

THE STARFISH TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 800203

Details

Other names	THE CHARLES AND MARY DOBSON CHARITABLE TRUST, THE SPANDEX FOUNDATION
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1988-10-25
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address 3 Gloucester Road
Almondsbury
Bristol
BS32 4BJ

Phone 07769668844

Email charlie@gainwell.co.uk

Website <http://www.thestarfishtrust.org/>

Activities

Objects: FOR OR TOWARDS SUCH EXCLUSIVELY CHARITABLE PURPOSES OR PURPOSE OR SUCH EXCLUSIVELY CHARITABLE INSTITUTION OR INSTITUTIONS AT SUCH TIME OR TIMES AND IN SUCH MANNER AS THE TRUSTEES IN THEIR ABSOLUTE DISCRETION THINK FIT.

Activities: It is the trustees' policy to give priority to appeals from charitable organisations based within a radius of 25 miles of the centre of Bristol in the following spheres:- Assistance to the disabled, with the priority being disabled children;- Assistance to those suffering from illness or disease; and- Medical research and welfare in the above areas.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations
- **What:** The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability
- **Who:** Children/young People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies

Geography

- Bristol City

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-04-05	£46,146	£43,380	-	-
2024-04-05	£18,073	£23,080	-	-
2023-04-05	£40,169	£49,605	-	-
2022-04-05	£24,100	£13,000	-	-
2021-04-05	£12,500	£7,000	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
CHARLES DOBSON	Chair	
Julian Charles Dobson		2013-07-16
MARY DOBSON		
Suzanne DOBSON		2020-03-10

THE STARFISH TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 800203

Accounts

Charity Registration Number 800203

THE STARFISH TRUST

Report and Financial

Statements 5 April 2025

THE STARFISH TRUST

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2025

CONTENTS

	Page
Officers and professional advisers	1
Trustees' report	2
Trustees' statement of responsibilities	4
Independent examiners' report	5
Receipts and payments	6
Statement of assets and liabilities	7
Notes to the financial statements	8

THE STARFISH TRUST

OFFICERS AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

TRUSTEES

Mr C E Dobson
Mrs M Dobson
Mr J C Dobson
Mrs S M Dobson

REGISTERED OFFICE

3 Gloucester Road
Almondsbury
Bristol
BS32 4BJ

CHARITY NUMBER

800203

BANKERS

Coutts & Co
Bristol Office
33-35 Queen Square
Bristol
BS1 4LU

SOLICITORS

Bond Dickinson LLP
3 Temple Quay
Temple Back East
Bristol
BS1 6DZ

ACCOUNTANT

Deloitte LLP
Halo
Counterslip
BS1 6AJ

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Bevan Buckland LLP
Cardigan House
Castle Court
Swansea
SA7 9LA

THE STARFISH TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The trustees present their annual report together with the unaudited financial statements for the year ended 5 April 2025.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity Commission guidance for Receipts and payments accounts pack (CC16).

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

The Starfish Trust is a registered charity (number 800203). Its registered office is as shown on page 1. The trustees who served during the year, and subsequently, are shown on page 1.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The charity is governed by its Trust Deed dated 27 September 1988 between Charles Edward Dobson and Mary Dobson, who were the original trustees.

The Board of Trustees is responsible for the overall governance of the charity. The power to appoint new trustees is vested in the trustees.

OBJECTS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objects of the charity are to apply the income and, at their absolute discretion, apply all or part of the capital of the Trust for or towards such exclusively charitable purposes or purpose or such exclusively charitable institutions or institution at such time or times and in such manner as the trustees in their absolute discretion see fit.

GRANT MAKING POLICY

It is the trustees' policy to give priority to appeals from charitable organisations based within a radius of 25 miles of the center of Bristol in the following spheres:

- Assistance to the disabled, with the priority being disabled children;
- Assistance to those suffering from illness or disease; and
- Medical research and welfare in the above areas.

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's objectives and in planning for the short term.

GOING CONCERN

The Starfish Trust is funded by the four trustees, Charles E Dobson, Mary Dobson, Julian C Dobson and Suzanne M Dobson, with no contribution from outside parties. Grants made in the years since its inception have amounted to over £6.75 million. This income is generated from the Dobson family business interests.

The trustees have confirmed their willingness to provide ongoing financial support for the Starfish Trust's charitable activities for the foreseeable future.

THE STARFISH TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

RESERVES POLICY

The trustees have established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds held by the charity are maintained in order to generate incoming resources annually which are then spent in line with the charity's objects.

The reserves as at 5 April 2025 are £14,528 (2024: £28,411). The Trustees review the financial position of the charity to ensure that it has sufficient reserves to meet its obligations as they fall due.

RISK REVIEW

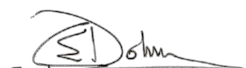
The trustees have conducted their own review of the risks to which the charity is exposed, and systems have been established to mitigate those risks. Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects and to ensure consistent quality of delivery for all operational aspects of the charity. These procedures are periodically reviewed to ensure that they still meet the needs of the charity.

REVIEW OF TRANSACTIONS

Grants made during the year ended 5 April 2025 totalled £43,380 (2024: £16,718).

The Trust's only sources of income during the year were donations of £22,500 from J C Dobson, Trustee and Gift Aid receipt of £22,275 (with interest of £1,202).

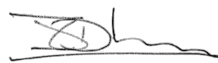
Approved by the trustees on 03/02/2026.....



C E Dobson – Trustee



M Dobson – Trustee



J C Dobson – Trustee



S M Dobson - Trustee

THE STARFISH TRUST

TRUSTEES' STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL INFORMATION OF THE STARFISH TRUST

I report on the accounts of the charitable trust for the year ended 5 April 2025, which are set out on pages 5 to 8.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under section 145 (5) (b) of that Act. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for my work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 145(1) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts (under section 145 of the 2011 Act);
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the financial statements present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Dated: 3 February 2026

.....

Mr Michael Jones
Bevan Buckland LLP
Cardigan House
Castle Court
Swansea
SA7 9LA

THE STARFISH TRUST

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

Year ended 5 April 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
RECEIPTS			
From voluntary sources			
Donations		22,500	18,000
Investment income			
UK Interest		169	73
Other income			
Other interest		1,202	-
Gift Aid repayment		22,275	-
TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR		<u>46,146</u>	<u>18,073</u>
PAYMENTS			
Charitable expenditure			
Donations		43,380	16,718
Other expenditure			
Accountancy fee		-	1,020
Website and marketing costs		-	5,342
Payments sub-totals		<u>43,380</u>	<u>23,080</u>
TOTAL PAYMENTS FOR YEAR		<u>43,380</u>	<u>23,080</u>
Net (payments)/receipts		2,766	(5,007)
Cash funds held at 5 April 2024		1,636	6,643
Cash funds held at 5 April 2025		<u>£ 4,402</u>	<u>£ 1,636</u>

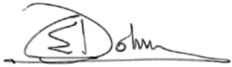
THE STARFISH TRUST

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

5 April 2025

	Notes	2025	2024
CASH FUNDS		£	£
Cash at bank		<u>4,402</u>	<u>1,636</u>
OTHER MONETARY ASSETS			
Tax reclaim		10,125	26,775
		<u>10,125</u>	<u>26,775</u>
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS		<u>14,527</u>	<u>28,411</u>

Approved by the Trustees and signed by:



.....
C E Dobson - Trustee



.....
M Dobson - Trustee



.....
J C Dobson - Trustee



.....
S M Dobson - Trustee

Date 03/02/2026

THE STARFISH TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year ended 5 April 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements are prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with Section 133 of the Charities Act 2011.

Particular accounting policies adopted by the trustees are described below.

a) Income and expenditure

Income and expenditure is accounted for on a receipts and payments basis.

2 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Loans of £nil were repaid during the year to J C and S Dobson, trustees (2024 - nil). The loans were interest-free and repayable on demand.

3 DONATIONS

	£
Cerebral Palsy Plus	3,000
Freya Foundation	2,000
Jigsaw Thornbury	1,400
Designability Charity Ltd	6,000
Make a Move	5,000
Keynsham and District Mencap Society	10,410
Spencer Dayman Meningitis Research	250
Wellow Group RDA	1,000
Young and Free	2,320
Flamingo Chicks	5,000
Ups and Downs South West	7,000
	<hr/> <hr/> 43,380 <hr/> <hr/>

THE STARFISH TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 800203

Accounts

Charity Registration Number 800203

THE STARFISH TRUST

Report and Financial Statements

5 April 2023

THE STARFISH TRUST

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2023

CONTENTS

	Page
Officers and professional advisers	1
Trustees' report	2
Trustees' statement of responsibilities	4
Independent examiners' report	5
Receipts and payments	6
Statement of assets and liabilities	7
Notes to the financial statements	8

THE STARFISH TRUST

OFFICERS AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

TRUSTEES

Mr C E Dobson
Mrs M Dobson
Mr J C Dobson
Mrs S M Dobson

REGISTERED OFFICE

3 Gloucester Road
Almondsbury
Bristol
BS32 4BJ

CHARITY NUMBER

800203

BANKERS

Coutts & Co
Bristol Office
33-35 Queen Square
Bristol
BS1 4LU

SOLICITORS

Bond Dickinson LLP
3 Temple Quay
Temple Back East
Bristol
BS1 6DZ

ACCOUNTANT

Deloitte LLP
3 Rivergate
Bristol
BS1 6GD

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Bevan Buckland LLP
Cardigan House
Castle Court
Swansea
SA7 9LA

THE STARFISH TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The trustees present their annual report together with the unaudited financial statements for the year ended 5 April 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" 2019.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

The Starfish Trust is a registered charity (number 800203). Its registered office is as shown on page 1. The trustees who served during the year, and subsequently, are shown on page 1.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The charity is governed by its Trust Deed dated 27 September 1988 between Charles Edward Dobson and Mary Dobson, who were the original trustees.

The Board of Trustees is responsible for the overall governance of the charity. The power to appoint new trustees is vested in the trustees.

OBJECTS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objects of the charity are to apply the income and, at their absolute discretion, apply all or part of the capital of the Trust for or towards such exclusively charitable purposes or purpose or such exclusively charitable institutions or institution at such time or times and in such manner as the trustees in their absolute discretion see fit.

GRANT MAKING POLICY

It is the trustees' policy to give priority to appeals from charitable organisations based within a radius of 25 miles of the center of Bristol in the following spheres:

- Assistance to the disabled, with the priority being disabled children;
- Assistance to those suffering from illness or disease; and
- Medical research and welfare in the above areas.

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's objectives and in planning for the short term.

GOING CONCERN

The Starfish Trust is funded by the four trustees, Charles E Dobson, Mary Dobson, Julian C Dobson and Suzanne M Dobson, with no contribution from outside parties. Grants made in the years since its inception have amounted to over £6.75 million. This income is generated from the Dobson family business interests.

The trustees have confirmed their willingness to provide ongoing financial support for the Starfish Trust's charitable activities for the foreseeable future.

THE STARFISH TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

RESERVES POLICY

The trustees have established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds held by the charity are maintained in order to generate incoming resources annually which are then spent in line with the charity's objects.

The reserves as at 5 April 2023 are £28,918 (2022: £28,354). The Trustees review the financial position of the charity to ensure that it has sufficient reserves to meet its obligations as they fall due.

RISK REVIEW

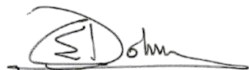
The trustees have conducted their own review of the risks to which the charity is exposed, and systems have been established to mitigate those risks. Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects and to ensure consistent quality of delivery for all operational aspects of the charity. These procedures are periodically reviewed to ensure that they still meet the needs of the charity.

REVIEW OF TRANSACTIONS

Grants made during the year ended 5 April 2023 totalled £49,605 (2022: £13,000).

The Trust's only sources of income during the year were donations of £40,000 from J C Dobson, Trustee.

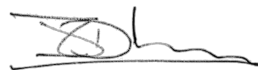
Approved by the trustees on 2/2/2024



C E Dobson – Trustee



M Dobson – Trustee



J C Dobson – Trustee



S M Dobson - Trustee

THE STARFISH TRUST

TRUSTEES' STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL INFORMATION OF THE STARFISH TRUST

I report on the accounts of the charitable trust for the year ended 5 April 2023, which are set out on pages 5 to 8.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under section 145 (5) (b) of that Act. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for my work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 145(1) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts (under section 145 of the 2011 Act);
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the financial statements present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



.....

Dated: 05 February 2024

Mr Michael Jones
Bevan Buckland LLP
Cardigan House
Castle Court
Swansea
SA7 9LA

THE STARFISH TRUST

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

Year ended 5 April 2023

	page	note	2023 £	2022 £
RECEIPTS				
From voluntary sources				
Donations			40,000	24,100
Investment income				
UK Interest			169	1
Other receipts				
Trustee loans	8	2	-	40,000
TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR			<u>40,169</u>	<u>64,101</u>
PAYMENTS				
Charitable expenditure				
Donations	8	3	49,605	13,000
Other expenditure				
Trustee loan repayment			40,000	-
Payments sub-totals			<u>89,605</u>	<u>13,000</u>
TOTAL PAYMENTS FOR YEAR			<u>89,605</u>	<u>13,000</u>
Net (payments)/receipts			(49,436)	51,101
Cash funds held at 5 April 2022			56,079	4,978
Cash funds held at 5 April 2023			£ <u>6,643</u>	£ <u>56,079</u>

THE STARFISH TRUST

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

5 April 2023

	page	note	2023 £	2022 £
CASH FUNDS				
Cash at bank			6,643	56,079
OTHER MONETARY ASSETS				
Tax reclaim			22,275	12,275
			22,275	12,275
LIABILITIES				
Trustee loans	8	2	-	(40,000)
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS			28,918	28,354

Approved by the Trustees and signed by:



C E Dobson - Trustee



M Dobson - Trustee



J C Dobson - Trustee



S M Dobson - Trustee

Date 2/2/2024

THE STARFISH TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year ended 5 April 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements are prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with Section 133 of the Charities Act 2011.

Particular accounting policies adopted by the trustees are described below.

a) Income and expenditure

Income and expenditure is accounted for on a receipts and payments basis.

2. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Loans of £40,000 were repaid during the year to J C and S Dobson, trustees. The loans were interest-free and repayable on demand.

3. DONATIONS

	page	£
Open Up Music		1,500.00
Cerebral Palsy PSU		13,100.00
Jigsaw Thornbury		8,322.00
Bristol Autism SUP		14,000.00
Young and Free		8,373.00
Freya Foundation		2,500.00
Ginormous Solution-Spencer Dayman		1,810.00
	6	<u>49,605.00</u>