

Registration Number: 01763241
Charity Number: 288125

National Children's Centre
(a Company Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

National Children’s Centre

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National Children's Centre

Reference and Administrative Details of the Charity, its Trustees and Advisers for the year ended 31 March 2023

Trustees

The trustees who served during the year were:

Dr Ira Laketic-Ljubojevic	Chair
Philip Longworth	
Shakkela Ajaib-Latif	
Paul Brockwell	(appointed 15 November 2022)
Nigel Garrow	(appointed 5 July 2022)
Malcolm Duncan	(appointed 5 July 2022)
Gill Goodswen	
Chris Hardern	
Myrna Moore	(resigned 17 October 2022)
Judith Oliver	(resigned 13 September 2022)
Emma Reed	
Gary Waterhouse	
Chloe Williams	(appointed 5 July 2022)
David Wood	(resigned 13 June 2023)

Honorary President

Barry Sheerman MP

Honorary Vice Presidents

Dick Swindell
Alda Flowers
Sui Cheung
John Cashman
Dr Mike Sills

Company registered number

01763241

Charity registered number

288125

Registered office

Brian Jackson House
New North Parade
Huddersfield
HD1 5JP

Company secretary

Robert Edden

Auditor

Azets Audit Services Limited
33 Park Place
Leeds
LS1 2RY

Bankers

National Westminster Bank
8 Market Place
Huddersfield
HD1 2AN

National Children’s Centre

Trustees’ Report for the year ended 31 March 2023

Chair’s Introduction

This year was broadly one of continuing delivery in a period of change, with a number of funding streams either coming to an end or in the process of renewal, and as we started to implement some of our strategic plans.

Our colleges continue to go from strength to strength, with pupil numbers near capacity and increasing demand from outside Kirklees. We now have pupils referred to us from across West Yorkshire, and we continue to develop those relationships to lessen our reliance on one local authority. We are at something of a crossroads with our education provision, and in 23-24 we need to make expansion decisions, on current sites, a potential third site and moving into post 16 provision, all of which are current opportunities.

Our Hopeful Families employability service closed in the autumn, as planned as funding came to an end. This service has helped a considerable number of adults take the first steps into employment or training, and we are proud of the team and what they delivered for our community. The team either moved into new roles with us or found suitable new employment. We will be looking to launch a new service in 23-24 subject to funding.

Funding for the Domestic Abuse Perpetrator work is proving challenging, with CAFCASS ending their contract early due to the Ministry of Justice looking to move to a different model. This was unsuccessfully challenged by a consortium of providers, including ourselves, through Respect, as it left an 18 month period with no provision. We were funded separately by Kirklees for a programme, and we are working on future funding models.

A highlight of the year was making the step to become a Living Wage Employer, through the Living Wage Foundation. This is an important milestone in our ongoing commitment to invest in our people, and to address historic low pay within the charity. We also continued to improve our training and development programmes and held the first team day when all the charities employees spent time together, to help embed the one charity, one team culture. We also invested in our volunteers with a dedicated role to develop volunteering across NCC.

We start 23-24 in a strong financial position, which enables us to further our growth agenda, to ensure we meet the needs of our communities as well as we can. We are entering a challenging period, as demand continues to grow at the same time as funding tightens, in common with the rest of the third sector.

Our thanks to all our hard working employees, volunteers, and trustees, and to our funders and partners, without whom the charity could not deliver the fantastic outcomes it does for the communities we serve.

Dr Ira Laketic-Ljubojevic
Chair

14/09/2023

Date:

National Children's Centre

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 March 2023

The Trustees (who are also Directors of the charity for the purpose of the Companies Act) present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. The annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a Directors' report under company law. The Trustees confirm that the annual report and financial statements of the charitable company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

Reference and Administrative Details

The Legal and Administrative Information page forms part of this report.

Objectives and Activities

The principal activity of the company in the year under review was that of a registered charity to support the vision and objectives listed.

Our Vision

Our vision is that all young people have opportunities for a better life now and in the future.

We deliver our vision through working with vulnerable and disadvantaged children, young people, and their families. We are thought leaders, and, together with partners, deliver the best possible outcomes through four interwoven strands of activity:

- Providing education services and facilities;
- Building healthy relationships;
- Promoting health and wellbeing; and
- Improving employability skills.

Our Values

We are

- Inclusive
- Empowering
- Trusted
- Caring
- Approachable

NCC Objectives

The revised charitable objectives formally adopted by Trustees in July 2022, and to which Charity Commission gave consent in June 2022 are:

To support disadvantaged and vulnerable children, young people, and their families by providing advice and assistance and organising programmes of educational, physical, and other activities as a means of:

- (a) advancing in life and helping young people by developing their skills, capacities, and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as independent, mature, and responsible individuals.
- (b) advancing education;
- (c) relieving unemployment;
- (d) improving health and wellbeing of children and young people;
- (e) promoting positive, meaningful, and healthy relationships; and
- (f) providing recreational and leisure time activity in the interests of social welfare for people who have need by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disability, poverty, or social and economic circumstances with a view to improving the conditions of life of such persons.

We provide early interventions and medium to longer term support for children and those in a child's circle of influence who are facing challenges with their social, emotional, and mental health. Our services do not stand in isolation but are interconnected – working together with our communities and external organisations to remove barriers and help children and young people to have a brighter future.

National Children's Centre

Trustees' Report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2023

Improving lives and inspiring change is at the heart of everything we do.

Public benefit and eligibility criteria

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the organisation's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

Achievements and Performance

NCC Trustee and staff representation on the boards of other charities and organisations:

Third Sector Leaders Kirklees (TSL) - Mark Farmer is an elected Director of TSL

Thriving Kirklees (TK) - Mark Farmer is a member of the TK Partnership Board

NCC Partnership Working:

- Third Sector Leaders Kirklees (TSL) is a membership organisation to support the Third Sector in Kirklees. NCC work in partnership with TSL and a range of third sector organisations as part of the Community Anchor network across Kirklees.
- Families Forward are partners with NCC in the delivery of the CAF/CASS contract for Child Contact Interventions in West Yorkshire.
- Seetec Pluss, Halifax Opportunities Trust, Groundworks and Dominion Training were partners in the delivery of the Building Better Opportunities Hopeful Families service.
- Locala CIC, South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (SWYFT), Northorpe Hall and Homestart are partners in the delivery of the Thriving Kirklees (0-19 Healthy Child Programme).
- Kirklees Families Together Area Partnerships bring together services for those aged 0-19 and seeking to develop place based service provision. As part of TK Mark Farmer chaired the partnership for Batley & Spen Valley and NCC are represented on the other 3 partnerships.
- NCC are represented by members of the Leadership Team on a number of steering groups and partnerships including Kirklees Children's Ambition Board, Kirklees Tackling Poverty partnership, Kirklees Loneliness steering group; Kirklees Children and Young People's Partnership, and The West Yorkshire Mayors Office for Policing Third Sector Advisory Group.

Funding Sources

National Children's Centre is predominantly funded through contracts with government departments and agencies, local authorities, health authorities, charitable trusts, educational organisations, or as sub-contractor to Prime Contractors. During the year restricted funding of £713,094 (2022: £731,225) towards projects was received from various sources and is detailed with the accounts.

We are at an early stage of developing our fundraising activities. NCC have historically relied on contract, grant and trading income, with any fundraising income being relatively small and as a result of individual employee or volunteer efforts. Part of the rationale of the creation of the Head of Income & Partnerships role in 2021 was to grow our supporter base and generate additional income. We have registered with the Fundraising Regulator and abide by their code of conduct. The trustees are not aware of any failure by the Charity to comply with this regulation and no complaints have been received in relation to any form of fundraising. Income in 22-23 remained low, as we worked on putting building blocks in place including a modern web site with donation facilities and a CRM system.

National Children's Centre

Trustees' Report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2023

Structure, governance and management

Governing Document

The Company is limited by Guarantee without share capital and was incorporated on 20 October 1983. Under the Memorandum of Association members undertake to contribute to the Assets of the Company in the event of winding up, such amount as may be required not exceeding £1 each. The Company is not required to use the word "Limited" in its title. The Trustees adopted a new Governing Document in July 2022 including a change to the charitable object. The revised object was agreed by the Charities Commission in June 2022.

Trustee/Director Appointments

Appointment of Trustees are made by the Board as Trustee/Director vacancies occur. Appointments are made to enable the charity to have suitable expertise and skills on the Board. The areas under consideration at any one time include education, finance, legal, social enterprise, community involvement, fundraising, health, local and national government, safeguarding, governance, poverty and deprivation, disability, and diversity.

Organisational Structure

The Board of Directors and Trustees of the Charity have six meetings per year. In 2022/23 the Board was supported by sub committees on finance, children and family services, and income and partnerships, and by a Board of Governors overseeing the College. These meet three times a year to examine matters in greater depth than possible at Board Meetings and make reports and recommendations to the Board as appropriate.

The day to day operation of the Charity is administered by the Leadership Team who meet regularly and attend and report to the Board Meetings. In March 2023 the Leadership Team consisted of the Chief Executive Office, Head Teacher, Head of Income and partnerships, Head of Children and Family Services and Head of Finance and Support Services. The pay of key management personnel is reviewed annually by the Remuneration Committee, making recommendations to be agreed by the Board of Trustees as part of the budget process.

NCC Governance

In order to ensure good Governance, the board:

1. Maintain a skilled cross section of Trustees and Governors with appropriate experience to service NCC Governance arrangements.
2. Aim for high quality in all that NCC does through investing in staff, volunteers, and Trustees.
3. Ensure NCC's structure and management activity areas are well supported and regularly reviewed.
4. Ensure Trustees oversee all financial and governance matters of the charity.

Plans for 2023/2024

On behalf of the Trustees, the Chief Executive will be accountable for ensuring that:

1. The Leadership Team maintains a viable and sustainable operating model for the organisation, including appropriate structural responsibilities and accountabilities.
2. A detailed and accurate budget and operational review is prepared for 2023/24 together with a 3 year budget and forecast.
3. NCC continues to operate a services portfolio that links to NCC's aims regarding children, young people, and families during 2023/24 reflecting the four areas of activity.
4. Volunteer recruitment continues to grow and strengthen and continues to be a significant activity for the charity.
5. NCC income generation activities - the community buildings and retail operation - run effectively and efficiently to make a financial contribution to the overall charity.

National Children's Centre

Trustees' Report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2023

Structure, governance and management (continued)

Charity Risk Management

To March 2023 the most material and probable risks determined by the Trustees/Directors and Leadership Team were met by:

1. Registration as a Company Limited by Guarantee to protect Trustees/Directors.
2. Long term financial control of Charity's finances by annual audit.
3. Medium term financial control of Charity's finances by monthly profit & loss, cash flow and balance sheet reports by the Head of Finance and Support Services to the Trustees/Directors at their Board Meetings and to Finance committee meetings.
4. Short term financial control of Charity's finances by continuous monthly management of incoming and outgoing resources and bank reconciliation. Reports made monthly by the Head of Finance and Support Services to the Finance committee, the Chief Executive and Leadership Team.
5. Short term financial control of Charity's finances by staff reporting regularly to the Chief Executive.
6. Organisation wide Risk Register and Risk Management in place and regularly reviewed by Trustees.
7. Health, safety and welfare of staff, volunteers, and beneficiaries through annual reappraisal of risk assessment areas by the NCC Competent person and reported through the Chief Executive to Leadership Team and Trustees/Directors.
8. Regular review of NCC's Policies and Guidelines including the Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults Safeguarding Policy.
9. In response to the formation of an unrelated charity - Yorkshire Childrens Charity – and a potential challenge to the trading name, YCC, the YCC logo, and the Yorkshire Children's Centre words and logo, were successfully registered as trademarks in July 2022.

Information on NCC

Updated information is available at: www.yorkshirechildrenscentre.org.uk .

Financial Review

During the year total income of the charity amounted to £3,600,216 (2022: £3,560,194) and total expenditure of the charity totalled £3,399,544 (2022: £2,788,255). Net movement in funds for the year totalled £200,672 (2022: £771,939). At the balance sheet date, the charity had total funds of £2,637,125 (2022: £2,436,453). Free reserves are £888,665 (2022: £854,208). The Trustees consider that the financial position of the charity is satisfactory.

Reserves Policy

Reserves are to be applied in the furtherance of the Charity's commitment to help vulnerable and socially excluded children, young people, families, and older people achieve their full potential. The Reserves Policy seeks to ensure that there are sufficient unrestricted funds available to cover day to day operations and effectively respond to any short term financial difficulties or opportunities that may arise. The policy forms part of the processes, procedures and controls that are in place to maintain financial stability. The policy requires reserves to be maintained to at least cover three times monthly salary costs and any potential winding up costs. At the year end this amounted to £750,000. The Reserves Policy is reviewed annually.

Investment policy

The Memorandum of Association of the Charity gives Directors the authority to invest and deal with the monies of the Company not immediately required. Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) Charity Deposit Account is used to generate interest on monies not immediately required. Where appropriate, professional investment advice will be taken by the Directors for more advantageous returns on the charity's resources.

Pension Plan

The Charity operates defined contribution pension schemes with a number of providers. The assets of the schemes are held separately from those of the Charity. Contributions payable for the year are charged in the statement of financial activities.

National Children's Centre

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

NCC Strategy

The Trustees agreed a new strategy for 2022-2025, following an extensive review and consultation exercise with internal and external stakeholders. New strategic goals reflecting our focus on children, young people, and their families, and our four areas of work were agreed with supporting operating plans.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The charity Trustees (who are also Directors of National Children's Centre for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing a Trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Board to prepare financial statements for each financial period, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of the financial period and of the surplus or deficit of the charitable company for that period.

In preparing those financial statements the Board is 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; and
- prepare financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue to operate.

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 which 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.

Statement of disclosure to the auditor

The trustees of the company who held office at the date of approval of this annual report confirm that:

- so far as they are aware, there is no relevant audit information, information needed by the charitable company's auditor in connection with preparing their report, of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- they have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as trustees in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable company's auditor is aware of this information.

Auditor

Azets Audit Services Limited were appointed auditor to the Charity during the year. Azets Audit Services Limited have indicated their willingness to stand for reappointment at the Annual General Meeting.

This report, which incorporates the Directors report, was approved by the Trustees, in their capacity as

Company Directors, on 14/09/2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Ira Laketic-Ljubojevic

Ira Laketic-Ljubojevic
Chair

National Children's Centre

Independent Auditor's Report for the year ended 31 March 2023

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of National Children's Centre (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the related Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and UK Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the group's or parent charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

National Children's Centre

Independent Auditor's Report for the year ended 31 March 2023

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' report (incorporating the strategic report and the Directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees' report (incorporating the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report) has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns;
- certain disclosures of Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit.

Responsibilities of the Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the Charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of identifying irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above and on the Financial Reporting Council's website, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud.

We obtain and update our understanding of the entity, its activities, its control environment, and likely future developments, including in relation to the legal and regulatory framework applicable and how the entity is complying with that framework. Based on this understanding, we identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. This includes consideration of the risk of acts by the entity that were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

National Children's Centre

Independent Auditor's Report for the year ended 31 March 2023

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud, we designed procedures which included:

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims as well as actual, suspected and alleged fraud;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Assessing the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations considered to have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company through enquiry and inspection;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management bias and override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for indicators of potential bias; and
- Performing audit work over the timing and recognition of income and in particular whether it has been recorded in the correct accounting period.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Charitable Company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Charitable Company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charitable Company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Jessica Lawrence

Jessica Lawrence (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Azets Audit Services Limited

14/09/2023

.....
33 Park Place
Leeds
LS1 2RY

Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor

National Children's Centre

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2023 (Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022 As re-stated
		£	£	£	£
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	41,938	1,110	43,048	79,812
Charitable activities	4	2,422,117	711,984	3,134,101	3,103,246
Investments	5	18,446	-	18,446	71
Other trading activities	6	404,621	-	404,621	377,065
Total Income		2,887,122	713,094	3,600,216	3,560,194
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	649,465	-	649,465	546,267
Charitable activities	8	2,177,510	572,569	2,750,079	2,241,988
Total expenditure		2,826,975	572,569	3,399,544	2,788,255
Net income and net movement in funds	10	60,147	140,525	200,672	771,939
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	17/18	1,655,504	780,949	2,436,453	1,664,514
Total funds carried forward	17/18	1,715,651	921,474	2,637,125	2,436,453

The Statement of Financial Activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 14 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

A fully detailed comparative Statement of Financial Activities for the year ending 31 March 2022 is shown at note 24.

National Children's Centre

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	13		1,142,016		1,154,358
			1,142,016		1,154,358
Current assets					
Stock		2,098		2,664	
Debtors	14	321,419		508,031	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,587,559		1,162,391	
		1,911,076		1,673,086	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(415,967)		(390,991)	
Net current assets			1,495,109		1,282,095
Total net assets			2,637,125		2,436,453
Charity funds					
Restricted funds	17/18		921,474		780,949
Unrestricted funds	17/18		1,715,651		1,655,504
Total funds	17/18		2,637,125		2,436,453

These financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and were approved by the Board and signed on its behalf .
by

Ira Laketic-Ljubojevic

Chair of Trustees

Date: 14/09/2023

The notes on pages 14 to 24 form part of these Financial Statements

Company registration number: 01763241

National Children's Centre

Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Note	2023	2022
		£	£
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by operating activities	23	538,483	211,040
Cash Flows from investing activities:			
Investment income		18,446	71
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(131,761)	(42,968)
Net cash used in investing activities		(113,315)	(42,897)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		425,168	168,143
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		1,162,391	994,248
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		1,587,559	1,162,391

National Children's Centre

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

1. Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

Company Information

National Children's Centre is a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England & Wales (no. 01763241) and a registered charity (no. 288125). The registered office is Brian Jackson House, New North Parade, Huddersfield, HD1 5JP.

Every member undertakes to contribute to the assets of National Children's Centre, in the event of winding up whilst a member, or within a year of ceasing to be a member, for payment of the debts and liabilities of the Charity contracted to before ceasing to be a member, such as may be required but not exceeding £1.

Basis of preparation of financial statements

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their Financial Statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102), the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.

National Children's Centre 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.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

Going Concern

The Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Income

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities ("SoFA") when the charity has established entitlement and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Donations and legacies, which include grants, are included in the SoFA when it is probable that the funds will be received and that they can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Grants, including government grant and grants for the purchase of fixed assets, are recognised in full in the SoFA in the period in which they are receivable.

The value of services provided by volunteers is not included.

Trading and investment income is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Where income is received with specific performance conditions attached and those conditions have not been met, income is deferred until those conditions have been met.

National Children's Centre

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised in the period in which it is incurred. Expenditure includes attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

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

Support costs comprise all non-attributable costs including Finance, Human Resources, Information Technology and Administration. These costs have been allocated across activities either directly or based on usage as set out in note 9.

Staff costs

The costs of short term employee benefits are recognised as a liability and an expense where settlement of obligations does not fall within the same period.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation, individual tangible assets are capitalised if costing in excess of £500. Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off fixed assets, less their residual value, over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Long leasehold property	Over the term of the lease
Ongoing property improvements	4% straight line
Fixtures, and office equipment	25% straight line
Motor vehicles	20% straight line

Freehold property is not depreciated as, in the opinion of the Trustees, the estimated residual life at the end of its economic life is expected to be at least carrying value so that any depreciation charge would be immaterial.

Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Stocks

Stock items are valued at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity held for working capital.

Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

National Children's Centre

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year Ended 31 March 2023

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.

Leases

Rentals payable under operating leases, including any lease incentives received, are charged to the SoFA on a straight line basis over the lease term.

Pensions

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme, and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the charity to the fund in respect of the year.

Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

2. Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised, if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

The Trustees are of the opinion that there are no estimations and assumptions which have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities.

National Children's Centre

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year Ended 31 March 2023

3. Income from Donations

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Individual and Corporate	28,247	1,110	29,357
Gift Aid	13,691	-	13,691
Total	41,938	1,110	43,048

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Individual and Corporate	65,388	-	65,388
Gift Aid	14,424	-	14,424
Total	79,812	-	79,812

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Central services	372	-	372
Children, young people & families	125,338	630,191	755,529
Recycling and reuse	232,705	-	232,705
Training	2,063,702	-	2,063,702
Health	-	81,793	81,793
Total	2,422,117	711,984	3,134,101

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Central services	21,546	23,918	45,464
Children, young people & families	243,194	598,830	842,024
Recycling and reuse	217,473	-	217,473
Training	1,725,155	62,750	1,787,905
Health	164,653	45,727	210,380
Total	2,372,021	731,225	3,103,246

5. Investment Income

	2023 £	2022 £
Bank and other interest receivable	18,446	71

6. Other trading activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Building and Services	404,621	377,065

National Children's Centre

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year Ended 31 March 2023

7. Expenditure on raising funds

	2023 £	2022 £ As restated
Brian Jackson House	295,084	272,876
Jo Cox House	75,652	61,380
Income Generation	61,787	31,898
Pass it on	216,942	180,113
Total	649,465	546,267

8. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Contact BJH	48,649	-	48,649
DAPP BJH	140,242	-	140,242
Reducing Parental Conflict	1,071	-	1,071
Contact SY	48,870	-	48,870
Police Commissioning Grant	-	92,469	92,469
Thriving Kirklees	-	185,123	185,123
Community Anchor	-	56,249	56,249
DSG Huddersfield	-	7,756	7,756
Befriending Community Connections	-	81,703	81,703
Hardship Fund – Batley	-	1,400	1,400
Hardship Fund – Birkenshaw	-	550	550
BBO Hopeful Families	-	147,319	147,319
BJC Vision House	710,884	-	710,884
BJH Wellington House	701,121	-	701,121
Support and governance costs (note 9)	526,673	-	526,673
Total	2,177,510	572,569	2,750,079

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £ As restated	Restricted funds 2022 £ As restated	Total funds 2022 £ As restated
Contact BJH	65,639	-	65,639
DAPP BJH	135,368	-	135,368
Reducing Parental Conflict	1,336	-	1,336
Contact SY	37,051	-	37,051
Police Commissioning Grant	21,164	35,317	56,481
Thriving Kirklees	56,134	105,210	161,344
Community Anchor	8,554	34,218	42,772
DSG Huddersfield	-	3,201	3,201
Befriending Community Connections	14,314	65,211	79,525
Hardship Fund – Batley	-	575	575
Hardship Fund – Birkenshaw	-	525	525
BBO Hopeful Families	57,352	58,331	115,683
BJC Vision House	505,306	-	505,306
BJH Wellington House	579,986	-	579,986
Support and governance costs (note 9)	457,187	-	457,187
Total	2,086,309	302,588	2,241,988

National Children's Centre

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year Ended 31 March 2023

9. Support and governance costs

	2023 £	2022 £
		As restated
Core	329,563	273,733
Finance	126,086	119,915
HR	58,724	51,311
Governance	12,300	12,228
	526,673	457,187

10. Net Income for the Year

Net income for the year is stated after charging:

	2023 £	2022 £
Depreciation	139,435	118,316
Auditor's remuneration		
– Audit services	11,550	11,000
– Accountants preparation	1,500	-
Operating rent payments	82,515	79,185

11. Staff costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	2,045,339	1,699,552
Social security costs	144,750	114,784
Pension costs	123,329	70,916
	2,313,418	1,885,252

The average number of persons employed by the charity during the year was 117 (2022: 111).

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
£60,001 - £70,000	1	1

The charity considers its key management personnel to comprise the Chief Executive Officer, Head Teacher, Head of Income and partnerships, Head of Children and Family Services and Head of Finance and Support Services. During the year, key management personnel received emoluments amounting to £301,003 (2022: £260,816).

12. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2022 - £nil).

During the year ended 31 March 2023, one trustee (2022 - no trustees) received reimbursement of expenses totalling £203 (2022 - £nil).

National Children's Centre

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

13. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold & long Leasehold property £	Ongoing property improvements £	Fixtures & Office Equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost or valuation					
At 1 April 2022	439,826	1,713,767	358,897	67,737	2,580,227
Additions	-	38,628	93,133	-	131,761
Disposals	(2,340)	(12,665)	(7,182)	-	(22,187)
At 31 March 2023	437,486	1,739,730	444,848	67,737	2,689,901
Depreciation					
At 1 April 2022	25,080	1,053,073	283,539	64,177	1,425,869
Charge for the year	3,336	89,235	43,304	3,560	139,435
Eliminated on disposals	-	(12,665)	(4,854)	-	(17,519)
At 31 March 2023	28,416	1,129,643	321,989	67,737	1,547,785
Net book value at 31 March 2023	409,070	610,087	122,859	-	1,142,016
Net book value at 31 March 2022	414,746	660,694	75,358	3,560	1,154,358

14. Debtors - due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	109,569	233,006
Prepayments and accrued income	207,883	269,928
Other debtors	3,967	5,097
	321,419	508,031

15. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	59,347	59,197
Accruals	87,116	83,084
Deferred income (note 16)	196,746	161,802
Taxation and social security	36,940	53,422
Other creditors	35,818	33,496
	415,967	390,991

16. Deferred income

	2023 £	2022 £
At 1 April 2022	161,802	539,299
Amount released to income	(161,802)	(539,299)
Amount deferred in the year	196,746	161,802
At 31 March 2023	196,746	161,802

National Children's Centre

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year Ended 31 March 2023

17. Funds

For the year ended 31 March 2023	At 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2023 £
Restricted funds					
Capital projects	353,062	-	-	-	353,062
Hopeful Families	26,175	162,725	(147,319)	-	41,581
Befriending	58,605	-	(32,341)	-	26,264
National Lottery Community Fund	240,000	-	(49,362)	-	190,639
Community Anchor	59,588	81,793	(56,249)	-	85,132
Thriving Kirklees	23,055	219,673	(185,123)	-	57,605
Police Commissioning	2,083	247,793	(92,469)	-	157,407
Other	18,381	1,110	(9,706)	-	9,785
Total restricted funds	780,949	713,094	(572,569)	-	921,474
Unrestricted funds	1,655,504	2,887,122	(2,826,975)	-	1,715,651
Total funds	2,436,453	3,600,216	(3,399,544)	-	2,637,125

For the year ended 31 March 2022	At 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2022 £
Restricted funds					
Capital projects	392,423	-	-	(39,361)	353,062
Hopeful Families	-	151,658	(125,483)	-	26,175
Befriending	-	58,605	-	-	58,605
National Lottery Community Fund	-	240,000	-	-	240,000
Community Anchor	-	82,651	(23,063)	-	59,588
Thriving Kirklees	-	173,826	(150,771)	-	23,055
Police Commissioning	-	5,000	(2,917)	-	2,083
Other	-	19,485	(354)	(750)	18,381
Total restricted funds	392,423	731,225	(302,588)	(40,111)	780,949
Unrestricted funds	1,272,091	2,828,969	(2,485,667)	40,111	1,655,504
Total funds	1,664,514	3,560,194	(2,788,255)	-	2,436,453

The purpose of restricted funds are as follows:

Capital Projects

Capital projects represent the balance of various property improvements and funds are released in line with the annual depreciation charge.

Hopeful Families

The Hopeful Families programme is an innovative and flexible community programme designed to support individuals who may be challenged by difficulties that prevent them actively seeking employment, education, or training.

Befriending (including National Lottery Community Fund)

Represents funding through Kirklees 'It's Only me' grant scheme and National Lottery Funding, for vulnerable and older adults to receive scheduled visits or phone calls from a certified volunteer friend to reduce loneliness or isolation.

Community Anchor

Funding through Kirklees Council. The purpose is to establish a network of community organisations that enable communities to respond to community needs and opportunities and to organise in sustainable and inclusive ways.

Thriving Kirklees

Thriving Kirklees is a partnership of local health and wellbeing providers all working together to support children, young people and their families to thrive and be healthy.

Police Commissioning

Funding to increase capacity within the existing Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Programme to deliver a perpetrator intervention for fathers in Kirklees.

National Children's Centre

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

18. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds – current period

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	826,986	315,030	1,142,016
Net current assets	888,665	606,444	1,495,109
Total	1,715,651	921,474	2,637,125

Analysis of net assets between funds – previous period

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	801,296	353,062	1,154,358
Net current assets	854,208	427,887	1,282,095
Total	1,655,504	780,949	2,436,453

19. Pension commitments

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme with various pension companies for its employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Charity in independently administered funds. The cost of contributions to pension funds for Charity employees amounted to £123,329 (2022: £70,916).

20. Taxation

National Children's Centre is a registered charity and as such is a charity within the meaning of schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010. Accordingly, the charity is potentially entitled to tax exemption under part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 in respect of income and gains arising. Given this, no tax charge arises on the charity.

21. Operating lease commitments

At 31 March 2023 the Charity had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
No later than 1 year	66,736	1,332
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	175,947	37,500
In more than 5 years	-	284,675
	242,683	323,507

22. Related party transactions

Other than the transactions disclosed in note 12 to the financial statements there are no other disclosable related party transactions in the current or previous financial year.

National Children's Centre

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year Ended 31 March 2023

23. Net cash provided by operating activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Net movement in funds	200,672	771,939
Depreciation charges	139,435	118,316
Decrease in investments	-	900
Loss on the sale of fixed assets	4,668	-
Income from investments	(18,446)	(71)
Decrease / (Increase) in debtors	186,612	(266,189)
Decrease in stock	566	242
Increase / (Decrease) in creditors	24,976	(414,097)
	538,483	211,040

The charity had no debt in the current or prior year.

24. Statement of Financial Activities (Including Income and Expenditure Account) for the year ending 31 March 2022

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 As restated £
Income from:			
Donations and legacies	79,812	-	79,812
Charitable activities	2,372,021	731,225	3,103,246
Investments	71	-	71
Other trading activities	377,065	-	377,065
Total Income	2,828,969	731,225	3,560,194
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	546,267	-	546,267
Charitable activities	1,939,400	302,588	2,241,988
Total expenditure	2,485,667	302,588	2,788,255
Net income / (expenditure)	343,302	428,637	771,939
Transfer between funds	40,111	(40,111)	-
Net movement in funds	383,413	388,526	771,939
Reconciliation of funds:			
Total funds brought forward	1,272,091	392,423	1,664,514
Total funds carried forward	1,655,504	780,949	2,436,453

National Children's Centre

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year Ended 31 March 2023

25. Post balance sheet event

Closure of Pass It On retail operation

The Trustees at a meeting on the 20th July 2023 agreed to a strategic change impacting a couple of operating areas. Brian Jackson College has continued to receive growing demand for its service. This has been caused by the growing numbers of children and young people that are finding it difficult to be educated within a standard school environment, and the quality of our provision that recently was awarded good in an Ofsted inspection. Therefore the trustees are looking for opportunities to allow the number of young people educated to be increased and extend our reach.

The charity reduced the scale of retail charity operations in 2020 to just one shop during the Covid pandemic. The Pass It On retail operation was then given time to re-establish itself and generate funding to support the charity's objectives. Unfortunately, the contribution has remained low against a backdrop of competition and escalating costs.

The site at Vision House in Heckmondwike is currently shared by the college and Pass It On. By closing the retail operation the trustees see the opportunity to both increase the number of pupils supported, but also extend the programmes that are delivered. The loss of contribution from retail being more than offset by the fees generated by the college.

26. Restatement

In the prior year, expenditure was not split out between direct and support costs. In the current year, expenditure has been split out between direct and support costs and the prior year has also been restated to show the comparative results, however there has been no change to total expenditure reported. As part of this re-working, the split of expenditure between raising funds and charitable expenditure has also been restated.