our Crib Appeal at the end of 2023/start of 2024 and received just under £9,000 compared to just under £7,000 in 2023 and just over £3,500 in 2022.

We are grateful to the supporters of the National Lottery as we received a further grant of £14,000 last year as well as another £2,000 from the Cornwall Community Foundation for the third year running. We were also successful in receiving £10,000 from the Day for Life Fund and £5,000 from the Green Hall Foundation. Included with the total grant income of £41,620 (2023 £31,152) was amounts received from our regular annual grant funders of £10,000 which has risen considerably compared to last year.

Another record was set with our orange box recycling scheme, where supporters donate their unwanted items such as stamps, jewellery, silver e.t.c. which is subsequently turned into cash. Almost £6,000 was received compared to just over £5,500 in 2023 and £3,500 in 2022. We have also actively promoted our recently relaunched ink cartridge recycling scheme and raised £532.50 last year compared to £206 in 2023.

Eight parishes took part in our 2024 Great Big Diocesan Quiz which raised just over £1,500 and a further two parishes held their quiz night after the main event bringing the total raised to almost £3,000, which is our best GBDQ total to date.

Following the success of our inaugural 'Rise to Our Cause' event on Ascension Thursday at Buckfast Abbey in 2023, last year's event was held at St Mary's in Poole which gave us the opportunity to meet many new supporters in Dorset. Thank you to everyone involved at St Mary's for making us all feel so welcome and for the wonderful buffet you provided. Our Guest Speaker was David Wells, and the event raised £540 compared to £450 the previous year. This is now an annual event, and our 2025 event will be held at St Cuthbert Mayne in Launceston, as we will be moving around the Diocese to meet more new CCSP supporters.

Following the success of our first ever Wills Week in the summer where £725 was received in donations from parishioners who supported us during the week, we are in the process of arranging a second Wills Week for April 2025. Thanks to a generous legacy left by a former trustee, our brand-new website was launched towards the end of the year. Having listened to feedback from our supporters, our new website is now much easier to navigate, and forms can be completed online, as well as donations can also now be made through the new website.

We are very grateful to all our loyal supporters in our parishes and schools for their continued support of the charity.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Trustees' Report

Annual Mass

This year's Annual Mass took place at St Joseph's in Weymouth thanks to Fr Anthony and the children of St Augustine's Roman Catholic Primary School. It was a beautiful mass led by the children, celebrating the important role they have in spreading love, joy and the importance of family. Our Annual Mass is our way of thanking all our supporters, as well as highlighting the important work that we do, and we look forward to visiting St John the Baptist in Camborne in 2025.

Plans for the Year Ahead

- Continue to find alternative and innovative ways of fundraising as well as supporting our existing ways to get involved
- Continue to apply for grant funding from new sources, as well as our regular funders
- Continue to promote the importance of regular donations especially through our new website, also our 50:50 club Helping Hands
- Continue to work with our schools and parishes to ensure more support of our fundraising initiatives
- Continue to promote the Parish Volunteer role and investigate ways to encourage more recruits, such as the production of a Parish Volunteer newsletter and zoom meetings to provide support and training to the Parish Volunteers we have recruited

Summary of achievements in 2024 - Essential Grant Programme - EGP

There continues to be extreme demand for the EGP, as there remains a high level of families in need within the Diocese. The cost-of-living crisis has impacted on families, along with family dynamics changing due to ill health, a change in family circumstances, bereavement, and moving home.

The number of applications received was 218, of which 186 were considered by the panel, and 141 of these were processed, this is the number of families/carers supported by CCSP during 2024. Although this number appears to have reduced from previous years, the number of children who benefited from this support continues to rise, and the number of items purchased has increased.

- Of the 141 applications approved and processed, the number of children benefiting directly from item/s purchased was 143.
- The number of children within a family with additional needs was 26.
- and the number of adults/applicants who have a disability or additional needs was 22.
- 354 items were purchased for families/cares in 2024. [uniform is classed as one item].

An example of items provided in 2024 are - cookers, washing machines, fridge-freezers, school uniform/clothing, shoes/trainers, beds/mattresses, cots/mattresses, and many baby items.

	2022	2023	2024
Number of grants received and considered	396	211	186
Number of grants suspended/not processed due to budget	56	22	32
Total number of grant applications received	452	233	218
Applications declined/cancelled or no longer needed	166	63	45
Total number of grants approved and funded	230	148	141

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Trustees' Report

The Plymouth Diocese covers all of Cornwall, Devon, and part of Dorset. Although it is noted that most applications received and considered were from Devon, Plymouth being the highest area.

- o Cornwall applications 21
- o Devon applications 159
- o Dorset applications 6

CCSP continue to look at ways of supporting families and making them and professional agencies aware of the EGP throughout the Diocese.

Funds are not transferred directly to a family or referee, items are purchased and delivered to the family home, or in the case of school uniform CCSP can sometimes arrange for children/families/carers to go directly to a school uniform/clothing shop.

All applications are considered by a CCSP panel. Unfortunately, due to budget restrictions an amount of money must be allocated to the EGP a month, it does mean that if this is reached some applications have had to be suspended. This total for 2024 was 32. Referees are asked to re-submit applications in the following month, there is no waiting list. This has not been an easy decision for the Trustee Directors to make, but based on finances, donations and reserves this action had to be taken but remains under constant review.

We receive many lovely messages of thanks from the agencies we deal with, and the families we have supported. It is wonderful to have this feedback, both for CCSP, our donators and supporters, this also helps to support any funding applications CCSP submit.

We are extremely grateful for all donations, funding, and legacies that CCSP receive, as this enables the charity to continue with the Essential Grant Programme and support families within the Plymouth Diocese. Thank you.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Trustees' Report

Statement of Directors Responsibility

The Trustees (who are also directors of Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth) for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Directors Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. 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 SORP.
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Trustees' Report

Investment Policy

Having regard to the level of reserves and reserves policy, the Directors operate a policy of keeping funds sufficient for day to day functioning in current accounts, with the balance administered by investment fund managers Stockdale Asset Management. This year the Directors have allocated part of the investments to ensure the Society has sufficient reserves to cover contractual obligations to its staff and suppliers should the Society become unintentionally insolvent.

Reserves

This section of the Directors' Report should be read in conjunction with note 14 to the financial statements. The Society is involved in several projects, the foremost being Pro-active Parenting, (supporting parents/carers and families), which is a permanent feature of the Society's work and its major financial commitment. The regular annual incoming resources of the Charity (i.e. excluding legacies and grants which are intermittent, unexpected sources of income), are usually approximately £60,000. Excluding grant-making activities, (which, again, are intermittent in nature), the regular annual resources expended by the Charity were approximately £52,000. The Charity has total unrestricted reserves at 31 December 2024 of £261,033 (2023 - £254,457) and restricted reserves of £15,000 (2023 - £5,000). The Directors consider this level of reserves appropriate (i) to cushion existing activities from unexpected fluctuations in incoming resources, (ii) to enable maintenance and improvement of the projects currently being run and (iii) to enable them to make one-off grants as and when appropriate. A designated reserve has been allocated to ensure that the Society is in a position to meet its contractual obligations to staff and suppliers should any unforeseen event occur which threatens the resources of the Society.

Incoming Resources

The Society's incoming resources in the year were £129,467 (2023: £155,122). Of this amount £74,975 (2023: £109,796) came from Voluntary Sources. Legacies of £8,192 was received in this period (2023: £41,439). Grants totalling £41,620 (2023: £24,400) were secured this year as a result of the efforts of the fundraiser.

Resources Expended

The Society spent £118,020 (2023: £98,688) on expenditure. Charitable expenditure of £91,668 (2023: £60,680) in the current year comprises £30,184 (2023: £27,957) spent on Pro-active parenting, (the family support project). Grants to individuals and other institutions increased to £42,974 from £31,329 in 2023. The costs of Governance of the Society were £4,639 (2023: £6,880) and £36,854 (2023: £30,499) was applied to generate funds for the Society, including the cost of the fundraiser.

Net Movement in Funds

The net increase in realised funds for the year was £11,447 (2023: increase of £56,434). Further details on the results for the year and on the movement in funds may be found in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 16 of the financial statements.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Trustees' Report

Trustees and officers

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Trustees:

- A M Rodgers
- H Brown
- M Marszalek (resigned 1 January 2025)
- V L Magor (resigned 22 April 2024)
- M T Shepherd
- M Macari (appointed 8 January 2024)
- D T V Kroonenburg
- R Paice
- A L Towsey (appointed 26 November 2024)
- B S Fearnley (appointed 20 May 2024)

Chairman: B S Fearnley (appointed 20 May 2024)

Secretary: R Paice

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 28.4.25 and signed on its behalf by:



B S Fearnley
Chairman and trustee

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth) ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth) as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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.



Matthew Keane ACCA
Westcotts (SW) LLP
Plym House
3 Longbridge Road
Plymouth
Marsh Mills
PL6 8LT

Date: 28.4.25

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	87,187	36,000	123,187	151,235
Investment income	4	6,280	-	6,280	3,887
Total income		93,467	36,000	129,467	155,122
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5	(25,895)	-	(25,895)	(22,178)
Charitable activities	6	(65,668)	(26,000)	(91,668)	(75,836)
Other expenditure	7	(457)	-	(457)	(673)
Total expenditure		(92,020)	(26,000)	(118,020)	(98,687)
Gains/(losses) on investment assets		5,129	-	5,129	16,569
Net income		6,576	10,000	16,576	73,004
Net movement in funds		6,576	10,000	16,576	73,004
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		254,457	5,000	259,457	186,453
Total funds carried forward	17	261,033	15,000	276,033	259,457

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.
The funds breakdown for 2023 is shown in note 17.

The notes on pages 18 to 31 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

(Registration number: 01546053)

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2024

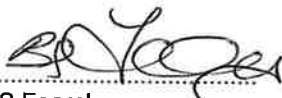
	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	12	1,864	1,625
Investments	13	<u>200,708</u>	<u>192,480</u>
		<u>202,572</u>	<u>194,105</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	14	796	4,502
Cash at bank and in hand	15	<u>79,447</u>	<u>69,512</u>
		80,243	74,014
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	16	<u>(6,782)</u>	<u>(8,662)</u>
Net current assets		<u>73,461</u>	<u>65,352</u>
Net assets		<u>276,033</u>	<u>259,457</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds			
Restricted funds		15,000	5,000
Unrestricted income funds			
Designated Funds		23,864	23,625
General Funds		<u>237,169</u>	<u>230,832</u>
Total unrestricted funds		<u>261,033</u>	<u>254,457</u>
Total funds	17	<u>276,033</u>	<u>259,457</u>

For the financial year ending 31 December 2024 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The financial statements on pages 16 to 31 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 28.4.25 and signed on their behalf by:


B S Fearnley
Chairman and trustee

The notes on pages 18 to 31 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

St Boniface House

Ashburton

Devon

TQ13 7JL

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

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)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth) meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

Income and endowments

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 the income receivable can be measured reliably.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

Donations and legacies

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Investment income

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Raising funds

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, the management of investments and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £0.00 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Electrical equipment	20% reducing balance
Other equipment (including collection boxes)	20% reducing balance

Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments, other than programme related investments, are included at market value at the balance sheet date. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their market value at the start of the year, or their subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market values during the year and are credited or charged to the Statement of Financial Activities based on the market value at the year end.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Borrowings

Interest-bearing borrowings are initially recorded at fair value, net of transaction costs. Interest-bearing borrowings are subsequently carried at amortised cost, with the difference between the proceeds, net of transaction costs, and the amount due on redemption being recognised as a charge to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period of the relevant borrowing.

Interest expense is recognised on the basis of the effective interest method and is included in interest payable and similar charges.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the charity has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting date.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside for specific purposes at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Financial instruments

Classification

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the charity after deducting all of its liabilities.

Recognition and measurement

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the statement of financial position when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the charity intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the charity transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the charity, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

Debt instruments

Debt instruments which meet the following conditions are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method:

Debt instruments that are classified as payable or receivable within one year on initial recognition and which meet the above conditions are measured at the undiscounted amount of the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received, net of impairment.

With the exception of some hedging instruments, other debt instruments not meeting these conditions are measured at fair value through profit or loss.

Commitments to make and receive loans which meet the conditions mentioned above are measured at cost (which may be nil) less impairment.

Investments

Investments in non-convertible preference shares and non-puttable ordinary or preference shares (where shares are publicly traded or their fair value is reliably measurable) are measured at fair value through profit or loss. Where fair value cannot be measured reliably, investments are measured at cost less impairment.

Investments in subsidiaries and associates are measured at cost less impairment. For investments in subsidiaries acquired for consideration including the issue of shares qualifying for merger relief, cost is measured by reference to the nominal value of the shares issued plus fair value of other consideration. Any premium is ignored.

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Donations and legacies;			
Legacies and bequests	8,192	-	8,192
Appeals and donations	20,254	-	20,254
Donations - Patchwork	1,500	-	1,500
Donations - Fundraising	22,510	-	22,510
Crib offerings	8,781	-	8,781
Grants, including capital grants;			
Grants - Fundraising	5,620	36,000	41,620
Diocesan collections - Fundraising	20,330	-	20,330
	<u>87,187</u>	<u>36,000</u>	<u>123,187</u>
	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Donations and legacies;			
Donations - Good shepherd	726	-	726
Donations - Patchwork	1,500	-	1,500
Legacies	41,439	-	41,439
Donations - Rainbows	587	-	587
Donations - Fundraising	40,422	20,000	60,422
Crib offerings	6,752	-	6,752
Grants, including capital grants;			
Grants - Fundraising	24,400	-	24,400
Diocesan collections - Fundraising	15,409	-	15,409
	<u>131,235</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>151,235</u>

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

4 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	1,727	1,727	528
Other income from fixed asset investments	4,553	4,553	3,359
	<u>6,280</u>	<u>6,280</u>	<u>3,887</u>

5 Expenditure on raising funds

a) Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Donations	24,441	24,441	21,500
Investment management costs	1,454	1,454	678
	<u>25,895</u>	<u>25,895</u>	<u>22,178</u>

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

6 Total expenditure

	Activity undertaken directly £	Activity support costs £	2024 £	2023 £
Patchwork Family Support Project	20,039	10,145	30,184	27,957
Direct grant funding of individuals and other institutions	42,974	-	42,974	31,329
Rainbows	822	-	822	1,394
Fundraising	24,467	12,387	36,854	30,448
Investment managers costs	1,455	-	1,455	679
Indirect support costs	3,316	2,415	5,731	6,880
	<u>93,073</u>	<u>24,947</u>	<u>118,020</u>	<u>98,687</u>

7 Other expenditure

	Unrestricted funds Designated £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Depreciation, amortisation and other similar costs	<u>457</u>	<u>457</u>	<u>673</u>
	<u>457</u>	<u>457</u>	<u>673</u>

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

8 Analysis of support costs

Support costs allocated to raising funds

	Other support costs £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Accountancy fees - independent examination	1,100	1,100	1,000
Accountancy fees - other work	2,800	2,800	2,755
Cost of trustees expenses	161	161	549
Administrative support costs	578	578	625
Other support costs	-	-	1,951
Costs of generating voluntary income	10,163	10,163	8,634
Patchwork charitable expenditure	10,145	10,145	7,928
	<u>24,947</u>	<u>24,947</u>	<u>23,442</u>

9 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net incoming resources for the year include:

	2024 £	2023 £
Depreciation of fixed assets	<u>457</u>	<u>673</u>

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

10 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	51,101	48,718
Pension costs	5,735	5,459
	<u>56,836</u>	<u>54,177</u>

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year was as follows:

	2024 No	2023 No
Employees	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

11 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Furniture and equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 January 2024	10,224	10,224
Additions	696	696
At 31 December 2024	<u>10,920</u>	<u>10,920</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 January 2024	8,599	8,599
Charge for the year	457	457
At 31 December 2024	<u>9,056</u>	<u>9,056</u>
Net book value		
At 31 December 2024	<u>1,864</u>	<u>1,864</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>1,625</u>	<u>1,625</u>

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

13 Fixed asset investments

	2024 £	2023 £
Other investments	200,708	192,480

Other investments

	Listed investments £	Total £
Cost or Valuation		
At 1 January 2024	192,480	192,480
Additions	83,550	83,550
Disposals	(75,322)	(75,322)
At 31 December 2024	200,708	200,708
Net book value		
At 31 December 2024	200,708	200,708
At 31 December 2023	192,480	192,480

14 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Accrued income	796	4,502

15 Cash and cash equivalents

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash at bank	79,447	69,512

16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Other creditors	1,239	2,014
Accruals	5,543	6,648
	6,782	8,662

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

17 Funds

	Balance at 1 January 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/ (losses) £	Balance at 31 December 2024 £
Unrestricted funds						
General						
General Funds	230,832	93,467	(91,563)	(696)	5,129	237,169
Designated						
Tangible fixed assets	1,625	-	(457)	696	-	1,864
Trustee designated	<u>22,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>22,000</u>
	<u>23,625</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(457)</u>	<u>696</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,864</u>
Total unrestricted funds	254,457	93,467	(92,020)	-	5,129	261,033
Restricted funds						
Direct Grant Funding	<u>5,000</u>	<u>36,000</u>	<u>(26,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,000</u>
Total funds	<u>259,457</u>	<u>129,467</u>	<u>(118,020)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,129</u>	<u>276,033</u>
	Balance at 1 January 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/ (losses) £	Balance at 31 December 2023 £
Unrestricted funds						
General						
General Funds	163,128	135,122	(83,014)	(973)	16,569	230,832
Designated						
Tangible fixed assets	1,325	-	(673)	973	-	1,625
Trustee designated	<u>22,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>22,000</u>
	<u>23,325</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(673)</u>	<u>973</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,625</u>
Total unrestricted funds	186,453	135,122	(83,687)	-	16,569	254,457
Restricted funds						
Direct Grant Funding	<u>-</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>(15,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,000</u>
Total funds	<u>186,453</u>	<u>155,122</u>	<u>(98,687)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,569</u>	<u>259,457</u>

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

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

- i) The net book amounts of unrestricted funds invested in tangible fixed assets
- (ii) Details of the Patchwork Family Support Project are explained in the Trustees Report. In 2011 the Trustees decided to designate funds to secure the future of the Patchwork family support project, consequently a transfer amounting to a further two years annual expenses was made from the general fund to cover 2014 and 2015. It also includes incoming resources in the form of donations from participants of Patchwork courses. (The equipment used for the project is included in the Tangible Fixed Assets Fund).
- (iii) The net surplus/(deficit) after transfers to the designated funds represents, if in surplus, funds available for use at the discretion of the Directors to further expand the activities of the Society.
- (iv) Grants or donations received with restrictions over their use.

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total funds at 31 December 2024
	General	Designated		
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	1,864	-	1,864
Fixed asset investments	200,708	-	-	200,708
Current assets	65,243	-	15,000	80,243
Current liabilities	(6,782)	-	-	(6,782)
Total net assets	<u>259,169</u>	<u>1,864</u>	<u>15,000</u>	<u>276,033</u>

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total funds at 31 December 2023
	General	Designated		
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	1,625	-	1,625
Fixed asset investments	192,480	-	-	192,480
Current assets	69,014	-	5,000	74,014
Current liabilities	(8,662)	-	-	(8,662)
Total net assets	<u>252,832</u>	<u>1,625</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>259,457</u>

Catholic Childrens Society (Plymouth)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

19 Related party transactions

During the year the charity made the following related party transactions:

Neither the Trustee Directors nor any persons connected with them receive any form of remuneration other than reimbursement at a fixed rate per mile for motor car travel and for other expenses incurred in the course of their duties as Trustee Directors. The entitlement was exercised by 4 Trustee Directors (2023:6). The Trustee Directors were reimbursed £252 for expenses during the year (2023: £549). Total costs of £2,395 were paid to the Diocesan Trust which was made up of the following; £1,000 to Plymouth Diocesan Trust (2023: £1,000) for bookkeeping and administrative support. The remainder of the costs were paid for general use of the admin costs as supplied by the Diocese.

No grants were given to the Diocese during the year.. At the balance sheet date the amount due from was £646 (2023 - £2,448).