

# Bristol Foster Carers Association

England & Wales · Charity number 283305

## Details

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Other names	ASSOCIATION OF FOSTER CARERS(AVON), AVON FOSTER CARE ASSOCIATION, AVONSIDE FOSTER CARE ASSOCIATION
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	2011-07-19
Register	<a href="#">View on the Charity Commission register</a>

## Contact

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Address	18 Cecil Avenue Bristol BS5 7SD
Phone	07545122504
Email	<a href="mailto:markgeorge2016@sky.com">markgeorge2016@sky.com</a>

## Activities

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**Objects:** ADVANCING THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN MATTERS RELATING TO SUBSTITUTE CARE, IN PARTICULAR THE EDUCATION AND TRAINING OF FOSTER PARENTS. CO-OPERATING AND ASSISTING WITH THE WORK OF STATUTORY AUTHORITIES AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS IN THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE ABOVE OBJECT.

**Activities:** Social functions for the use of Foster Carers and the young people they look after.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Services
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People, Other Defined Groups

## Geography

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- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED
- Bristol City

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£43,344	£37,926	-	-
2024-03-31	£22,610	£18,599	-	-
2023-03-31	£31,800	£27,280	-	-
2022-03-31	£29,288	£30,464	-	-
2021-03-31	£6,345	£3,192	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Mark Pennington-Field</b>	Chair	2019-04-03
Claire Louise Frances Gueye		2023-11-10
Helen Alridge		2025-11-26

**Bristol Foster Carers Association**

England & Wales - Charity number 283305

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# Accounts

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**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 283305**

Report of the Trustees and  
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025  
for

Bristol Foster Carers Association

Raymarsh Ford Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
Ground Floor  
41 High Street  
Kingswood  
Bristol  
BS15 4AA

Bristol Foster Carers Association

Contents of the Financial Statements  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

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Bristol Foster Carers Association

Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in March 2005.

## **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

### **Registered Charity Number**

283305

### **Principal address**

18 Cecil Avenue  
Bristol  
BS5 7SD

### **Trustees**

Mark Pennington-Field (Chair)  
Helen Aldridge (Trustee) (Trustee)  
Mary Taylor (Trustee)  
Claire Gueye (Trustee)

### **Independent examiner**

Raymarsh Ford Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
Ground Floor  
41 High Street  
Kingswood  
Bristol BS15 4AA

## **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

### **Governing document**

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust. This constitutes an unincorporated charity, originally registered on 29 September 1981 but then removed on 9 October 2010. On 19 July 2011 the charity was re-registered.

### **Organisational structure**

The charity was under the trusteeship of the four trustees.

### **Risk management**

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

## **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

### **Objectives and aims**

The objectives of the Association are provide general charitable assistance to children and young people within the City of Bristol. In addition the Association provides support for those in foster care as well as their carers. The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charities aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

Report of the Trustees (continued)  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

## **ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

### **Charitable activities**

The Trustees have focused their continued efforts on endeavouring to maintain the level of donations and funds raised to support charitable aims.

The charity reported the following results in the year.

	2025	2024
Surplus/(deficit)	5,418	4,009

The charity receives contributions from Bristol City Council and grants. Bristol foster carers supplement income through fundraising activities. They also contribute towards the costs of trips and theatre visits.

### **Investment performance**

The charity only invests money with UK banks and seeks to obtain the best rate of return for the least financial risk.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

### **Reserves policy**

The charity holds sufficient reserves to meet the funding requirements needed to cover the cost of services for the following year.

## **TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT**

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period.

**TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

In preparing these financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and the apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- make judgements and accounting 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; 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 adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and 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 applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 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.

Approved by order of the board of trustees and signed on its behalf by:



Mark Pennington-Field  
Chair

Date 12 Jan 2026

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of  
Bristol Foster Carers Association

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on the pages five to ten.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements on the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I have examined your charity's accounts as required under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 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.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. that accounting records were not kept as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. that the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. that the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Act; or
4. that there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts.

**Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following Directions of the Charity Commission, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

*Chris Ford*

Christopher Barry Ford FCA  
Chartered Accountant  
Raymarsh Ford Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
Ground Floor  
41 High Street  
Kingswood  
Bristol BS15 4AA

12 Jan 2026

Statement of Financial Activities  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	2025 Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2024 Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>						
<b>Incoming resources generated from funds</b>						
Voluntary income	2	37,882	-	37,882	22,457	-
Grants	2	6,000	-	6,000	-	-
Activities for generating funds	2	(538)	-	(538)	(308)	-
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<b>43,344</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>43,344</b>	<b>22,149</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>						
<b>Charitable activities</b>						
Expenditure on charitable activities		35,810	-	35,810	17,191	-
Overheads		2,116	-	2,116	949	-
<b>NET INCOMING (EXPENDITURE)/RESOURCES</b>		<b>5,418</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,418</b>	<b>4,009</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>						
Total funds brought forward		14,486	-	14,486	10,477	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<b>19,904</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>19,904</b>	<b>14,486</b>	<b>-</b>

Bristol Foster Carers Association

Balance Sheet  
At 31 March 2025

		2025	2024
	Notes	£	£
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash at bank		20,204	14,486
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts falling due within one year	5	(300)	-
		<u>19,904</u>	<u>14,486</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)</b>			
		<u>19,904</u>	<u>14,486</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
		<u>19,904</u>	<u>14,486</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			
		<u><u>19,904</u></u>	<u><u>14,486</u></u>
<b>FUNDS</b>			
Unrestricted funds	6	19,904	14,486
Restricted funds		-	-
		<u>19,904</u>	<u>14,486</u>
		<u><u>19,904</u></u>	<u><u>14,486</u></u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and were signed on its behalf by:



Mark Pennington-Field  
Trustee

Date: 12 Jan 2026

## 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### **Accounting convention**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008), the Charities Act 2011 and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

### **Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

### **Resources expended**

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

### **Tangible fixed assets**

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of the revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

An increase in the carrying value of an asset as a result of a revaluation is recognised in other recognised gains and losses unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has been previously recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying value of an asset as a result of a revaluation is recognised in other recognised gains and losses except to which it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

### **Depreciation**

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset less its residual value over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Equipment and furniture	20% straight line
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### **Impairment of fixed assets**

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

For the purposes of impairment testing when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

## 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

### Impairment of fixed assets - continued

For impairment testing of goodwill, the goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquisition date, allocated to each of the cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the charity are assigned to those units.

### Stocks

Stocks are measured at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost includes all costs of purchase, costs of conversion and other costs incurred in bringing the stock to its present location and condition.

### Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

### Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restriction arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

## 2. ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS

	2025		2024
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£
Income from Events	697	-	315
Income from Trips	2,637	-	6,925
Income from Theatre Visits	1,810	-	540
Fundraising	330	-	103
Income from Bingo	-	-	40
Raffles	1,585	-	2,041
Other	57	-	38
Donation Bristol City Council	18,500	-	12,000
Tesco Community Fund	-	-	375
Amazon Contribution	-	-	80
Nisbet Trust Grant	6,000	-	-
BFCA Panto	1,196	-	-
Knife Crime Training	750	-	-
Bleed Kits	10,320	-	-
	<u>43,882</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>22,457</u>

## 3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There are no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

### Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

**4. STAFF COSTS**

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows.

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
The average number of employees (inc Trustees) during the period was	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2024: Nil).

**5. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	-	-
Accruals	300	-
Social security and other taxes	-	-
Wages	-	-
	<u>300</u>	<u>-</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

**6. MOVEMENT OF FUNDS**

	At 1 April 2024 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31 March 2025 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	14,486	5,418	19,904
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>14,486</u>	<u>5,418</u>	<u>19,904</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	43,344	(37,926)	5,418
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>43,344</u>	<u>(37,926)</u>	<u>5,418</u>

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1 April 2023 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31 March 2024 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	10,477	4,009	14,486
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>10,477</u>	<u>4,009</u>	<u>14,486</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	22,149	(18,140)	4,009
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>22,149</u>	<u>(18,140)</u>	<u>4,009</u>

The following pages do not form part of the financial statements

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	2025		2024	
	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>				
<b>Voluntary income</b>				
Income from Events	697	-	315	-
Income from Trips	2,637	-	6,925	-
Income from Theatre Visits	1,810	-	540	-
Fundraising	330	-	103	-
Income from Bingo	-	-	40	-
Raffles	1,585	-	2,041	-
Other	57	-	38	-
Donation Bristol City Council	18,500	-	12,000	-
Tesco Community Fund	-	-	375	-
Amazon Contribution	-	-	80	-
Nisbet Trust Grant	6,000	-	-	-
BFCA Panto	1,196	-	-	-
Knife Crime Training	750	-	-	-
Bleed Kits	10,320	-	-	-
	<u>43,882</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>22,457</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Activities for generating funds</b>				
Bingo	-	-	(120)	-
Raffle	(168)	-	(188)	-
BCFA Panto	(235)	-	-	-
Grants	(135)	-	-	-
	<u>(538)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(308)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>43,344</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22,149</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>				
<b>Charitable activities</b>				
Youth Club	(1,383)	-	(1,705)	-
Events	(4,340)	-	(2,055)	-
Trips	(9,726)	-	(13,196)	-
Theatre Visits	(7,623)	-	(235)	-
Knife Crime Training	(4,102)	-	-	-
Bleed Kits	(8,636)	-	-	-
	<u>(35,810)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(17,191)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Support costs</b>				
<b>Management</b>				
Stationery	(90)	-	(43)	-
BFCA Meetings	(1,268)	-	(812)	-
Travel	(23)	-	(7)	-
Gifts	(435)	-	(87)	-
Other	-	-	-	-
	<u>(1,816)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(949)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Finance</b>				
Finance Costs	-	-	-	-
Accountancy	(300)	-	-	-
	<u>(300)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Transfers between fund	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	<b>(37,926)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(18,140)</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net (expenditure)/income</b>	<b>5,418</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,009</b>	<b>-</b>



**Issuer** Raymarsh Ford

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**Document fingerprint** c08af48b3455be126d709ae51f4d17af

### Parties involved with this document

Document processed	Party + Fingerprint
Mon, 12th Jan 2026 15:32:18 GMT	Mr Mark Pennington-Field - Signer (1eee64cfdd1fdc8be7fbf0605f65c714)
Mon, 12th Jan 2026 15:33:42 GMT	Chris Ford - Signer (b4484cfd8c4837b470039208aa7e1b48)

### Audit history log

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**Bristol Foster Carers Association**

England & Wales - Charity number 283305

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# Accounts

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## BFCA AGM Report May 2023

### **Chair Overview:**

BFCA Committee has gone from strength to strength over the past year. We have now reached the end of the final term. The voting process was changed this year as we felt no one was taking part in the email or online process. No individuals came forward for the 4 key roles. Present were asked if they wished to continue for a 3-year term and they all agreed. The BFCA Committee for 2023-2026 are as follows:

Chair: Mark Pennington-Field  
Vice Chair: Alex Stephens-Kear  
Secretary: Yvonne Harrison  
Treasurer: Ali Steeds

### Sub Committee are as follows:

Marie Bowden  
Georgina Morgan  
Louise Foster

We started the year with Tara Parson and Carrie Yeates attending the BFCA Meeting to address some key issues with Carers. We also secured a new venue for our meetings at St Werburgh's Community Centre which was deemed central for all Carers within Bristol City Council.

The Committee have maintained some very strong links within the fostering service and regularly meet with Service Managers and Team Managers. We feel we now have a very good relationship with them, and they are keen to hear our views and we are able to advocate for carers on a number of issues.

We have really focused on what we do well as a committee. Our committee is strong and all work well together. Support for Carers and Activities and

Events have been our major success and we continued to deliver this throughout the past year.

We now have both Marie and Yvonne heading up the support section. Support has grown massively to the point that I have been providing support some key carers. Report re; support will be added below this overview.

Activities and Events have also been forefront with BFCA this year and we wouldn't be able to do this without the massive support and financial input from the Fostering Service. James and Tara have always listened to what we have wanted and provided the funds to make this happen for carers and their children.

Our social media presence has grown also with George coordinating our Twitter and Instagram Accounts. We even got a shout out from one of the performers in the Hippodrome Xmas Panto on Twitter.

This year we made it possible for Carers and their children to attend Bristol Hippodrome performances of the Lion King, Cinderella, The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe, Beauty and the Beast to name but a few.

The Activities Team have ensured there is an event within each school holiday. We have also had events like Lydiard Park, Bristol Waterpark, Woodhouse Park Activity Day, Puxton Park to name a few. Our annual Christmas celebrations included an event for the Teenagers and a separate Children's Party which was very well turned out and supported from the Managers and staff within the fostering service.

Raffles and Hampers have also played a big part in the years events with the committee aiming to put on a raffle every other month with big wins.

The fostering service have now taken over well-being as its important that carers see that the service is providing this for them. Yvonne and Georgina and other have worked tirelessly to ensure regular well-being events are delivered like Knit and Natter, Choir and Yoga. We also seen a fabulous

Foster Carers Tea Party and Ploughman's Lunch which was such a hit for Carers.

Probably our biggest achievement this year thanks to Ali and Georgina is the set-up of BFCA Youth Club which runs weekly on a Tuesday in Stockwood and ran by Young Bristol. This is available to aged 8 children and upwards and has proved a fantastic opportunity. We have been successful in gaining funding for the rest of the year thanks to James Beardall and his input.

As we moved towards the end of 3-year term we re-structured the committee to ensure there was a swift management and delivery of the way we work. This now provided in sections with either Alex or Myself overseeing and supervising the teams.

As we move into another 3-year term, we have so many ideas we want to work on and provide for you and also issues we would like to drive forward with the Service on your behalf.

I am now part of the Southwest Chairs Association with Fostering Network and have been championing the wonderful work we have been doing as a committee. We appear to be leading the way in how we operate as a committee and Charity and other Chairs are very keen to meet and get some ideas.

So, with all that above I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to each and every one of you for your continued support. I love doing what I do because you are the best to work with. And, finally, BFCA wouldn't be BFCA if it was not for dedicated team that work towards our goals. BFCA wouldn't run successfully without Alex, Ali, Yvonne, Marie, Georgina and Lou working together to make it what it is. Thank you to all of you and I look forward to spending the next 3 years with you.....

Mark (Chair)



Comments from Yvonne Harrison: I would like to confirm I have supported 18 carers in the period of the last year.

5 Foster Carers from this number being serious issues and allegations. I have worked alongside two carers that has persuaded to official complaints with Bristol City Council. I feel without the support of BFCA these carers would be isolated in feeling unsupported.

Comments from Marie Bowden: I have offered advice and support to 19 carers this year.

I have supported carers with allegations, offered 1-1 support, attended meetings with carers, made enquiries for carers and emailed Social workers to follow things up. All this work has been recorded on the BFCA support forms. All carers have valued my advice and support and I enjoy my role being able to offer advice and support to carers.

I have helped with the planning and organising of some of the events and trips. I lead the puxton park, Avon valley and Ninja warrior. These trips were well attended and the events were successful. It is great to see Our children and YP forming friendships on these trips and for carers to come together for a chat and cuppa.

Comments from Mark Pennington-Field:

As support back up I have supported 7 carers through various circumstances offering advice and support to them. 2 of these cases have been quite lengthy and complex cases.







**Section A**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

Charity Name  
Bristol Foster Carers Association

**On accounts for the year  
ended**

31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

**Charity no  
(if any)** 283305

**Set out on pages**

1 (remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2023.

**Responsibilities and  
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below \*) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

*\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

**Signed:**

*J Couzens*

**Date:**

15<sup>th</sup> August 2023

**Name:**

Joan Couzens

**Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):**

Bookkeeper

**Address:**

3 Holsom Road

Stockwood

Bristol BS14 8LT

**Bristol Foster Carers Association**

England & Wales - Charity number 283305

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# Accounts

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## **BFCAs AGM Chair Report - 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022**

### Chair Overview of Year 2021/22:

The BFCAs Committee consists of Mark Pennington-Field (Chair); Alex Stephens-Kear (Vice Chair), Yvonne Harrison (Secretary) and Ali Steeds (Treasurer). The committee's current term is for 3 years and we are now entering the final year of term. All committee members have pledged to continue for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year this is recorded here within this Chair Report. We also have an additional arm of the committee which is not subject to official voting processes but acts as the Social Activities, Trips and Events Section which consists of George Field, Marie Bowden, Michelle Lormand, Lou Foster and Georgina Morgan.

The last year has been a busy year for the committee in focusing on providing support to carers and their children throughout the various lockdown's and isolations during covid and attempting to bring some normality back with trips and events.

As a Charity, face to face meetings resumed which was important for all carers to begin to feel that connection again. The Bristol City Council Fostering Service have been supportive and provided vast funds to enable us to be able to provide this for our carers and their children.

Health and Well-Being of our carers has been paramount and we have worked with service to identify gaps and support that can be provided to enhance this aspect of the fostering role.

Committee wise; we have a very strong set up now with additional members joining us to strengthen the activities and events that we intended to provide.

We secured funding with Rag Doll Foundation to provide funds to put on a pantomime which sadly could not take place due to a surge in covid infections; however, what was positive was a strong sense of community in our rehearsals and witnessing some key relationships develop as a result.

Regular online competitions on our Facebook along with Bingo games and Quiz evenings were rolled out; however, as the pandemic progressed carers craved the face-to-face contact and attendance to these waned.

We intend to use feedback forms at BFCAs Meetings for carers to feedback any issues as we feel the "Your Voice, Your Say" feedback never reached all carers in the way that we wanted.

A new Safeguarding Policy devised for the Charity this year and rolled out to everyone.

### Fostering Service Support:

We have worked closely with the BCC Fostering Service and met with them monthly ironing out any issues that have arisen with carers. In turn, we have developed a key relationship with them assisting them in various issues and it has been helpful that they have recognised and supported us throughout. Vaccination programmes were rolled out for carers along with risk assessments for family time which campaigned for and the service acted. A hamper delivery was provided from the Service at Christmas for carers.

We have recently been working with and advising the service over the upcoming pay consultation.

Key training at BFCA Meetings have also been provided from service professionals and we have been fortunate to provide key information sessions on Delegated Authority; Staying Put and SGO. We recently had a talk on the Carers Support Group for Carers of Ethnic Minority Children. Our meetings have been held at St George Community Centre; however, we have experienced issues around opening times and unreliability with organisers and have therefore secured a regular meeting place at St Werburgh's Community Centre.

Our Secretary Yvonne has worked closely with service in securing funding for a well-being budget and looked at strategies that can be provided to better support our carers. This has been very positive, and Yvonne has worked tirelessly to secure this.

### Trips, Events, Activities and Social Media Presence for the Charity:

The Charity has recently seen the introduction of additional members over the last few months as we recognised that our social presence was ever expanding along with the increasing budget which was gratefully received from the service.

Our Facebook page has gone from strength to strength with over 200 carers now signed up and this is where activities are showcased and any news items of any interest. Committee members have seen a massive increase in carer contact directly partly since they get a quick response, and it has proved a challenge to meet these needs at times as it appears some find this process a quick fix. We have risen to the challenge though and met with some great feedback over this; knowing that we can direct to the service should it be a situation that needs escalating.

BFCA streamlined responsibilities playing to each committee member's strengths which has proved much more effective.

Alex is now responsible for booking Venues, Events, Speakers and Trainers, that will be booked in for 11am at the meetings each month. Alex provides supervision with Ali, Michelle, and George every month enabling him to support events and activities.

Yvonne continues with Support, wellbeing, and secretarial duties. Yvonne will be joined by Marie who is also responsible for support, health and well-being and also assist with events and trips.

Mark supervises Alex, Yvonne, and Marie. Ali will be involved in trips and holding the position as treasurer. Louise and Michelle will help with trips and events. George will be involved with social media and panto.

Georgina Morgan has also joined the committee and will be assisting with Trips, Events and Activities.

Twitter and Instagram have been integral in getting our name out there and George oversees this increasing his focus on driving the charity forward within social media.

BFCA Book club started in the New Year and is ran by Andrea Warnes. This is an online what's app group that discusses the love of books and currently sees approximately 8 members.

Trips, Events and Activities have played a massive part in our support of carers and their children this year and we have seen a massive shift in the way carers have interacted with us as a Charity. Key relationships have been formed between carers and, more importantly our looked after children.

The team moved away from the annual beach trip last year due to covid restrictions and provided activities throughout the summer holidays and other half term holidays which proved a fantastic triumph.

Some of trips and activities provided are as follows: Thorpe Park, Longleat, Brean Leisure Park, Picnics at Vassals and Blaise, Laser fusion, Bristol Aquarium, Wookey Hole and Puxton Park.

We delivered our annual Christmas Party differently this year which was successful. We provided a Xmas Disco for primary age children and provided bowling for the teenagers.

We have also received an overwhelming response from carers and their children in implementing tickets to Hippodrome Productions and this has been greatly received enabling carers and their family members to attend different productions namely Mama Mia, Panto, Billionaire Boy, Bedknobs and Broomsticks etc

BFCA have also joined forces with Bristol Rovers and secured a Seasonal Family Ticket and opportunities for our children to become Mascots for the Football Club.

<b>Bank Opening Balance</b>	<b>£7,131.64</b>	<b>Petty Cash</b>
<b>£189.56</b>		

<b>Bank Closing Balance</b>	<b>£5,955.23</b>
<b>£158.56</b>	

**Income:**

Bristol City Council	£ 9,000.00
Ragdoll Foundation	£ 133.00
Quartet Community Found	£ 3,000.00
Amazon/Paypal donations	£ 152.86
National Citizen Scheme	£ 824.91
Go Fund/Donations	£ 268.83
Raffles	£ 263.00
Theatre refund	£ 450.00
Trips	£ 2,353.58
Hippodrome trips	£12,842.00

<b>Total</b>	<b>£29,288.18</b>
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**Expenditure:**

Gazebo	£ 195.99
Puxton Park x 2 trips	£ 903.00
Blaise / Vassalls	£ 155.45
Sports equipment	£ 229.96
BFCA T-shirts/hoodies	£ 158.97
Brean	£ 1,585.00
Crealy	£ 648.00
Hampers	£ 58.35
BFCA mtg refreshments	£ 249.19
BFCA mtg hall hire	£ 200.00

Panto costs	£ 1,306.31
Wookey hole	£ 1,142.16
All aboard watersports	£ 600.00
Hippodrome tickets	£19,348.23
Laser fusion	£ 765.00
Aquarium	£ 576.00
Teenagers Xmas bowling	£ 688.60
Childrens xmas party	£ 451.88
West Midland safari	£ 1,202.50

**Total** **£30,464.59**

**Yearly Profit/Loss** **£ 1,176.41 loss**

**(ragdoll panto grant of £1,230 was banked in 2020/21 but spent in 2021/22 year.)**

BFCA 2021/2022 Annual Accounts

<b>Bank Opening Balance</b>	<b>£7,131.64</b>	<b>Petty Cash</b>
<b>£189.56</b>		
<b>Bank Closing Balance</b>	<b>£5,955.23</b>	
<b>£158.56</b>		

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**Total** **£30,464.59**

**Yearly Profit/Loss** **£ 1,176.41 loss**

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**Section A**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

Charity Name  
Bristol Foster Carers Association

**On accounts for the year  
ended**

31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 **Charity no  
(if any)** 283305

**Set out on pages**

1-2 (Remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets.)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

**Responsibilities and  
basis of report**

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

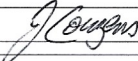
**Independent  
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below \*) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

*\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

**Signed:** 

**Date:** 8 Sep 2022

**Name:** Joan Couzens

**Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):**

Bookkeeper (Retired)

**Address:**

3 Holsom Road  
Stockwood  
Bristol BS14 8LT