

Company number (England and Wales): 1815689

Charity number (England and Wales): 289600

Charity number (Scotland): SC045010

WELLCHILD
(A Company Limited by Guarantee
and a Registered Charity)

Annual Report

Year Ended 31 March 2023

WELLCHILD

(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)

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CHARITY INFORMATION

PATRON

The Duke of Sussex

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

David (Craig) Hatch – Chair

Nicholas Fisher – Vice Chair

Rosalind Futter – Treasurer

Leanne Cooper

Simon Hardy

Dr Huw Jenkins

Elizabeth Morgan

Ruth Seymour (resigned 21 November 2022)

SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM

Colin Dyer – Chief Executive (to 15th April 2022)

Matt James – Director of Communications and Engagement (to 15th April 2022)

Matt James – Interim Chief Executive (from 15th April 2022 to 14th August 2022), Chief Executive (from 15th August 2022)

Abigail Guilding – Director of Fundraising

Emily Henderson – Director of Operations

Amy Mitchell – Director of Programmes (from 27 June 2022)

COMPANY SECRETARY

Emily Henderson

REGISTERED AND PRINCIPAL OFFICE

(to 4 December 2022)

16 Royal Crescent

Cheltenham

GL50 3DA

(from 4 December 2022)

Office 23, Sunningend Business Centre

Unit 22, Lansdown Industrial Estate

Cheltenham

GL51 8PL

COMPANY NUMBER

1815689

CHARITY NUMBER

289600 England and Wales and SC045010 Scotland

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR

Crowe U.K. LLP

4th Floor

St James House

St James Square

Cheltenham

GL50 3PR

BANKERS

Barclays Bank

128 High Street

Cheltenham

GL50 1EG

WELLCHILD**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)****REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**

INTRODUCTION

WellChild is the UK's national charity for seriously ill children. The charity's key objective is working to ensure that all children and young people in the UK living with serious health needs have the best chance to thrive – properly supported at home with their families.

WellChild is a registered charity in England and Wales (number 289600) and Scotland (number SC045010) and is a company limited by guarantee (number 1815689). Details on the structure of the charity can be seen on pages 9 to 10 and WellChild's independently audited financial statements for the year covered by this report can be found on pages 16 to 18.

The object of the charity is the relief of sickness, primarily but not exclusively among seriously ill children and young people and their families and carers, by:

- The provision, promotion and advancement of charitable activities and services to care for and support the seriously ill, and their families and carers, to ensure that they have the best possible quality of life.
- The promotion, financing, maintenance, and furtherance of medical and health research and ensuring the effective dissemination of the useful results of such research by supporting, informing and educating the sick, their families and their carers.
- The provision of information and education on the avoidance of sickness and the provision of health and welfare.
- Acting on behalf of, promoting and furthering the needs and welfare of the seriously ill and their families and carers.
- Such other charitable purposes as the Trustees in their discretion see fit.

CHARITABLE PROGRAMMES SUMMARY

The charity increased investment in its charitable activities by 29% in 2022-2023, compared to the previous year. All funds assigned to WellChild's charitable programmes were consistent with the aims set out in the charity's strategy (published June 2018 and available at www.wellchild.org.uk). Funds were allocated to:

- The WellChild Nurse programme, which is estimated to have supported more than 3,500 children and young people and their families during the year. The charity allocated funding for two new WellChild Nurse posts during the year and the two-year funding for two WellChild Nurse posts in Southampton were completed. The first face-to-face WellChild nurse meeting since COVID-19 was held in November 2022, bringing the network together to share best practice and solicit views ahead of the new strategic period.
- The Better At Home training programme, which delivered more than 4,400 training sessions for more than 1,540 individuals including parents, carers and child health professionals. Funding was also allocated to five new training resources in London, Oxford and on the Isle of Wight.
- The completion of 22 Helping Hands garden suitability projects around the UK, creating safe, accessible, and sensory outside spaces for children and their families.
- Growth and development of the Family Information Hub, with 66 active information articles and resources for families, viewed 37,000 times in the last financial year.
- Enhancements to the WellChild Family Tree online support group and associated activities, improving the support provided by the service. This included delivery of more than 12 virtual and face-to-face events and 300 free tickets to accessible external events.
- Collaborative response to the cost-of-living crisis, helping to issue grant payments to families totalling £26,500 via partner organisations and publication of cost-of-living finance information on the Family Information Hub.
- Continued development of the In Your Area platform, with a target launch date of June/July 2023.
- The Medicines for Children programme, in partnership with the Royal College of Paediatric and Child Health (RCPCH) and the Neonatal & Paediatric Pharmacists Group (NPPG). 1.1m people visited the online resource during the year and the second phase of development of the Medicines for Children App continued.
- The WellChild Awards 2022 programme and event celebrated inspirational children, families and professionals and helped raise public awareness of the challenges they face day-to-day.

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REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

WellChild's Board of Trustees presents the charity's Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023. This report summarises the charity's activities, achievements, and challenges over the past 12 months. The charity emerged from the COVID-19 pandemic in 2022/23 with the reintroduction of face-to-face events and activities across all areas throughout the year. New challenges arose as the cost-of-living crisis intensified, creating a new and ever-changing set of aims and tasks as the organisation once again adapted its services and working practices to meet the needs of children, young people and families, whilst building resilience to protect the charity in a difficult fundraising environment. In addition, this report outlines the charity's goals for the year to come, which have also been influenced by the continuing impact of the cost-of-living crisis on the charity and those families it supports.

This combined annual report contains a Trustees' report as required by company law. More detailed information on all areas of WellChild's activity can be found at www.wellchild.org.uk

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The charity allocated £1,369,156 to its charitable programmes in 2022/23, with a significant increase in investment in areas such as the WellChild Nurse and Better At Home programmes. We were also able to deliver garden transformation projects at more typical levels following the end of COVID-19 restrictions. We also increased our investment in information, dissemination and campaigning.

- The charity allocated 65% per cent of its total expenditure to charitable programmes. This included the allocation of funding for two new WellChild Nurse posts and five Better At Home training resources. All existing grant commitments continued to be paid out across our programmes including the Medicines for Children App project.
- Income for the year was £2,186,824, an increase of £911,903 compared to 2021/22. This included increased income from legacy donations and major donors, events including the London Marathon and profit from the sale of the WellChild office.
- Expenditure on raising funds increased by approximately 38 per cent to £741,595 when compared to the previous year. This was due to the ability to run more face-to-face fundraising events than in the previous year, and their associated costs.
- The reserves policy has been changed this year to allow for greater resilience and sustainability of the charity and the Trustees agreed to set aside between four to eight months operating costs as free reserves. WellChild ended the year with an undesignated reserve of £690,274 (see note 16), which equates to six months' worth of operating expenditure. Following the sale of the WellChild headquarters, the organisation has moved into rented offices and the Trustees have set aside £520,000 of reserves under a designated Property Fund. An assessment of the property market and the organisation's office requirements will be reviewed at least annually, and the Property Fund updated accordingly. The charity's reserve policy can be found on page 13.

COST-OF-LIVING CRISIS

The cost-of-living crisis began in late 2021 and has intensified over the last year with families disproportionately affected because of the need to keep life-saving equipment on at home. In particular, the charity has seen families struggle who have ventilation needs, high heating requirements (for children unable to regulate their own temperature), those on parenteral nutrition and those who rely on overnight carers in home for round the clock care and support.

WellChild have continued to listen to family voices, publishing cost-of-living resources on the Information Hub as a direct result of family questions and worries from within the WellChild Family Tree group. These information pieces have been accessed more than any other in the last year.

Additionally, WellChild have worked collaboratively throughout the year with partners in the sector to meet the immediate needs of families. This included partnerships with Sense and Together for Short Lives to issue 73 cost-of-living grants, totalling more than £26,500 to WellChild's most vulnerable families identified via the WellChild Family Tree and WellChild Nurse networks. Meanwhile, our continued participation in and funding towards campaign groups such as the Disabled Children's Partnership helped to raise awareness and call on Government to provide greater support for vulnerable families with disabled children.

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In response to the cost-of-living crisis, funding was secured for a new Family Welfare Advisor. The post-holder will directly support families in applying for charitable grants, disability benefits and help them to access local services and support.

WELLCHILD CHARITABLE PROGRAMMES

Despite the new challenges posed by the cost-of-living crisis and staff shortages across the organisation during the year, WellChild continued to deliver on the key aims of its five-year charitable strategy 'HOME', published in June 2018 and increased its investment in its charitable activities by 29% compared to the previous year.

The charity's vision is for every child and young person living with serious health needs to have the best chance to thrive, properly supported at home with their families. Central to that mission is the belief that every child, young person and family must have:

- The opportunity to be cared for at home, whenever and wherever possible.
- Access to high quality, appropriate care and services, whatever their health needs.
- Involvement in all decisions regarding their care.

The organisation's strategy has four key priorities for its work:

- Home Is Best – expanding and developing the WellChild Nurse programme and overcoming barriers to hospital discharge.
- Confident To Care – improving the accessibility, quality and consistency of information and training for families, including work to establish a network of Better At Home Training Resources.
- Enabled To Thrive – laying the foundations for a safe, stimulating and happy home life, including expansion of the Helping Hands programme and WellChild Family Tree.
- A Voice & A Priority – ensuring that the needs of families are recognised publicly and at the highest levels.

This report sets out the WellChild's achievements in each of these priority areas during 2022/23, along with the charity's goals for the year ahead.

Despite external pressures, WellChild will strive to achieve these goals and adhere to its mission to give seriously ill children, young people and families the 'best chance to thrive'.

Home Is Best

During the financial year, the charity allocated £433,648 towards the WellChild Nurse programme and celebrated the first face-to-face meeting of WellChild Nurses since 2019. The charity has now funded and established 53 specialist WellChild Nurse posts within children's hospitals and community settings across the UK. It is estimated that WellChild Nurses supported more than 3,500 children, young people and their families during the year.

- Funding was allocated to two new WellChild Nurse posts during the year, one based at Birmingham Children's Hospital specialising in Long Term Ventilation, and one based at University Hospital of North Staffordshire specialising in neuromuscular disorders.
- The charity completed two-year funding for two WellChild Nurse posts in Southampton during the year, with those roles now funded by the NHS Trust as part of the charity's legacy funding model. Meanwhile, seven new post holders were inducted into existing WellChild Nurse roles during the year, continuing the development of the network and the creation of future children's nurse leaders.

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- During the year, six WellChild Nurse sub-groups continued to operate and regularly meet. Bringing WellChild Nurses together from across the country to share expertise and best practice across a range of national issues. The subgroups allow WellChild Nurses who work across specialist areas to access peer-to-peer support, identify collaboration opportunities and share resources. Sub-group specialities include Continuing Care, Palliative Care, Parent Training, Long Term Ventilation (LTV), Complex Discharge and Transition.
 - The Transition subgroup, this year helped to produce a booklet for young people on 'Growing up using a ventilator', in partnership with Manchester NHS Foundation Trust.
 - The Transition sub-group also met regularly to develop a new professional resource "8 Principles for Transition" which will be published and launched in 2023.
- As planned, WellChild continued to work in collaboration with the Pan Thames LTV Collaborative to further the '10 Principles for Complex Discharge Guidance and Toolkit'. The kit contains guiding principles and eleven information documents and templates to support health and care professionals to improve practice for all children and young people requiring a complex discharge from hospital to home and beyond. In situations where children do spend time in hospital, our goal is that this will be a useful reference framework to give clinicians the information and tools to ensure that there is a consistent, safe and timely approach to discharge. In December 2022, the resource was submitted to the Royal College of Nursing for endorsement, which was successfully granted this year.
- A project was finalised to review WellChild Nurse reporting procedures to enable improved impact and evaluation reporting and to feed into our organisational strategic review.

Our priorities and targets for 2023/24 and beyond in this area of work include:

- Develop a vision for the future of the WellChild Nurse programme as part of the organisation's strategic review.
- Work to identify and establish new WellChild Nurse posts across the UK, including those on the charity's waiting list and in those in areas where demand is greatest.
- Continue the work of the WellChild Nurse sub-groups to identify opportunities for new nurse-led projects and collaborations for improving and promoting national standards and best practice.
- Work with the WellChild Nurse Transition sub-group to publish a set of national guiding principles and professional resources for improving transition practices and outcomes for young people.

Confident To Care

The provision of high-quality training is critical to breaking down the barriers to hospital discharge and in giving families and those around them the confidence to care for a child with complex medical conditions safely at home. This became even more important this year with many families still struggling to access care and support at home following the COVID-19 pandemic. With care staff shortages and rising costs, respite support has been harder to access.

- The charity increased investment into the Better At Home Training programme this year and has now funded sixteen projects across the country to date. This includes innovative parent training suites within ten NHS Trusts; specialist training kits and equipment; and five specialist WellChild Parent Trainer Nurses working across England, Scotland and Wales.
- Five new mobile training resources were funded during the year to support better community-based training. Three new projects are being set up in London, one in Oxford and one on the Isle of Wight.
- During the year, more than 4,400 training sessions were delivered via the programme to 1,540 individuals including parents, carers, wider family members and professionals. Training included procedures such as suction training, ambubag training and the management of emergency scenarios, including basic life support.
- Our partnership with the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH) and the Neo-natal Paediatric and Pharmacists Group (NPPG) continued as we invested further in the development of the Medicines for Children information website and mobile app. The website attracted 1.7m page views from 1.1m unique users during the year. Phase two of the Medicines Management App development aimed at making complex medication management easier for parents and carers commenced and a focus group was held with families to review progress and app designs. A medicines chart was developed by one of the WellChild parents and this is being used to design the app template. Parents from the WellChild community also fed into the Medicines Safety Guidelines and reviewed articles on Strep A advice.

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Our priorities and targets for 2023/24 and beyond in this area of work are:

- To look for opportunities to expand the Better At Home Training programme as part of the charity's forthcoming strategic review to give more families and those around them access to high quality training and resources.
- To work with the RCPCH and NPPG to complete phase two development of a Medicines Management App for families.

Enabled To Thrive

Providing families the support and opportunities to thrive at home continues to be a growing area of the charity's work, particularly this year in response to the cost-of-living crisis. £577,685 was invested in the charity's information, family engagement, participation, events and Helping Hands work during the year.

- There were 3,093 families in the WellChild Family Tree network at the end of 2022/23, which is an 8.5% increase on the previous year. 1,058 were in the charity's closed Facebook Group, within which there were 527 conversations on topics ranging from condition management and cost-of-living to emotional resilience and the celebration of positive family moments.
- 12 virtual events were hosted during the year providing information, emotional support and fun activities for WellChild families.
- With the help and support of nine different corporate partners, the WellChild Helping Hands team delivered a total of 22 garden transformation projects throughout the year, for an estimated 52 children and young people. This was despite staffing shortages in the team throughout the year and the cost of materials increasing. The charity invested £244,262 into the programme during the year.
- The charity continued to develop the online Family Information Hub on the WellChild website and recorded more than 37,000 views of articles during the year. The most accessed articles were on grant and financial help, further demonstrating the ongoing need for cost-of-living support for our families. In total, 66 articles were live on the Information Hub. The content within the hub is informed by the needs and issues being faced by families within the WellChild Family Tree network and the WellChild Nurse and child health professional community.
- Following research that revealed finding local services to be a big challenge that many families face, the charity's work on a new online tool, 'In Your Area', reached its final stages of development. The aim of the tool is to enable families to discover and access relevant local services quicker. Launch is planned for July 2023.
- With cost-of-living pressures intensifying throughout the year, the charity partnered with other organisations and allocated internal resources towards supporting families through the crisis. £26,500 worth of grants were allocated to 73 of the charity's most vulnerable families via partnerships with Sense and Together for Short Lives; information was published on accessing grants and help with reducing bills; and a new post was created for a Family Support Worker pilot service which will commence in April 2023. With essential home costs increasing, the families team were able to send out toys at Christmas, blankets, and 300 free tickets to accessible external events, providing children and families positive and fun opportunities while household finances diverted to meeting rising utility costs.

Our priorities for 2023/24 in this area of work are:

- As part of the forthcoming strategic review, look for opportunities to expand the reach of Helping Hands programme to meet the high demand for support.
- Conduct an impact review of the Family Information Hub to establish areas for its future development.
- Launch an 'In Your Area' online tool to help families find and access local services quicker.
- Continue to develop the charity's family events and engagement programme to provide accessible and stimulating opportunities for families to connect virtually and face to face.
- Pilot a new Family Support and Welfare Advice service to directly support the charity's most vulnerable families in accessing financial support and local services.

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A Voice & A Priority

During the year, WellChild worked hard to raise awareness of the issues facing seriously ill children, young people and their families, who have suffered disproportionately from the impact of increased cost-of-living. The year also saw WellChild families directly contribute to a range of national research projects aimed at improving understanding and professional practice.

- The WellChild Awards took place in the autumn of 2022, with a celebration at The Hurlingham Club in London attended by a host of celebrity guests. We received 145 nominations from across the UK and the inspiring award winner stories helped shine a light nationally on many of the challenges faced by families and the inspirational work of professionals, young carers and volunteers who support them.
- During the year, families shared their voices on two core issues; transition from children to adult services and continuing care. The results from these have been used to inform best practice guidance, professional resources and provided steer on publications in the Family Information Hub.
- As the charity approaches the end of a 5-year strategic period, listening to families is crucial to ensure charitable delivery meets the needs of beneficiaries. This year, the charity launched a family survey to understand the biggest challenges for families over the next 12 months and five years. In one month, 173 responses were received. The results of this survey will be used to help shape the charity's priorities and objectives in the next strategic period, and inform campaigning activities.
- WellChild now has 34 Parent Ambassadors and in total 93 individuals volunteered to participate in various family involvement activities during the year from research to campaigning. Projects included Medicines Management (in partnership with the RCPCH and NPPG), reviewing medication leaflets and judging the WellChild Awards.
- WellChild continued its support as a founding member of the Disabled Children's Partnership (DCP). DCP is a consortium of more than 100 disabled children's charities, and campaigns for improved services and support for disabled children and their families. DCP played a key role this year in researching and communicating the impact of the cost-of-living on disabled children and their families and actively campaigning for improvements to disabled children's services, funding and challenging decision making and public policy at the highest levels. This included the launch of the DCP Failed and Forgotten report.

Our priorities and targets for 2023/24 and beyond in this area of work are:

- Build on the Awards programme and explore ways to further amplify the stories of families and promote greater national awareness and understanding.
- Promote and encourage more opportunities for families to contribute to national research and projects aimed at improving outcomes for families caring for children with complex medical needs.
- Review and invest in the charity's Parent Ambassador and Advisor programmes to ensure the family voice is properly embedded and able to support the forthcoming strategy.

COMMUNICATION

Communicating the impact of the charity's work and raising awareness of the challenges that families face is critical to attracting and engaging supporters, decision-makers and families.

- The WellChild Awards programme, in association with GSK, provided a national platform for highlighting the needs and celebrating the stories of children, young people and families with complex medical needs and those who care for them. The event took place at the Hurlingham Club in London, but the ceremony itself was cancelled due to the sad passing of Her Majesty, The Queen. We were able to celebrate our winners publicly over the weeks and months that followed with a virtual celebration of each winner. Each winner also got to spend time with WellChild Patron The Duke of Sussex in a special online video call, during which The Duke discussed the challenges each of them have faced and congratulated them on their Award win. Nominations for the 2023 event were launched in February with a special message from The Duke.
- A number of WellChild projects were celebrated online and in the media during the year, including seven Helping Hands garden transformations and the programme's 15th anniversary; and the launches of new Better At Home Suites in London, Cardiff, Manchester and Nottingham.

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- The London Marathon provided the charity with a platform to highlight the remarkable resilience of families caring for children with complex medical needs. In particular, a WellChild parent carer was one of the first runners ever allowed to run whilst pushing an assisted wheelchair. The story received national media attention, including interviews as part of the London Marathon television coverage.
- Our partnership with The Jockey Club for the 2023 Cheltenham Festival provided a high-profile public platform to highlight the cost-of-living challenges faced by families across the country through a variety of activations and a suite of messaging and promotional activity throughout The Festival programme and associated events.

Our priorities and targets for 2023/24 and beyond in this area of work are:

- To support the launch and development of the charity's forthcoming strategy and communicate its future vision and direction.
- To develop a suite of communications tools and content to improve the communication of the charity's impact and the stories of those touched by our work to different stakeholders.
- Develop a stronger public voice for families on key issues including care staff shortages and transition.

FUNDRAISING

WellChild is a member of the Fundraising Regulator, and we comply with the standards laid out in the Fundraising Regulator's Code of Fundraising Practice. WellChild staff and volunteers carry out the charity's fundraising activities, and whilst we do work with specialists for advice and support of our event fundraising activities, we do not employ external agencies to carry out professional fundraising on our behalf.

Following the implementation of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) 2018, and The UK GDPR (January 2021), WellChild relies on consent for all its marketing activities. In line with our Data Protection Policy, the charity does not sell and has not given data to third parties without express permission. Access to the WellChild database by staff and volunteers is strictly controlled with varying access levels as determined by the Senior Management Team (SMT).

In addition, WellChild treats its responsibility towards supporters in vulnerable circumstances with the upmost importance, and our fundraisers are provided with guidance and support to help them respond appropriately to any individual who they consider this might apply to.

Any complaints received during the year are recorded. There were no complaints received in the year. A Complaint Handling Procedure exists and is continually reviewed to ensure it meets the requirements.

WellChild's income for the 12 months covered by this report was £2,186,824, almost 72% higher than the previous year (£1,274,921) due to, in part, the recommencement of events and fundraising activities and the sale of the charity's premises.

Included within Donations is £300,000 from the charity's Patron, The Duke of Sussex.

OUR PEOPLE

WellChild is committed to investing in and continually improving the capability and competence of the charity's team through robust recruitment processes, training and personal development, and engagement with those benefiting from and delivering WellChild's charitable programmes. The team's skills, experience, commitment and dedication enable the charity to deliver exceptional services to the children, young people and families that we support.

Operating as an effective and efficient business is critical and the whole team is dedicated to ensuring the limited funds, and resources the charity are being used to achieve the maximum impact.

Our volunteer network has returned in force during the year, with 403 volunteers at fundraising and family events such as the WellChild Awards and the London Marathon. Volunteers are a vital support function, and we are fortunate to have a dedicated and committed team.

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During the year, as directed by the Board of Trustees, the WellChild premises were sold and the organisation has moved into rented offices. This was due to factors such as property age, cost of maintenance, and the size of the accommodation not being fit for purpose since moving to a hybrid model of working.

WellChild continues to monitor its use of IT to ensure the technology is functional and secure and will support our future working practices. WellChild has successfully attained the Cyber Essentials Certificate for the second year running. Cyber security is of paramount importance and is embedded throughout the risk register, staff communication, training, and monitoring systems.

Staff welfare is of utmost importance and regular staff surveys and consultations are used to understand how we can improve working practices and welfare support.

WellChild is committed to employment policies and procedures based on equal opportunities for all employees, potential employees, Trustees, and other volunteers irrespective of sex, gender, race, religion and beliefs, sexual orientation, age, disability, or marital status. We celebrate and value diversity and aim to create an organisational ethos that is supportive, fair, and free from discrimination and to ensure that all people are treated with dignity and respect.

STATEMENT OF PUBLIC BENEFIT

WellChild provides public benefit as a charity through all the charitable programme areas detailed above. The Trustees have complied with their duty in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives, approving funding for projects and programmes, and in planning and undertaking current and future activities.

Taking the Charity Commission's guidance into consideration, the Trustees are satisfied that our public benefit requirements have been met.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

WellChild is a registered charity in England and Wales (number 289600) and Scotland (number SC045010) and is a company limited by guarantee (number 1815689) which was incorporated on 11 May 1984. The governing document of the charity is its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up, members would be required to contribute an amount not exceeding £10.

WellChild is the parent company and 100% shareholder of its trading subsidiary, WellChild Enterprises Ltd.

The Board of Trustees are responsible for the effective governance of the charity and for safeguarding the organisation's assets. Trustee terms of office are generally for four years, and the Articles of Association allow a further two consecutive terms. However, the Charity follows the practice set out by the Charity Commission whereby trustee tenure should not exceed nine years other than in exceptional circumstances. The Board meets a minimum of three times per year in addition to the AGM. The Chief Executive and other members of the SMT also attend those meetings.

The members of the Board of Trustees of the charity who served during the year are as follows:

David (Craig) Hatch – Chair
Nicholas Fisher – Vice Chair
Rosalind Futter – Treasurer
Leanne Cooper
Simon Hardy
Dr Huw Jenkins
Elizabeth Morgan
Ruth Seymour (resigned 21 November 2022)

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Sub-committees

Members of the WellChild Board of Trustees sit on sub-committees which advise the main Board. Each committee has defined terms of reference detailing the delegated authorities where appropriate. These terms of reference were all reviewed during this financial year. The committees are:

- Audit Sub-committee
- Collaboration Sub-committee
- Governance Sub-committee
- Nominations Sub-committee
- Remuneration Sub-committee

CHARITY GOVERNANCE CODE

The WellChild Governance Sub-committee, which reports to the Board of Trustees, was established in March 2018 and has continued every year since to oversee the charity's governance policies and procedures.

Terms of reference are in place and help to guide the work of the Committee. The Committee membership consists of three Trustees, and the Director of Operations routinely attends to ensure good communication and joint working between the Committee and the senior management team. Other senior management team members are invited to attend as appropriate.

Safeguarding forms part of the Committee's responsibility and a review was carried out this year by the Board of Trustees and senior management team to review the charity's processes for protecting beneficiaries, staff, trustees, volunteers and all other stakeholders. The charity recognises that any person who comes in contact with its work has the potential to be at a vulnerable time in their lives. It is therefore important that staff and Trustees have the requisite safeguarding awareness and skills to protect each other and the charity's beneficiaries and stakeholders.

All staff are DBS checked on commencement of their employment with the charity and at regular intervals thereafter, and at the correct level dependent on their job role. All staff have completed Safeguarding Level 2 training. Level 3 training is provided for the senior management team, some Trustees, and those staff in regular contact with beneficiaries, such as members of the Helping Hands and Family Services teams.

The charity's Safeguarding Policy is reviewed annually, and a Safeguarding Report is provided annually to the Board of Trustees, with any relevant issues brought to the Safeguarding Trustee Lead as soon as possible. Safeguarding is on all Board and Committee agendas as a standing item.

All WellChild staff are aware of how to report safeguarding concerns. Concerns can be raised internally or externally and appropriate forms can be completed and submitted through the charity website.

A review took place during the year regarding the Safeguarding protocol, policies, and training. These were updated accordingly. WellChild engaged with a safeguarding consultant and training will be carried out in the next financial year for all staff and trustees.

The Charity's Governance arrangements are reviewed annually in line with the Charity Governance Code. The Code is not a legal or regulatory compliance, however, it sets the principles and recommended best practices for good governance, and WellChild endeavours to commit to this. The standard is reviewed at least annually by the Charity's Governance subcommittee. The Scheme of Delegation is a recommendation of the Code and as such, WellChild adheres to this and has detailed the powers of delegation by the senior management team and Trustees which is reviewed and approved annually. The work in this area ensures that WellChild is upholding high standards of governance and will seek to continually improve through regularly revisiting the Code's key principles.

WELLCHILD**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)****REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**

In line with section 6: Equality, Diversity & Inclusion of the Code, the charity has been reviewing this area more closely, with Trustees, and SMT attending courses relevant to this section. The outcome of this feeds into the new strategy for WellChild for 2024 onwards. The subject is vast and we aim to have this embedded throughout our strategy, operations, reporting, and beneficiary engagement.

The Fundraising Code is also reviewed annually by the Governance subcommittee. Key areas such as The Fundraising Pledge, Complaints Handling and Consent are in review. The CC20 (Charity Commission guidance <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/charities-and-fundraising-cc20>) has been reviewed and updated. The Fundraising and Protection of Vulnerable Donors Policy is regularly reviewed to ensure we identify and manage risk in this area.

PAY POLICY**For Senior Staff**

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Board of Trustees and the SMT and they are responsible for directing, controlling, running, and operating the charity on a day-to-day basis. All Trustees give their time freely and no Trustee remuneration was paid during the year. Details of Trustee expenses and related party transactions are disclosed in notes 4 and 21 to the accounts.

Trustees reviewed and approved the Senior Staff Remuneration Policy at their meeting on 15th March 2023. This policy will continue to ensure the selection and retention of high-quality leaders, but also that our donors, supporters, staff, volunteers, beneficiaries, and the public recognise the importance we place on accountability in all aspects of our work, including the determination of pay and benefits of the SMT. The policy sets out how senior staff pay is governed, how pay is determined, and what information will be published and is in line with the broad recommendations of the NCVO report on senior staff pay. The pay of each member of the SMT is reviewed annually by the Remuneration Sub-committee.

For All Staff

The Remuneration Sub-committee determines and agrees on the overall policy for the remuneration and pension arrangements for all the charity's employees (subject to full Board approval) and is consulted on any major changes to employee benefits. WellChild aims for a sustainable and consistent pay strategy. All employee salaries are reviewed annually, and affordability, economic trends, and external market pay movement is taken into account.

APPOINTMENT, INDUCTION AND TRAINING OF TRUSTEES

The Nominations Sub-committee, as part of its duties, is responsible for recruiting Trustees. There is a broad mix of skills, experience, and backgrounds across the members of the WellChild Board of Trustees and this is continually reviewed. The Trustees recognise the benefits of diverse leadership and are committed to advancing equality of opportunity. Trustee vacancies are widely advertised, but individuals are also approached or introduced on the basis of their skills, experience, and their potential contribution to the charity. Interviews are undertaken by the Nominations Sub-committee prior to appointment by the full Board.

All new Trustees follow an induction programme approved by the Board and they, as well as existing board members, are encouraged to undertake relevant external training courses, seminars and workshops, with members kept informed of these opportunities by the WellChild Director of Operations. Regular updates including recent developments and 'hot-topics' relating to charitable governance are provided to all Trustees throughout the year.

BOARD EFFECTIVENESS

Trustee annual appraisals are carried out by the Chairman and a Board Effectiveness Questionnaire was completed by all Trustees during the year. This included a review of Board composition, skills, knowledge and experience, Board culture, diversity and inclusion and a programme of work, to ensure the Trustees have the necessary skills, information and time for effective decision making.

WELLCHILD**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)****REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**

SUBSIDIARY COMPANY

WellChild Enterprises Ltd, (previously WellChild Trading Ltd) incorporated 25th September 1984, a company registered in England and Wales (number 1850610) is a subsidiary of WellChild and was previously dormant until 2020/21. WellChild Enterprises Ltd became active in June 2020, and now has a Board of three Directors who have agreed and approved special resolutions for new Articles of Association and the re-allocation of the one ordinary share from the previous sole Director back to the Charity, which now holds all ordinary shares. All updates have been published with Companies House. WellChild Enterprises Ltd covenants all profits to the charity.

During the year covered by this report, WellChild Enterprises received sponsorship income for WellChild charitable events. Net profit at the end of the year was £18,922 (2021/22: £5,846) which was donated by gift aid to the charity.

WELLCHILD ADVISORS AND NETWORK

WellChild strategic direction, the evaluation of its programmes, and some funding decisions made by the Board of Trustees has always included the support of key advisors and networks. While a re-organisation in this area was impeded by the COVID-19 pandemic, the finalising of a flexible group of WellChild Advisors to work with the charity and the Board of Trustees on specific projects requiring their expert input and advice continues. The charity convened its first meeting of a new Clinical Advisory Panel of child health advisors in March 2023.

WellChild families and 34 Parent Ambassadors continue to play an important role informing the charity's direction and strategy (as demonstrated in the 'Voice and Priority' section above).

GRANT AWARDS POLICY STATEMENT

WellChild is committed to developing and implementing programmes and services which have a major impact on the improvement of care and support for children, young people, and their families in the UK. The policy of grant awards is to invest in projects that fit within WellChild's strategic vision and objectives and can clearly demonstrate innovation, high-value and best practice. The procedure for making grant awards is through a robust application process with all successful submissions being subject to a rigorous external assessment through the charity's external advisory panel, the membership of which can be seen above.

There is a formal funding agreement in place for all approved grant awards and WellChild demands integrity and transparency from all recipients of its grants. It is vital that all activities funded by WellChild are carried out to the highest and most ethical standards.

INVESTMENT POLICY

The WellChild Board of Trustees acknowledge their legal duty to apply charitable funds within a reasonable time of receiving them. The Trustees also acknowledge the need for prudence and caution in their investment policies whilst also recognising their duty to seek to obtain the most appropriate financial return from the charity's investments. Trustees reserve the right to exclude from any portfolio any investments in companies whose representation might prove damaging, directly or indirectly, to the purposes or reputation of the charity.

The Audit Sub-committee has reviewed the charity's Investment Policy during the period covered by this report. All the charity's investments remain as cash in competitive and secure interest-bearing deposit accounts all of which performed in line with policy during the year.

WELLCHILD

(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

RESERVES POLICY

Total funds of the charity at 31 March 2023 are £1,350,038. £139,694 is made up of restricted funds which comprise of £2,333 for the Better At Home training programme, £6,473 for Helping Hands programme, (£42,203) for the WellChild Nurse programme, £158,091 for the Family Involvement and Participation programme and £15,000 for the Medicines for Children programme.

In line with the Charity Commission guidelines, the WellChild Board of Trustees define the charity's unrestricted and undesignated reserves as income which is available to the charity and is to be expended at the Trustees discretion in furtherance of any of the charity's objects, but which has not yet been spent, committed, or designated. The charity's policy is to aim to retain a general (undesignated) reserve of between four and eight months' operating expenditure.

At the end of the year, total general (undesignated) reserves of £690,294 were available. The Trustees have reviewed the general (undesignated) reserves level as at 31 March 2023 as being six months' worth of operating expenditure and, given the challenging fundraising environment expected in the coming year, the Trustees consider that the level of general (undesignated) reserves is adequate and appropriate.

Following the sale of the WellChild headquarters, the Trustees have set aside £520,000 of reserves under a Property Fund. An assessment of the property market and the organisation's office requirements will be reviewed at least annually, and the Property Fund updated accordingly.

The Board of Trustees confirms that unrestricted reserves have been calculated as £1,210,344 for 2022/23.

RISK MANAGEMENT

WellChild's register of the potential impact, likelihood and mitigation of risks includes:

- Ensuring WellChild services remain aligned to changes within the children and young people's health environment.
- Child protection and safeguarding.
- The sustainability of incoming funds and in particular unrestricted funds.
- The allocation of restricted funds.
- Financial controls and approval of expenditure.
- Information security and data protection
- The proper collection and processing of data.
- IT security
- Compliance with fundraising regulations and the safeguarding of event attendees.

Detailed and regular financial forecasting and modelling took place during 2022/23 as well as forward planning for 2023/24, including cashflow and scenario planning - with key assumptions being examined.

All risks have been assessed and updated by the Audit Sub-committee and Board of Trustees during the year and are presented for further review at each year's AGM.

The Trustees are confident that reasonable systems have been established to identify, mitigate, and manage new and existing risks, and that forward planning will enable the charity to be better prepared for all future eventualities. These systems include a monthly review of the financial results against budget, preparation at six and nine months of an end-of-year forecast of the financial results, monthly review of the Risk Register by management and biannually by Trustees, with legal, HR and financial input from expert advisors as required.

Robust policies and procedures and regular training for staff contribute to the management and mitigation of risks in operational areas. Should the need arise, WellChild has a Business Continuity Plan which is reviewed on a regular basis, at least annually, and revised as and when appropriate.

Trustee Indemnity insurance of £5,000,000 was arranged as part of the overall insurance package and included in the total premium of £5,981 (2022: £5,926).

WELLCHILD**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)****REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**

GOING CONCERN

With external events including the cost-of-living crisis and staff shortages that have impacted WellChild's income and expenditure during the year, together with a fundraising environment that is expected to remain challenging and unpredictable, the Trustees have worked closely with the Senior Management Team in budget planning and risk assessing as far ahead as possible.

The charity ended the financial year in a better position than originally planned with a total combined surplus (restricted and unrestricted) and a small unrestricted deficit. This was largely because of higher than predicted income raised from challenge events, donations and legacies and the profit from the sale of the charity's head office premises. This means the charity ends the year with a larger undesignated general reserve than budgeted, providing the charity with continued resilience moving into what is predicted to be another challenging year for fundraising (as detailed in the Reserves Policy).

The Board of Trustees have approved a budget for 2023/24 that takes into account the expected ongoing uncertainty in the fundraising environment. Whilst we anticipate challenge and special fundraising events to return to more typical levels, corporate partnerships are expected to remain challenging and the impact of the cost-of-living crisis and high inflationary pressures will continue to be felt.

This year will see the development of the charity's new organisational strategy and the Board of Trustees will work closely with the Senior Management Team to continually review this and the performance of the charity against the challenging and unpredictable external economic and fundraising environment, working with them to ensure the charity remains as resilient as possible in an uncertain climate whilst maximising the charity's ability to invest as much as possible in the advancement of its charitable goals.

Should fundraising during 2023/24 begin to exceed expectations, funds from the undesignated general reserve will be allocated to WellChild charitable programmes. Trustees will consider new projects, only when there is confidence that there are funds available, and income is sustainable. Going concern will be reviewed at each Board of Trustees meeting during the year, and by the Audit Sub-committee on a more regular basis.

The Trustees are confident that the on-going contingency planning within the organisation will ensure that WellChild is in a position to continue as a going concern for the foreseeable future and, therefore, the financial statements have been prepared on this basis.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATION TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the group and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable group for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments 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 the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions, disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and the provisions of the charity's constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and the group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

WELLCHILD

(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

AUDITORS

Crowe U.K. LLP has indicated its willingness to be reappointed as statutory auditor.

STATEMENT OF DISCLOSURE TO AUDITORS

To the best knowledge of the WellChild Board of Trustees at the time of approving the Trustees' Annual Report:

- there is no relevant information, being information needed by the auditor in connection with preparing their report, of which the charity's auditor is unaware; and
- the Trustees, having made enquires of fellow Trustees and the charity's auditor that they ought to have individually taken, have each taken all the reasonable steps that they are obliged to take as Trustees in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the WellChild Board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

DocuSigned by:

David Craig Hatch

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David Craig Hatch

Chairman

Date: 6th July 2023

WELLCHILD**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)****INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS AND THE TRUSTEES OF WELLCHILD**

OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of WellChild ('the charitable company') and its subsidiary ('the group') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, Charity Statement of Financial Activities, the Consolidated and Charity Balance Sheets, the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of the group's 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 and the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and Regulations 6 and 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (amended).

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 group 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 Trustee's 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 charitable company's or the group'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 contained within the annual report. 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.

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 this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. 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.

WELLCHILD

(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS AND THE TRUSTEES OF WELLCHILD

OPINIONS ON OTHER MATTERS PRESCRIBED BY THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

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

- the information given in the trustees' report, which includes the directors' report and the strategic report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the strategic report and the directors' report included within the trustees' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY EXCEPTION

In light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and charitable company and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the strategic report or the directors' report included within the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

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

RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 14, the Trustees (who are also the Directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) 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 the trustees 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 charitable company'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 charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

We have been appointed as auditor under section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and under the Companies Act 2006 and report in accordance with the Acts and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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.

Details of the extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations are set out below.

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.

WELLCHILD

(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS AND THE TRUSTEES OF WELLCHILD

EXTENT TO WHICH THE AUDIT WAS CONSIDERED CAPABLE OF DETECTING IRREGULARITIES, INCLUDING FRAUD

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We identified and assessed the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements from irregularities, whether due to fraud or error, and discussed these between our audit team members. We then designed and performed audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks within which the charitable company and group operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The laws and regulations we considered in this context were the Companies Act 2006 and The Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, together with the Charities SORP (FRS 102). We assessed the required compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our audit procedures on the related financial statement items.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which might be fundamental to the charitable company's and the group's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. We also considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the charitable company and the group for fraud.

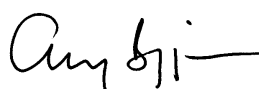
Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the Trustees and other management and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

We identified the greatest risk of material impact on the financial statements from irregularities, including fraud, to be with the completeness and timing of significant risk income streams including; legacies, grants and Trust income as well as the override of controls by management. Our audit procedures to respond to these risks included enquiries of management and the Trustee Board about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, designing audit procedures over the completeness and timing of significant risk income streams outlined above, testing on the posting of journals, reviewing accounting estimates for biases, reviewing regulatory correspondence with the Charities Commission and Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator and reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations (irregularities) is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the inherently limited procedures required by auditing standards would identify it. In addition, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

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, and to the charitable company's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Regulation 10 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 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 and the charitable company's members as a body and the charitable company's Trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Guy Biggin, Senior Statutory Auditor

Date: 26 July 2023

For and on behalf of
Crowe U.K. LLP, Statutory Auditor
4th Floor, St James House
St James Square
Cheltenham GL50 3PR

WELLCHILD**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES****For the year ended 31 March 2023 (incorporating consolidated income and expenditure account)**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
INCOME FROM					
Donations and Legacies	3b	174,551	718,823	893,374	568,177
Statutory Income	23	-	-	-	26,569
Other Trading Activities (including challenge and other fundraising events)	3c	992,095	13,275	1,005,370	676,477
Profit on sale of asset		280,180	-	280,180	-
Investment Income		7,900	-	7,900	3,698
Total Income		1,454,726	732,098	2,186,824	1,274,921
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising Funds					
Cost of Staging Events		566,793	-	566,793	372,143
Other Costs		174,802	-	174,802	166,594
Total Expenditure on Raising Funds	5	741,595	-	741,595	538,737
Charitable Activities					
WellChild Nurse Programme		23,688	409,960	433,648	44,093
Better At Home Training Programme		78,763	59,090	137,853	15,755
Helping Hands Programme		136,062	108,200	244,262	284,181
Information and Campaigning		65,313	-	65,313	72,546
Charitable Events (including WellChild Awards)		38,446	-	38,446	83,732
Communications		185,784	-	185,784	208,954
Family Involvement and Participation		174,225	55,439	229,664	305,350
Projects (including Medicines For Children)		34,186	-	34,186	47,583
Total Charitable Activities Expenditure	5	736,467	632,689	1,369,156	1,062,194
Total Expenditure	5	1,478,062	632,689	2,110,751	1,600,931
NET (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS		(23,336)	99,409	76,073	(326,010)
Transfers between funds	16	-	-	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(23,336)	99,409	76,073	(326,010)
Reconciliation of Funds:					
Total Funds Brought Forward (1 April)	16	1,233,680	40,285	1,273,965	1,599,975
Total Funds Carried Forward (31 March)	16	1,210,344	139,694	1,350,038	1,273,965

All activities relate to continuing operations.

Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 3 to the financial statements.

The notes on pages 22 to 43 form part of these financial statements.

WELLCHILD**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)****BALANCE SHEETS as at 31 March 2023****Company number: 1815689**

	Note	The Group		The Charity	
		31 March 2023 £	31 March 2022 £	31 March 2023 £	31 March 2022 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	7	70	565,589	70	565,589
Investments	8	-	-	100	100
TOTAL FIXED ASSETS		70	565,589	170	565,689
CURRENT ASSETS					
Investments	9	1,073,010	1,057,240	1,073,010	1,057,240
Debtors	10	902,547	501,761	920,269	510,682
Cash at bank and in hand		724,129	225,446	705,538	215,555
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		2,699,686	1,784,447	2,698,817	1,783,477
CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	11	(989,501)	(966,872)	(988,732)	(966,002)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		1,710,185	817,575	1,710,085	817,475
CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR	13	(360,217)	(109,199)	(360,217)	(109,199)
TOTAL NET ASSETS		1,350,038	1,273,965	1,350,038	1,273,965
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Restricted funds	15 & 16	139,694	40,285	139,694	40,285
Designated funds	16	520,070	565,589	520,070	565,589
General reserve (undesignated) funds	16	690,274	668,091	690,274	668,091
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS		1,350,038	1,273,965	1,350,038	1,273,965

The surplus for the year of the charity dealt with in the financial statements was £76,073 (2022: deficit of £326,010).

These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act relating to small companies and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006.

The notes on pages 22 to 43 form part of these financial statements.

The financial statements were approved by the WellChild Board of Trustees on 6 July 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

DocuSigned by:

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David (Craig) Hatch
 Chairman

DocuSigned by:

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Rosalind Futter
 Treasurer

WELLCHILD
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)

CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT
For the year ended 31 March 2023

		2023	2022
		£	£
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash (used in) operating activities	i)	(332,865)	(613,127)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Bank interest received		7,900	3,698
Proceeds from the sale of property		846,418	-
Gift in kind – legal fees re sale of property		(7,000)	-
Net cash provided by investing activities		847,318	3,698
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		514,453	(609,429)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		1,282,686	1,892,115
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	ii)	1,797,139	1,282,686
i) RECONCILIATION OF CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:			
		2023	2022
		£	£
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)		76,073	(326,010)
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation charges		6,280	9,282
(Profit) on sale of property		(280,180)	-
Bank interest received		(7,900)	(3,698)
Increase/(decrease) in grant creditors		255,184	(460,934)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors		(389,707)	231,718
Increase/(decrease) in creditors and deferred income (excl. grants)		7,385	(63,485)
Net cash (used in) operating activities		(332,865)	(613,127)
ii) ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS			
Cash in hand		724,129	225,446
Deposits		1,073,010	1,057,240
Total cash and cash equivalents		1,797,139	1,282,686

The notes on pages 22 to 43 form part of these financial statements.

WELLCHILD**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****For the year ended 31 March 2023**

LEGAL STATUS OF THE CHARITY

WellChild was incorporated in England and Wales as a company limited by guarantee (number 1815689) and has no share capital. The liability in respect of the guarantee, as set out in the Articles of Association, is limited to an amount not exceeding £10 per member of the company. There were nine members at the Balance Sheet date. WellChild is also a registered charity in England and Wales (number 289600) and Scotland (number SC045010).

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**(a) Basis of Accounting**

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The consolidated financial statements, comprising the financial statements of the charity and its subsidiary undertaking WellChild Enterprises Ltd (company number 01850610), have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The results of the subsidiary are consolidated on a line-by-line basis. The financial statements are presented in sterling (£) which is the functional currency of the charity. WellChild meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the exemption available to a qualifying entity in FRS 102 from the requirement to present a charity only Cash Flow Statement with the consolidated financial statements.

The charity has also taken advantage of the exemption allowed under section 408 of the Companies Act 2006 and has not presented its own Statement of Financial Activities in these financial statements.

(b) Registered and Principal Office

The registered and principal office of WellChild is Office 23, Sunningend Business Centre, 22 Lansdown Industrial Estate, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL51 8PL.

(c) Going Concern

After making enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue its activities for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis for preparing the financial statements, determining that there are no material uncertainties as outlined in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities on page 14.

(d) Depreciation of Fixed Assets

In 2017 WellChild took advantage of the option under FRS 102 to use a GAAP revaluation prior to the transition date (1 April 2015) as deemed cost on its freehold property. Depreciation continued to be charged on the property annually at two per cent straight line until its sale in 2022/23. All other tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided to write off the cost of tangible fixed assets owned over their anticipated effective life as follows:

Freehold property	2% straight line
Office furniture and equipment	25% straight line

No depreciation is charged on land owned. Items of a capital nature costing £1,000 or more are capitalised.

(e) Fixed Asset Investments

Fixed asset investments are stated at market value where available.

WELLCHILD**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****For the year ended 31 March 2023**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**(f) Grants**

Where relevant, grant applications are subject to a formal procedure of evaluation by independent experts in the relevant field of children's health prior to the allocation of funds. Grants payable in furtherance of the charity's objects are recognised as expenditure when the commitment is communicated to the grant recipient and payment is due in accordance with the terms of the contract.

(g) Income Recognition

Income, including donations, gifts, legacies, and grants (including government grants) that provide specific charitable project funding or are of a general nature, are recognised and included in the accounts when: there is entitlement to the funds; any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met or are fully within the control of the charity; receipt of the income is considered probable; and the amount can be measured reliably. Such income is only deferred when either the donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods, or the donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

Income from other trading activities includes income received from major fundraising events that is used to support general activities and specific charitable projects. Such income is only deferred when it is received in advance of the event to which it relates.

Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.

Gifts in Kind

Donated goods, services and facilities such as the use of two cars, tools and garden materials, and challenge event refreshments, are included as 'incoming resources' at their estimated value to the charity when received, which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain the goods, services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market. A corresponding amount is then recognised under the appropriate expenditure heading depending on the nature of the goods, service or facility provided.

Legacies

Entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the charity that a distribution will be made or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably, and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution.

(h) Pension Costs

The charity operates a defined contribution money purchase scheme on behalf of its employees. The costs of providing pensions for employees are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which the contributions are payable.

WELLCHILD**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****For the year ended 31 March 2023**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**(i) Expenditure**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party; it is probable that settlement will be required; and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Costs of raising funds comprise the costs of staging events and other costs. Cost of staging events are those costs incurred in staging and promoting major fundraising and challenge events. These include both direct and support costs relating to these activities. Other costs are those associated with attracting corporate and voluntary income and donations which also include both direct and support costs.

Expenditure on charitable activities includes expenditure associated with activities undertaken to carry out the charity's aims and objectives and their associated support costs.

Support costs, including irrecoverable VAT, are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. These include office costs, utilities, finance, insurance, IT, and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources – see note 5.

Governance costs include expenditure directly attributable to the Trustees' statutory, constitutional, and strategic duties and are disclosed in note 5.

Costs in respect of future events, the income for which has been deferred to a future period, are prepaid and will be charged when the event occurs.

(j) Debtors

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

(k) Creditors

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

(l) Cash at Bank and in Hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes petty cash and cash held in bank accounts.

(m) Current Asset Investments

Current asset investments are cash deposits that mature in no more than 12 months from the date of acquisition.

(n) Operating Leases

The charity classifies the lease of office equipment (franking machine and photocopier) and an internet line as operating leases; the title to the office equipment and internet line remains with the lessor. Rental charges are charged on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

WELLCHILD**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****For the year ended 31 March 2023**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**(o) Fund Accounts**

The charity has a number of restricted funds which are restricted by the donor for specific purposes or where funds have been raised for a specific purpose which was communicated to donors. All other funds are unrestricted funds. The Trustees consider that those funds represented by tangible fixed assets for use by the charity are not freely available and, therefore, this value is held in designated funds. Following the sale of the WellChild headquarters, the Trustees have set aside £520,000 of reserves under a Property Fund. The balance of the unrestricted reserve (undesignated) funds of £690,274 is in line with the charity's reserves policy. See page 13 of the Report of the Trustees for details of the charity's reserves policy.

(p) Financial Instruments

WellChild only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value - see note 24.

(q) Significant Estimates and Judgements

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The items in the financial statements where these estimates and judgements have been made include the following:

Free reserves and risk

The Board of Trustees regularly review forecast income, expenditure and going concern factors impacted by external risks such as the COVID-19 pandemic and cost-of-living crisis.

The maintenance of strong free reserves carried forward at the end of the period covered by this report provide the charity with continued resilience.

Useful economic lives of tangible assets

The annual depreciation charges for the tangible assets are sensitive to changes in the estimated useful economic lives and residual values of the assets. The useful economic lives and residual values are re-assessed annually. They are amended when necessary to reflect current estimates, based on economic utilisation and the physical condition of the assets. See note 7 for the carrying amount of tangible fixed assets and note 1(d) for the useful lives of each class of asset.

Valuation of Gifts in Kind

The charity uses estimates for the valuation of Gifts in Kind by considering the amount that the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain the goods, services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market - see note 1(g) for details of these.

WELLCHILD**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****For the year ended 31 March 2023**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**(r) Taxation**

The company is a registered charity and as such is entitled to tax exemption on all its income and gains, properly applied for its charitable purposes. Any corporation tax payable in respect of the taxable profit of the subsidiary company is recognised in the year in which the taxable profit is generated. In most years, no corporation tax is payable because the subsidiary company distributes all the taxable profits to the charity.

(s) Volunteers

WellChild is supported by an exceptional team of volunteers working in the head office in Cheltenham and throughout the UK assisting at fundraising events. These dedicated individuals give many hours of their time and contribute significantly to the operation of the charity. We had 135 (2022: 137) volunteers assisting with numerous activities during the year, many of whom volunteered and continue to do so, on a regular basis. In addition 268 volunteers took part in Helping Hands projects (2022: 249).

Our volunteers include the involvement of children, young people and their families in various aspects of WellChild's work including our Children and Young People's Panel involved in WellChild Awards judging and Parent Ambassadors organising (virtual) family meet ups and supporting WellChild at fundraising pitches and with PR activity. Many families also participated in designing positive postcards for WellChild to create and share with families, as well as sharing videos & photos and carrying out App testing for the Medicines for Children App. A number of youth ambassadors volunteered their time for radio interviews, zoom calls and contributed to written articles for the media.

No monetary cost of volunteering time is included within the financial statements.

WELLCHILD
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 March 2023

2. FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE OF THE CHARITY

The consolidated statement of financial activities includes the results of the charity's wholly owned subsidiary. The summary financial performance of the charity alone is:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Income	2,166,952	1,268,205
Gift aid from subsidiary company	18,922	5,846
	2,185,874	1,274,051
Expenditure	(2,109,801)	(1,600,061)
Net expenditure	76,073	(326,010)
Total funds brought forward	1,273,965	1,599,975
Total funds carried forward	1,350,038	1,273,965
<i>Represented by:</i>		
Restricted funds	139,694	40,285
Unrestricted funds	1,210,344	1,233,680
	1,350,038	1,273,965

3. NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS IN THE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
<i>Is stated after charging the following items:</i>		
Auditors' remuneration for audit services	10,500	9,450
Auditors' remuneration for other services	940	840
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	6,280	9,282
Operating leases	22,859	11,951
<i>and after crediting:</i>		
Bank interest receivable	(7,900)	(3,698)

3a. GIFTS IN KIND

Gifts in Kind of £27,231 (2022: £17,507) were received during the year.

3b. INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Corporate donations	216,975	226,890
Donations inclusive of trusts	632,554	306,903
Legacies	43,845	34,384
	893,374	568,177

WELLCHILD**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****For the year ended 31 March 2023****3. NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS IN THE YEAR (continued)****3c. INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Corporate partnerships	-	7,931
Challenge events (see note 6)	574,087	309,041
Fundraising events (see note 6)	406,602	349,398
Other	24,681	10,107
	1,005,370	676,477

4. TRUSTEES AND EMPLOYEES

	2023	2022
	£	£
Staff Costs		
Wages and salaries	776,221	858,598
Social security costs	76,577	81,455
Other pension costs	45,647	52,756
	898,445	992,809

	2023	2022
	Number	Number
The monthly average number of employees was:		
Management and administration	5	5
Charitable activities	12	15
Fundraising	9	8
Total employees	26	28

There was a total of 135 (2022: 137) volunteers, not including those who took part in Helping Hands projects, who assisted with numerous activities during the year.

WELLCHILD**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****For the year ended 31 March 2023****4. TRUSTEES AND EMPLOYEES (continued)**

The number of employees whose emoluments, excluding pension contributions, fell within the following band is:

	2023	2022
	Number	Number
£70,000 - £79,999	1	-
£80,000 - £89,999	-	1

Retirement benefit contributions of £5,355 (2022: £6,162) under a defined contribution scheme were made in respect of the one employee above (2022: one).

All the Board of Trustees, who are not included in the above analysis, are the Directors of WellChild who supply their services on a voluntary basis and have received no remuneration during the year. Total expenses of £785 (2022: £6) was paid on behalf of four (2022: one) Trustee for training, travel and subsistence (2022: subsistence).

Trustee Indemnity insurance of £5,000,000 was arranged as part of the overall insurance package and included in the total premium of £5,981 (2022: £4,926).

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Board of Trustees, Chief Executive, Director of Programmes, Director of Operations and Director of Fundraising. The total employee benefits including employer national insurance and pension contributions of the key management personnel of the charity were £252,504 (2022: £313,216).

All employees are paid at least the national living wage. The ratio of the total remuneration of the CEO against the total remuneration of the median employee is 2.4 (2022: 2.8).

During the year total statutory redundancy of £nil and payment in lieu of notice of £nil was made (2022: statutory redundancy of £11,152 and payment in lieu of notice of £4,354).

WELLCHILD**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****For the year ended 31 March 2023****5. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE**

The group allocates its support costs as shown in the table below. Support costs are allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

	Direct Costs £	Grant Funding of Activities £	Support Costs £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Charitable Activities Expenditure					
WellChild Nurse Programme	44,850	377,268	11,530	433,648	44,093
Better At Home Training Programme	22,772	103,551	11,530	137,853	15,755
Helping Hands Programme	185,080	-	59,182	244,262	284,181
Information and Campaigning	44,342	-	20,971	65,313	72,546
Charitable Events	23,754	-	14,692	38,446	83,732
Communications	132,420	-	53,364	185,784	208,954
Family Involvement and Participation Projects	157,326	-	72,338	229,664	305,350
	28,288	-	5,898	34,186	47,583
Total Charitable Activities Expenditure	638,832	480,819	249,505	1,369,156	1,062,194
Expenditure on Raising Funds					
Cost of Staging Events	460,322	-	106,471	566,793	372,143
Other Costs	141,929	-	32,873	174,802	166,594
Total Expenditure on Raising Funds	602,251	-	139,344	741,595	538,737
Total Expenditure	1,241,083	480,819	388,849	2,110,751	1,600,931

Of the £388,849 (2022: £383,732) support costs detailed above £22,122 (2022: £24,405) relates to the Governance function:

	2023 £	2022 £
Audit fees	10,500	9,450
Accountancy	3,976	8,866
Legal fees	-	995
Insurance and Trustee costs	7,646	5,094
	22,122	24,405

WELLCHILD
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 March 2023

6. BREAKDOWN OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF STAGING EVENTS

6a. CURRENT YEAR BREAKDOWN OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF STAGING EVENTS

	Income £	Direct Costs £	Net Income £
Fundraising and challenge events	980,689	(346,064)	634,625

Direct costs include costs such as the purchasing of challenge event places, the hiring of venues and all costs associated with the running of fundraising events as well as staff travel and expenses.

6b. PRIOR YEAR BREAKDOWN OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF STAGING EVENTS

	Income £	Direct Costs £	Net Income £
Fundraising and challenge events	658,439	(199,387)	459,052

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Group and Charity	Freehold Property £	Office Furniture & Equipment £	Total £
Cost			
As at 1 April 2022	650,000	29,769	679,769
Disposals	(650,000)	(18,324)	(668,324)
As at 31 March 2023	-	11,445	11,445
Depreciation			
As at 1 April 2022	84,761	29,419	114,180
Charge for the period	6,000	280	6,280
Disposals	(90,761)	(18,324)	(109,085)
As at 31 March 2023	-	11,375	11,375
Net book value			
As at 1 April 2022	565,239	350	565,589
As at 31 March 2023	-	70	70

The freehold property was sold during the year resulting in a net profit on sale of £280,180. The property was valued by John Ryde Commercial Property Consultants at open market value with vacant possession on 19th February 2013 at £650,000, being £200,000 in respect of the land, and £450,000 in respect of the buildings. In 2017, WellChild took advantage of the option under FRS 102 to accept this revaluation as deemed cost on its freehold property.

Intangible fixed assets of £10,320 are included in the above costs and are fully written down as at the balance sheet date (2022: £10,320).

WELLCHILD**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****For the year ended 31 March 2023****8. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS**

	Group		Charity	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Unlisted Investments				
Investments in subsidiary company	-	-	100	100

WellChild has ultimate control of WellChild Enterprises Ltd, a company registered in England and Wales (number 1850610) as 100 per cent (2022: 100 per cent) of the share capital is owned by the charity. One member of the Board of Trustees of the charity is also an unpaid director of WellChild Enterprises Ltd.

	Group		Charity	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Amounts owed by Group Undertaking	-	-	100	100
<i>Represented by</i>				
Share capital	-	-	100	100

9. CURRENT ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Group		Charity	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
UK – Short term deposits	1,073,010	1,057,240	1,073,010	1,057,240

All of the investment income of £7,900 (2022: £3,698) arises from money held in interest-bearing cash deposit accounts.

10. DEBTORS

	Group		Charity	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Prepaid costs in respect of future events	182,867	221,586	182,867	221,586
Trade debtors	19,702	2,800	18,502	300
Amounts owed by group undertakings	-	-	18,922	11,421
Prepayments	17,046	20,389	17,046	20,389
Accrued income	679,447	253,441	679,447	253,441
Other debtors	3,485	3,545	3,485	3,545
	902,547	501,761	920,269	510,682

For the year ended 31 March 2023, accrued income includes £143,462 grant income for the Better At Home training programme (2022: £227,656), £349,324 grant income for two WellChild Nurse posts (2022: £nil) and £101,000 donation towards the Families programme (2022: £nil).

Prepaid costs in respect of future events recoverable more than a year after the reporting date amount to £12,626 (2022: £61,350).

WELLCHILD**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****For the year ended 31 March 2023****11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	Group		Charity	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Trade creditors	22,024	41,031	22,024	41,031
Other taxation and social security	20,711	20,360	20,711	20,360
Accruals	14,958	18,175	14,018	17,305
Deferred income (see note 12)	355,723	316,236	355,723	316,236
Grants authorised but not yet paid (see note 18)	569,908	565,742	569,908	565,742
Amounts owed to group undertakings	-	-	171	-
Other creditors	6,177	5,328	6,177	5,328
	989,501	966,872	988,732	966,002

12. DEFERRED INCOME

	Group		Charity	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
London Marathon	175,094	94,185	175,094	94,185
Ed Chamberlin Golf Day	23,975	19,400	23,975	19,400
WellChild Awards	133,000	128,625	133,000	128,625
Other events	23,654	74,026	23,654	74,026
	355,723	316,236	355,723	316,236

Deferred income is potentially refundable income (in the case of cancellation) received for future events and restricted charitable projects. 2022/23 and 2021/22 deferred income was recognised as income during the financial year where the event took place and where the event was postponed, the income was further deferred. The movement in deferred income is shown below:

	Group		Charity	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Deferred income brought forward	316,236	358,611	316,236	358,611
Resources deferred during the year	337,817	246,920	337,817	246,920
Amounts released from previous periods	(298,330)	(289,295)	(298,330)	(289,295)
Deferred income carried forward	355,723	316,236	355,723	316,236

13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	Group		Charity	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Grants authorised but not yet paid (see note 18)	360,217	109,199	360,217	109,199

WELLCHILD**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****For the year ended 31 March 2023****14. ANALYSIS OF GROUP NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS****14a. CURRENT YEAR ANALYSIS OF GROUP NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS**

	Restricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	General Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	70	-	70	565,589
Net current assets	499,911	520,000	690,274	1,710,185	817,575
Creditors falling due after more than one year	(360,217)	-	-	(360,217)	(109,199)
Net assets	<u>139,694</u>	<u>520,070</u>	<u>690,274</u>	<u>1,350,038</u>	<u>1,273,965</u>

14b. PRIOR YEAR ANALYSIS OF GROUP NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Restricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	General Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	565,589	-	565,589	574,871
Net current assets	149,484	-	668,091	817,575	1,288,673
Creditors falling due after more than one year	(109,199)	-	-	(109,199)	(263,569)
Net assets	<u>40,285</u>	<u>565,589</u>	<u>668,091</u>	<u>1,273,965</u>	<u>1,599,975</u>

WELLCHILD
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 March 2023

15. DESCRIPTION OF FUNDS

DESIGNATED FUNDS

Designated funds are unrestricted funds to which the Trustees have assigned a specific purpose.

- **Property Fund**

Following the sale of the WellChild headquarters, the organisation has moved into rented offices and the Trustees have set aside £520,000 of reserves under a Property Fund. An assessment of the property market and the organisation's office requirements will be reviewed at least annually and the Property Fund updated accordingly.

- **Fixed Asset Fund**

The fixed asset fund represents the net book value of unrestricted fixed assets that cannot be easily disposed of as these are not liquid resources immediately available to the charity. Since the sale of the WellChild head office building in 2022/23, the majority of fixed assets are at nil net book value.

RESTRICTED FUNDS

Restricted funds are those where the donor has been specific about the purpose for which they are donating or where funds have been raised for a specific purpose which was communicated to donors. The funds must be used for the purpose for which they were given and/or raised.

- **WellChild Nurse Programme**

This programme has been established to fund WellChild Nurses who support children and young people with serious illness, complex health conditions or long-term care needs and their families, across the UK. They work to ensure that these children and young people can leave hospital and return home and offer vital support to make sure that these families have the skills they need to care for their children. In addition, WellChild Nurses are vital in the prevention of frequent hospital re-admissions.

- **Better At Home Training Programme**

An essential part of children being discharged home is ensuring that parents feel confident and competent in being able to provide complex nursing care at home. This includes care ranging from tube feeding to managing ventilation and dealing with an emergency. Training usually starts at the hospital bedside. What is missing, however, is a consistent approach to how a family is trained, including where and when this takes place. The Better At Home training programme will provide this training.

- **Helping Hands Programme**

WellChild's Helping Hands programme works with volunteers from companies and organisations across the UK to tackle essential projects in the homes of children and young people with serious illness, complex health conditions or long-term care needs. These volunteers provide the manpower and enthusiasm for undertaking home and garden make-over projects, as well as donating their time and energy to help make a practical and positive impact on children's lives.

- **Families Involvement and Participation Programme**

Families play an active role within WellChild, and the involvement and participation of children, young people, parents and carers is essential to the delivery of WellChild's strategy. The Family involvement and Participation Programme includes the WellChild Family Tree peer-to-peer support resource and forum, along with many other information, interactive, advocacy, and event activities. WellChild is committed to ensuring children, young people and families remain firmly at the heart of our work.

- **Medicines for Children**

Medicines for Children is a web resource through a partnership programme of Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH), Neonatal and Paediatric Pharmacists Group (NPPG) and WellChild. The medicines information pages offered by the web resource cover many of the medicines that are prescribed or recommended for children by health professionals.

WELLCHILD**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****For the year ended 31 March 2023****16. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (GROUP)****16a. CURRENT YEAR STATEMENT OF FUNDS (GROUP)**

	Brought Forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Carried Forward £
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
General (undesignated) funds:					
WellChild	668,091	1,433,726	(1,450,780)	39,237	690,274
WellChild Enterprises Ltd	-	21,000	(21,000)	-	-
Designated fund – Fixed assets	565,589	-	(6,282)	(559,237)	70
Designated fund - Property	-	-	-	520,000	520,000
	1,233,680	1,454,726	(1,478,062)	-	1,210,344
RESTRICTED FUNDS					
WellChild Nurse Programme	1,191	366,566	(409,960)	-	(42,203)
Better At Home Training Programme	7,401	54,022	(59,090)	-	2,333
Helping Hands Programme	7,363	107,310	(108,200)	-	6,473
Families Involvement and Participation Programme	24,330	189,200	(55,439)	-	158,091
Medicines for Children	-	15,000	-	-	15,000
	40,285	732,098	(632,689)	-	139,694
	1,273,965	2,186,824	(2,110,751)	-	1,350,038

WELLCHILD**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****For the year ended 31 March 2023****16. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (GROUP) (continued)****16b. PRIOR YEAR STATEMENT OF FUNDS (GROUP)**

	Brought Forward	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Carried Forward
	£	£	£	£	£
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
General (undesignated) funds:					
WellChild	946,521	943,895	(1,222,325)	-	668,091
WellChild Enterprises Ltd	-	12,807	(12,807)	-	-
Designated funds	574,871	-	(9,282)	-	565,589
	<u>1,521,392</u>	<u>956,702</u>	<u>(1,244,414)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,233,680</u>
RESTRICTED FUNDS					
WellChild Nurse Programme	(14,128)	38,583	(23,264)	-	1,191
Better At Home Training Programme	(10,479)	6,500	11,380	-	7,401
Helping Hands Programme	3,190	129,306	(125,133)	-	7,363
Families Involvement and Participation Programme	100,000	143,830	(219,500)	-	24,330
	<u>78,583</u>	<u>318,219</u>	<u>(356,517)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>40,285</u>
	<u><u>1,599,975</u></u>	<u><u>1,274,921</u></u>	<u><u>(1,600,931)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>1,273,965</u></u>

Restricted funds in deficit are awaiting funding which is to be received in arrears.

WELLCHILD**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****For the year ended 31 March 2023**

17. GRANTS RECONCILIATION	£
Grants outstanding at 1 April 2022	674,941
Grants authorised in the period	480,819
Adjustment to grants in the period	(8,172)
Grants paid in the period	(217,463)
	<hr/>
Grants outstanding at 31 March 2023 (see note 18)	930,125
	<hr/>
GRANTS AUTHORISED IN PERIOD	£
WellChild Nurses	
Birmingham Children's Hospital	184,324
University Hospital of North Midlands NHS Trust	192,944
	<hr/>
Total WellChild Nurse grants authorised in the period	377,268
	<hr/>
Better At Home	
Better At Home Training Resource - Equipment, University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust	6,004
Better At Home Training Resource - Equipment, Isle of Wight NHS Trust	3,332
Better At Home Training Resource - Equipment, Barking Havering and Redbridge Hospital Trust	47,137
Better At Home Training Resource - Equipment, Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	19,269
Better At Home Training Resource - Equipment, Barts Health NHS Trust (Tower Hamlets)	14,936
Better At Home Training Resource - Equipment, East London Foundation Trust (Newham)	12,873
	<hr/>
Total Better At Home grants authorised in the period	103,551
	<hr/>
TOTAL GRANTS AUTHORISED IN PERIOD	480,819
	<hr/>

WELLCHILD**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****For the year ended 31 March 2023****18. DETAILS OF AUTHORISED BUT UNPAID GRANTS**

	Outstanding Balance 31 March 2023 £	Within One Year £	Due Over One Year £
PROJECTS			
Medicines for Children App - Royal College of Paediatrics & Child Health	67,282	67,282	-
TOTAL PROJECTS	67,282	67,282	-
BETTER AT HOME	£	£	£
Better At Home Training Resource - Equipment, Cardiff - Cardiff and Vale University Health Board	17,329	17,329	-
Better At Home Training Resource - Training Kit, Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust	558	558	-
Better At Home Training Resource - Equipment, Birmingham Women's and Children's Hospital NHS Foundation Trust	46,720	46,720	-
Better At Home Training Resource - Equipment, Royal Manchester Children's Hospital, Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust	9,947	9,947	-
Better At Home Training Resource - Equipment, University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust	14,192	14,192	-
Better At Home Training Resource – Equipment, NHS Lothian (Edinburgh)	17,478	17,478	-
Better At Home Training Resource – Equipment, Isle of Wight NHS Trust	3,332	3,332	-
Better At Home Training Resource – Parent Trainer Nurse and Physiotherapist, St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	112,830	50,147	62,683
Better At Home Training Resource – Equipment, St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	25,933	25,933	-
Better At Home Training Resource – Equipment, Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust	3,279	3,279	-
Better At Home Training Resource - Equipment, Barking Havering and Redbridge Hospital Trust	47,137	47,137	-
Better At Home Training Resource - Equipment, Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	19,269	19,269	-
Better At Home Training Resource - Equipment, Barts Health NHS Trust (Tower Hamlets)	14,936	14,936	-
Better At Home Training Resource - Equipment, East London Foundation Trust (Newham)	12,873	12,873	-
Better At Home Training Resource - Equipment, University of Nottingham	31,955	31,955	-
TOTAL PROJECTS	377,768	315,085	62,683

WELLCHILD**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****For the year ended 31 March 2023****18. DETAILS OF AUTHORISED BUT UNPAID GRANTS (continued)**

	Outstanding Balance 31 March 2023 £	Within One Year £	Due Over One Year £
WELLCHILD NURSES			
<i>Provision of WellChild Nurse for:</i>			
Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust and Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	300	300	-
Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children, Belfast Health and Social Care Trust	365	365	-
NHS Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group	21,344	21,344	-
South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust	22,601	15,067	7,534
Birmingham Children's Hospital	184,324	52,664	131,660
University Hospital of North Midlands NHS Trust	192,944	55,127	137,817
North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust	61,568	41,045	20,523
Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Foundation Trust	1,476	1,476	-
Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board	153	153	-
TOTAL WELLCHILD NURSES	485,075	187,541	297,534
TOTAL AUTHORISED BUT UNPAID GRANTS	930,125	569,908	360,217

WELLCHILD
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 March 2023

19. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

The group had total commitments due under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Within one year	23,896	2,607
Within two to five years	-	127
	23,896	2,734

20. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

At the year end the group had no capital commitments (2022: nil).

21. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Total donations of £80 (2022: £155) were received from one (2022: three) members of the Trustee Board. Pro-bono legal services worth £7,000 were provided by Kingsley Napley LLP where Simon Hardy, Trustee, is partner, and disbursements of £112. There were no other related party transactions during the year.

22. TRADING SUBSIDIARY

The charity has one wholly owned trading subsidiary, which is registered In England and Wales. The registered address of Wellchild Enterprises Ltd is Office 23, Sunningend Business Centre, 22 Lansdown Industrial Estate, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL51 8PL. WellChild Enterprises Ltd (registered company 1850610) carries out commercial activities in support of WellChild's charitable activities and fundraising events.

A summary of the trading results for WellChild Enterprises Ltd is below and is shown before consolidation adjustments. Accounts are filed with the Registrar of Companies at Companies House each year.

Statement of comprehensive income

	WellChild Enterprises Ltd	
	2023	2022
	£	£
Turnover – third party	21,000	12,807
Cost of Sales - group	-	(4,375)
Gross profit	21,000	8,432
Administration costs	(2,078)	(2,586)
Gift aid donation to WellChild	(18,922)	(5,846)
Operating result	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	-
The assets and liabilities of the company were:		
Current assets	19,962	12,391
Current liabilities	(19,862)	(12,291)
Total net assets	100	100
Share capital - £1 ordinary shares	100	100
Retained profits	-	-

WELLCHILD**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****For the year ended 31 March 2023**

23. STATUTORY INCOME INCLUDING GOVERNMENT GRANTS

Statutory income comprises a performance related grant of £nil (2022: £5,140) made by NHS England to fund the Wolfram Syndrome Family Coordinator service and government grants of £nil (2022: £21,429) were received through the government's Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (furlough).

24. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Financial assets measured at settlement value	2,496,288	1,538,928
Financial liabilities measured at settlement value	(967,106)	(734,147)

Financial assets measured at settlement value comprise cash, short term deposit investments, accrued income, and trade debtors.

Financial liabilities measured at settlement value comprise trade creditors, accruals and grants authorised but not yet paid.

There was no impairment of assets in the year (2022: nil).

WELLCHILD**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND A REGISTERED CHARITY)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****For the year ended 31 March 2023****25. PRIOR YEAR STATEMENT OF GROUP FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (WITH FUND ANALYSIS)**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £
INCOME FROM			
Donations and Legacies	249,958	318,219	568,177
Statutory Income	26,569	-	26,569
Other Trading Activities (including challenge and other fundraising events)	676,477	-	676,477
Investment Income	3,698	-	3,698
Total Income	956,702	318,219	1,274,921
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising Funds			
Cost of Staging Events	372,143	-	372,143
Other Costs	166,594	-	166,594
Total Expenditure on Raising Funds	538,737	-	538,737
Charitable Activities			
WellChild Nurse Programme	20,829	23,264	44,093
Better At Home Training Programme	27,135	(11,380)	15,755
Helping Hands Programme	159,048	125,133	284,181
Information and Campaigning	72,546	-	72,546
Charitable Events (including WellChild Awards)	83,732	-	83,732
Communications	208,954	-	208,954
Family Involvement and Participation (including COVID Direct Response Service)	85,850	219,500	305,350
Projects (including Medicines For Children)	47,583	-	47,583
Total Charitable Activities Expenditure	705,677	356,517	1,062,194
Total Expenditure	1,244,414	356,517	1,600,931
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) BEFORE TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS	(287,712)	(38,298)	(326,010)
Transfers between funds	-	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	(287,712)	(38,298)	(326,010)
Reconciliation of Funds:			
Total Funds Brought Forward (1 April)	1,521,392	78,583	1,599,975
Total Funds Carried Forward (31 March)	1,233,680	40,285	1,273,965

