

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Service

Northern Ireland · Charity number 102442

Details

Known as	BACCS
Status	Received
Registered	2015-07-27
Register	View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register

Contact

Address Co: Naomi Centre
2 Cullybackey Road
Ballymena
County Antrim
Bt43 5df
BT43 5DF

Phone 07849498494

Email contact@baccs.org.uk

Website www.baccs.org.uk

Activities

Purposes: to seek to relieve the hardship and distress of children and adults caused by the breakdown of marriage, or family relationships and to seek to preserve and protect their physical and mental health, by providing a safe neutral centre and facilities where children may meet with one or both parents and other family members.

What the charity does: The advancement of health or the saving of lives, The relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage

How the charity works: Advice/advocacy/information, Counselling/support, Human rights/equality, Volunteer development, Welfare/benevolent, Youth development

Who the charity helps: Addictions (drug/solvent/alcohol abuse), Carers, Children (5-13 year olds), Ethnic minorities, Ex-offenders and prisoners, Learning disabilities, Men, Mental health, Parents, Preschool (0-5 year olds), Sexual orientation, Travellers, Unemployed/low income, Women, Youth (14-25 year olds)

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£39,020	£36,663	£0	2

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Diane Burgess		
Heather Caldwell		
Jayne Ballentine		
Jim Mahon		
Mrs Elaine Mcdonald		
Richard Marshall,		

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Service

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102442

Accounts

Company registration number: NI044660

Charity registration number: NIC102442

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Catherine McRory FCMA CGMA
Baxterworld Ltd
Unit 3, Dargan Industrial Park
60-84 Dargan Crescent
Belfast
Co. Antrim
BT3 9JP

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees	Jayne Ballentine Richard Marshall Karen McConkey Diane Burgess Fran O'Boyle James Mahon Elaine McDonald
Secretary	Heather Caldwell
Principal Office	Naomi Centre 2 Cullybackey Road Ballymena BT43 5DF
Registered Office	Naomi Centre 2 Cullybackey Road Ballymena BT43 5DF The charity is incorporated in Northern Ireland.
Company Registration Number	NI044660
Charity Registration Number	NIC102442
Bankers	Danske Bank Broadway 1-2 Broadway Ballymena BT43 6EA
Independent Examiner	Catherine McRory FCMA CGMA Baxterworld Ltd Unit 3, Dargan Industrial Park 60-84 Dargan Crescent Belfast Co. Antrim BT3 9JP

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present their strategic report for the year ended 31 March 2025, in compliance with s414C of the Companies Act 2006.

Performance and achievements 2024 - 2025

The financial year 2024 / 25 has seen Ballymena Area Children's Contact Service (BACCS) continue to offer a much needed service to the local community, in supporting separated families to have re-establish contact and maintain relationships with their separated parent.

BACCS continues to operate full in person / face to face service for it's service users, while also being mindful of Covid, and the impact that this also had on families. Most families have individual areas that they will use in the halls, and we limit the maximum number of families in the halls (depending on the children's age and stage of development, and the number of children), and are considerate to their needs (e.g. we have sensory activities to help regulate children and young people, if needed).

Through the year (2024 - 2025), Ballymena and Antrim Child Contact Centres provided a total of 576 Family Visits, which amounted to 1386 hours of contact.

Children and young people may not have been able to have contact with their separated parent, with the support of BACCS.

Our main achievements over this financial year were

Thursday sessions - Thursday sessions had initially started as fortnightly until established, and with continued use by families (and commitment from volunteers) we have been able to fully establish these as consistent weekly sessions. These sessions help with providing additional support and options for families that can not commit to Saturday contact, or may need to swap due to their circumstances (e.g. for families that may work shifts). Thursday sessions have also been useful in being able to provide additional cover, if a session has had to be cancelled on a Saturday (such as a bank holiday, or significant weather disruption).

Child Protection - All volunteers are up to date with their Child Protection Training, ensuring they can support vulnerable families.

Designated Child Protection Officer Training - BACCS has 5 volunteers trained as Designated Child Protection Officers, to help provide additional coverage for the centres, support families and enhance their own skills and experience.

Toys and Resources - Toys and resources in the centres have also been updated, to help provide and facilitate more 'natural contact' with families, and give them opportunities to interact and engage.

Christmas - With the support of Cash for Kids, were able to give much needed and much appreciated presents to all the kids in the centre. All available volunteers were also taken for their traditional Christmas Lunch.

Antrim Centre - Over the financial year, we provided total of 238 family visits, and a total of 516 contact hours.

Ballymena Centre - Over this financial year, we provided 340 family visits and a total of 870 contact hours.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre
Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Financial review

Policy on reserves

It is the Charity's policy to maintain unrestricted reserves equal to 6 months running costs. In 2025, that value is £19,628. The Unrestricted reserves total £44,852 for 2025 which is equivalent to just over 1 year's running costs.

The strategic report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 17 November 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Karen McConkey
Trustee

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Trustees' Report

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Objectives and activities

Public benefit

The benefits which flow from this purpose include: 1. The relief of the emotional impact of separation due to family breakdown 2. The re-establishment of a level of trust between the parents. 3. Increased contact between the child and the absent parent within a safe neutral environment 4. The child is safe from risk of harm e.g. domestic abuse or substance abuse. These benefits will be evidenced by 1. The number of families using the service 2. The number of families moving on to more positive contact outside the centre (presently 70% plus) 3. Family evaluation sheets 4. Anecdotal evidence from users of the centres 5. Feedback from referrers, e.g. social services, solicitors, child court officers and courts. 6. Research

The purposes of our charity may lead to the following harm 1. Confrontation between parents. 2. Families become reliant on the centres We can minimise the harm and show it is outweighed by the benefits by 1. Pre visits with families to carry out risk assessment and address the need for the centre to be a temporary solution to child contact 2. Staggered arrival and departure times for families 3. Carry out regular reviews with all family members to address ways of moving on. 4. Research showing the success of the centres and their objectives. The only private benefits flowing from this purpose are 1. Volunteers may enhance their employment opportunities through the training and experience gained from supporting child contact. This training may be transferable to other settings. 2. Volunteers may receive travelling expenses. 3. Volunteers who are Directors or sit on the management committee may enhance their employment opportunities through the skills gained as part of the Management Board. These private benefits are incidental and necessary to ensure that the benefit is provided to our beneficiaries. The beneficiaries are the people of Ballymena, Antrim and Larne areas who are experiencing family breakdown and wish to establish contact with their children, whether parents, grandparents or siblings. Although most of our families reside in these three areas, it is not our policy to refuse people from other areas of Northern Ireland or outside the province. Other aspects Staff and volunteers are found to facilitate the smooth running of the centre; Volunteers benefit from increased skills through ongoing training which could enhance their career opportunities and gain experience through teamwork and networking with other volunteers Volunteers may find themselves in confrontational situations or may become emotionally affected by the needs of the children but this is minimised by: 1. Vetting of volunteers 2. Ongoing training 3. Support policies to assist volunteers We also promote and publicise the concept of Child Contact Centres: this leads to awareness by the public of the role of Children's Contact Centres so that they can seek referrals in times of need and this is demonstrated through the number of referrals, whether through social services, courts, solicitors, or self-referral.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 3 of the Charities Act 2008 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland.

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre is a Company Limited by Guarantee, governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association and registered as a charity with the Charities Commission of NI.

It is governed by a voluntary Management Committee which is responsible for strategic planning and decision making, financial governance and probity and have employment responsibility for all staff. Volunteering opportunities within the organisation are openly advertised through a wide range of media outlets. All volunteers complete a mandatory training programme, are subject to a six-month probationary period and complete a comprehensive induction process. Those volunteers who are to be appointed to the Management Committee receive specialist training to assist them to fulfil their roles in relation to governance of the organisation.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Trustees' Report

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Members to the Management Committee are proposed at the annual general meeting. Office bearers are elected at the first Management Committee meeting following the annual general meeting.

Organisational structure

The day-to-day management and operation of the activities are carried out by a staff team, led by the Centre Co-ordinator, who also reports to the Committee. Operational volunteers contribute to the day to day activities of the charity and their contribution is invaluable to the charity meeting its aims and objectives.

Financial instruments

Objectives and policies

The charity's activities expose it to a number of financial risks including credit risk, cash flow risk and liquidity risk. The use of financial derivatives is governed by the charity's policies approved by the board of trustees, which provide written principles on the use of financial derivatives to manage these risks. The charity does not use derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

Cash flow risk

The charity's activities expose it primarily to the financial risks of changes in foreign currency exchange rates and interest rates. The charity uses foreign exchange forward contracts and interest rate swap contracts to hedge these exposures.

Interest bearing assets and liabilities are held at fixed rate to ensure certainty of cash flows.

Credit risk

The charity's principal financial assets are bank balances and cash, trade and other receivables, and investments. The charity's credit risk is primarily attributable to its trade receivables. The amounts presented in the balance sheet are net of allowances for doubtful receivables. An allowance for impairment is made where there is an identified loss event which, based on previous experience, is evidence of a reduction in the recoverability of the cash flows.

The credit risk on liquid funds and derivative financial instruments is limited because the counterparties are banks with high credit-ratings assigned by international credit-rating agencies.

The charity has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over a large number of counterparties and customers.

Liquidity risk

In order to maintain liquidity to ensure that sufficient funds are available for ongoing operations and future developments, the charity uses a mixture of long-term and short-term debt finance.

Further details regarding liquidity risk can be found in the Statement of accounting policies in the financial statements.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 17 November 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Karen McConkey
Trustee

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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 of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare 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 and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 17 November 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Karen McConkey
Trustee

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025 which are set out on pages 8 to 16 .

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 65(2) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (the 2008 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the 2008 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 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 the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 you as 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 accounts 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 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

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.

.....
Catherine McRory FCMA CGMA

Baxterworld Ltd
Unit 3, Dargan Industrial Park
60-84 Dargan Crescent
Belfast
Co. Antrim
BT3 9JP

17 November 2025

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2025 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	400	-	400	-
Charitable activities	4	-	41,915	41,915	38,541
Investment income	5	669	-	669	479
Total Income		<u>1,069</u>	<u>41,915</u>	<u>42,984</u>	<u>39,020</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	6	-	(39,257)	(39,257)	(36,663)
Total Expenditure		<u>-</u>	<u>(39,257)</u>	<u>(39,257)</u>	<u>(36,663)</u>
Net income		<u>1,069</u>	<u>2,658</u>	<u>3,727</u>	<u>2,357</u>
Net movement in funds		1,069	2,658	3,727	2,357
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>43,781</u>	<u>9,033</u>	<u>52,814</u>	<u>50,458</u>
Total funds carried forward	13	<u>44,850</u>	<u>11,691</u>	<u>56,541</u>	<u>52,815</u>
	Note		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Charitable activities	4	-	-	38,541	38,541
Investment income	5	479	-	-	479
Total Income		<u>479</u>	<u>479</u>	<u>38,541</u>	<u>39,020</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	6	-	-	(36,663)	(36,663)
Total Expenditure		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(36,663)</u>	<u>(36,663)</u>
Net income		<u>479</u>	<u>479</u>	<u>1,878</u>	<u>2,357</u>
Net movement in funds		479	479	1,878	2,357
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>43,303</u>	<u>43,303</u>	<u>7,155</u>	<u>50,458</u>
Total funds carried forward	13	<u>43,782</u>	<u>43,782</u>	<u>9,033</u>	<u>52,815</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.
The funds breakdown for 2024 & 2024 is shown in note 13.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

(Registration number: NI044660)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Current assets			
Debtors	10	-	3,394
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>58,455</u>	<u>51,358</u>
		58,455	54,752
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>(1,914)</u>	<u>(1,938)</u>
Net assets		<u>56,541</u>	<u>52,814</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted funds		11,691	9,033
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>44,850</u>	<u>43,782</u>
Total funds	13	<u>56,541</u>	<u>52,815</u>

For the financial year ending 31 March 2025 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

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

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements on pages 8 to 16 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 17 November 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

.....
Karen McConkey
Trustee

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

1 Charity status

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

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

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

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Going concern

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

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

The charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

Income and endowments

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

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

Investment income

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

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

Expenditure

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

Charitable activities

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

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees's meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Taxation

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

Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

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

Trade creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

Borrowings

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

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

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

Fund structure

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

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

Financial instruments

Classification

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

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

Recognition and measurement

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

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

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

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

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

Investments

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

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

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Total 2025
	General £	£
Donations and legacies;		
Donations from individuals	400	400
	400	400

4 Income from charitable activities

	Restricted funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£
Charitable Activities	41,915	41,915	38,541

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	General £	£	£
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	669	669	479

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Note	Restricted funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
		£	£	£
Charitable Activities		7,691	7,691	7,972
Staff costs		30,461	30,461	27,865
Governance costs	7	1,105	1,105	826
		39,257	39,257	36,663

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

£Nil (2024 - £Nil) of the above expenditure was attributable to unrestricted funds and £38,152 (2024 - £36,663) to restricted funds.

In addition to the expenditure analysed above, there are also governance costs of £1,105 (2024 - £826) which relate directly to charitable activities. See note 7 for further details.

7 Analysis of governance and support costs

Governance costs

	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Other governance costs	1,105	1,105	826
	<u>1,105</u>	<u>1,105</u>	<u>826</u>

8 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	28,860	26,427
Pension costs	1,184	1,032
Other staff costs	417	406
	<u>30,461</u>	<u>27,865</u>

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

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

9 Taxation

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

10 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Accrued income	-	3,394

11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	10	22
Other taxation and social security	531	467
Other creditors	148	129
Accruals	1,225	1,320
	1,914	1,938

12 Pension and other schemes

Defined contribution pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the charity to the scheme and amounted to £1,184 (2024 - £1,032).

13 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	(43,781)	(1,069)	-	(44,850)
Restricted funds	(9,033)	(41,915)	39,257	(11,691)
Total funds	(52,814)	(42,984)	39,257	(56,541)

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	(43,303)	(479)	-	(43,782)
Restricted funds	<u>(7,155)</u>	<u>(38,541)</u>	<u>36,663</u>	<u>(9,033)</u>
Total funds	<u><u>(50,458)</u></u>	<u><u>(39,020)</u></u>	<u><u>36,663</u></u>	<u><u>(52,815)</u></u>

14 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	General £	£	£
Current assets	46,765	11,690	58,455
Current liabilities	<u>(1,914)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,914)</u>
Total net assets	<u><u>44,851</u></u>	<u><u>11,690</u></u>	<u><u>56,541</u></u>

15 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 April 2024 £	Cash flow £	At 31 March 2025 £
Cash at bank and in hand	51,358	7,097	58,455
Net debt	<u>51,358</u>	<u>7,097</u>	<u>58,455</u>

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Service

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102442

Accounts

Company registration number: NI044660

Charity registration number: NIC102442

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Draft

Catherine McRory FCMA CGMA
Baxterworld Ltd
Unit 3, Dargan Industrial Park
60-84 Dargan Crescent
Belfast
Co. Antrim
BT3 9JP

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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Draft

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees	Jayne Ballentine Richard Marshall Karen McConkey Diane Burgess Fran O'Boyle James Mahon Elaine McDonald
Secretary	Heather Caldwell
Principal Office	Naomi Centre 2 Cullybackey Road Ballymena BT43 5DF
Registered Office	Naomi Centre 2 Cullybackey Road Ballymena BT43 5DF The charity is incorporated in Northern Ireland.
Company Registration Number	NI044660
Charity Registration Number	NIC102442
Bankers	Danske Bank Broadway 1-2 Broadway Ballymena BT43 6EA
Independent Examiner	Catherine McRory FCMA CGMA Baxterworld Ltd Unit 3, Dargan Industrial Park 60-84 Dargan Crescent Belfast Co. Antrim BT3 9JP

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present their strategic report for the year ended 31 March 2024, in compliance with s414C of the Companies Act 2006.

Performance and achievements 2022 - 2023

The financial year 2022 / 23 has seen the charity continue to offer a much needed service to the community, supporting separated families to have contact, especially after the effects and impact of Covid.

Thankfully, we appear to have come out of the most severe impacts of Covid, and have been able to return to full in person / face to face service, with provisions in place for families e.g. having individual stations, limiting the number of families to 6 in the halls, to minimise the potential for spreading infections.

With our first full year of weekly service at both centres since the start of the pandemic, we saw the centres provide contact for a total of 416 Family Visits, which 1033 hours of contact.

Contact children would not have had without the service provided by the charity.

Our main achievements over this financial year were

Thursday sessions - Thursday sessions were started in Ballymena, providing additional support and options for families that cannot commit to Saturday contact. This addition also brings BACCS in line with other contact centres.

Child Protection - We updated Child Protection Training for many of the volunteers, ensuring their knowledge and skills are up to date in order to support vulnerable families.

Toys and Resources - Toys and resources in the centres have also been updated, to help provide and facilitate more 'natural contact' with families, and give them opportunities to interact and engage

Christmas - With the support of Women's Aid, we were able to give much needed and much appreciated presents to all the kids in the centre. All available volunteers were also taken for their traditional Christmas Lunch.

Uplift - We have received a 3.54% uplift in our funding from the Northern Health and Social Care Trust, to support with the rising costs of day to day running, and help facilitate the addition of Thursday contact.

Antrim Centre

Over the financial year, we provided total of 228 family visits, and a total of 529 contact hours.

Ballymena Centre

Over this financial year, we provided 188 family visits and a total of 504 contact hours.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre
Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Financial review

Policy on reserves

It is the Charity's policy to maintain unrestricted reserves equal to 6 months running costs. In 2024, that value is £18,332. The Unrestricted reserves total £43,781 for 2024 which is equivalent to just over 1 year's running costs.

The strategic report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 4 November 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Karen McConkey
Trustee

Draft

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Trustees' Report

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

Objectives and activities

Public benefit

The benefits which flow from this purpose include: 1. The relief of the emotional impact of separation due to family breakdown 2. The re-establishment of a level of trust between the parents. 3. Increased contact between the child and the absent parent within a safe neutral environment 4. The child is safe from risk of harm e.g. domestic abuse or substance abuse. These benefits will be evidenced by 1. The number of families using the service 2. The number of families moving on to more positive contact outside the centre (presently 70% plus) 3. Family evaluation sheets 4. Anecdotal evidence from users of the centres 5. Feedback from referrers, e.g. social services, solicitors, child court officers and courts. 6. Research

The purposes of our charity may lead to the following harm 1. Confrontation between parents. 2. Families become reliant on the centres We can minimise the harm and show it is outweighed by the benefits by 1. Pre visits with families to carry out risk assessment and address the need for the centre to be a temporary solution to child contact 2. Staggered arrival and departure times for families 3. Carry out regular reviews with all family members to address ways of moving on. 4. Research showing the success of the centres and their objectives. The only private benefits flowing from this purpose are 1. Volunteers may enhance their employment opportunities through the training and experience gained from supporting child contact. This training may be transferable to other settings. 2. Volunteers may receive travelling expenses. 3. Volunteers who are Directors or sit on the management committee may enhance their employment opportunities through the skills gained as part of the Management Board. These private benefits are incidental and necessary to ensure that the benefit is provided to our beneficiaries. The beneficiaries are the people of Ballymena, Antrim and Larne areas who are experiencing family breakdown and wish to establish contact with their children, whether parents, grandparents or siblings. Although most of our families reside in these three areas, it is not our policy to refuse people from other areas of Northern Ireland or outside the province. Other aspects Staff and volunteers are found to facilitate the smooth running of the centre; Volunteers benefit from increased skills through ongoing training which could enhance their career opportunities and gain experience through teamwork and networking with other volunteers Volunteers may find themselves in confrontational situations or may become emotionally affected by the needs of the children but this is minimised by: 1. Vetting of volunteers 2. Ongoing training 3. Support policies to assist volunteers We also promote and publicise the concept of Child Contact Centres: this leads to awareness by the public of the role of Children's Contact Centres so that they can seek referrals in times of need and this is demonstrated through the number of referrals, whether through social services, courts, solicitors, or self-referral.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 3 of the Charities Act 2008 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland.

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre is a Company Limited by Guarantee, governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association and registered as a charity with the Charities Commission of NI.

It is governed by a voluntary Management Committee which is responsible for strategic planning and decision making, financial governance and probity and have employment responsibility for all staff. Volunteering opportunities within the organisation are openly advertised through a wide range of media outlets. All volunteers complete a mandatory training programme, are subject to a six-month probationary period and complete a comprehensive induction process. Those volunteers who are to be appointed to the Management Committee receive specialist training to assist them to fulfil their roles in relation to governance of the organisation.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Trustees' Report

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Members to the Management Committee are proposed at the annual general meeting. Office bearers are elected at the first Management Committee meeting following the annual general meeting.

Organisational structure

The day-to-day management and operation of the activities are carried out by a staff team, led by the Centre Co-ordinator, who also reports to the Committee. Operational volunteers contribute to the day to day activities of the charity and their contribution is invaluable to the charity meeting its aims and objectives.

Financial instruments

Objectives and policies

The charity's activities expose it to a number of financial risks including credit risk, cash flow risk and liquidity risk. The use of financial derivatives is governed by the charity's policies approved by the board of trustees, which provide written principles on the use of financial derivatives to manage these risks. The charity does not use derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

Cash flow risk

The charity's activities expose it primarily to the financial risks of changes in foreign currency exchange rates and interest rates. The charity uses foreign exchange forward contracts and interest rate swap contracts to hedge these exposures.

Interest bearing assets and liabilities are held at fixed rate to ensure certainty of cash flows.

Credit risk

The charity's principal financial assets are bank balances and cash, trade and other receivables, and investments. The charity's credit risk is primarily attributable to its trade receivables. The amounts presented in the balance sheet are net of allowances for doubtful receivables. An allowance for impairment is made where there is an identified loss event which, based on previous experience, is evidence of a reduction in the recoverability of the cash flows.

The credit risk on liquid funds and derivative financial instruments is limited because the counterparties are banks with high credit-ratings assigned by international credit-rating agencies.

The charity has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over a large number of counterparties and customers.

Liquidity risk

In order to maintain liquidity to ensure that sufficient funds are available for ongoing operations and future developments, the charity uses a mixture of long-term and short-term debt finance.

Further details regarding liquidity risk can be found in the Statement of accounting policies in the financial statements.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 4 November 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Karen McConkey
Trustee

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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 of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare 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 and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 4 November 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Karen McConkey
Trustee

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024 which are set out on pages 8 to 16 .

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 65(2) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (the 2008 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the 2008 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 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 the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 you as 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 accounts 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 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

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.

.....
Catherine McRory FCMA CGMA

Baxterworld Ltd
Unit 3, Dargan Industrial Park
60-84 Dargan Crescent
Belfast
Co. Antrim
BT3 9JP

4 November 2024

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Charitable activities	3	-	38,541	38,541	37,339
Investment income	4	479	-	479	101
Total Income		<u>479</u>	<u>38,541</u>	<u>39,020</u>	<u>37,440</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	5	-	(36,663)	(36,663)	(34,350)
Total Expenditure		<u>-</u>	<u>(36,663)</u>	<u>(36,663)</u>	<u>(34,350)</u>
Net income		<u>479</u>	<u>1,878</u>	<u>2,357</u>	<u>3,090</u>
Net movement in funds		479	1,878	2,357	3,090
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>43,303</u>	<u>7,155</u>	<u>50,458</u>	<u>47,367</u>
Total funds carried forward	12	<u>43,782</u>	<u>9,033</u>	<u>52,815</u>	<u>50,457</u>
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	
Income and Endowments from:					
Charitable activities	3	-	-	37,339	37,339
Investment income	4	101	-	-	101
Total Income		<u>101</u>	<u>101</u>	<u>37,339</u>	<u>37,440</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	5	-	-	(34,350)	(34,350)
Total Expenditure		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(34,350)</u>	<u>(34,350)</u>
Net income		<u>101</u>	<u>101</u>	<u>2,989</u>	<u>3,090</u>
Net movement in funds		101	101	2,989	3,090
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>43,201</u>	<u>43,201</u>	<u>4,166</u>	<u>47,367</u>
Total funds carried forward	12	<u>43,302</u>	<u>43,302</u>	<u>7,155</u>	<u>50,457</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.
The funds breakdown for 2024 & 2023 is shown in note 12.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

(Registration number: NI044660)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Current assets			
Debtors	9	3,394	-
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>51,358</u>	<u>52,876</u>
		54,752	52,876
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	10	<u>(1,938)</u>	<u>(2,418)</u>
Net assets		<u>52,814</u>	<u>50,458</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted funds		9,033	7,155
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>43,782</u>	<u>43,302</u>
Total funds	12	<u>52,815</u>	<u>50,457</u>

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

Directors' responsibilities:

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

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements on pages 8 to 16 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 4 November 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

.....
Karen McConkey
Trustee

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

1 Charity status

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

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

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

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Going concern

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

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

The charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

Income and endowments

Investment income

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

Expenditure

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

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

Charitable activities

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

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees's meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Taxation

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

Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

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

Trade creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

Borrowings

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

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

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

Fund structure

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

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

Financial instruments

Classification

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

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

Recognition and measurement

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

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

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

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

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

Investments

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

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

3 Income from charitable activities

	Restricted funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£
Charitable Activities	38,541	38,541	37,339

4 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	General	£	£
	£	£	£
Interest receivable and similar income; Interest receivable on bank deposits	479	479	101

5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Note	Restricted funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
		£	£	£
Charitable Activities		7,972	7,972	6,049
Staff costs		27,865	27,865	27,150
Governance costs	6	826	826	1,151
		36,663	36,663	34,350

£Nil (2023 - £Nil) of the above expenditure was attributable to unrestricted funds and £36,663 (2023 - £33,436) to restricted funds.

In addition to the expenditure analysed above, there are also governance costs of £826 (2023 - £914) which relate directly to charitable activities. See note 6 for further details.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

6 Analysis of governance and support costs

Governance costs

	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Other governance costs	826	826	1,151
	826	826	1,151
	826	826	1,151

7 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	26,469	24,611
Social security costs	-	991
Pension costs	990	793
Other staff costs	406	755
	27,865	27,150
	27,865	27,150

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

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

8 Taxation

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

9 Debtors

	2024 £
Accrued income	3,394

10 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	22	984
Other taxation and social security	467	381
Other creditors	129	129
Accruals	1,320	924
	1,938	2,418

11 Pension and other schemes

Defined contribution pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the charity to the scheme and amounted to £990 (2023 - £793).

12 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	(43,303)	(479)	-	(43,782)
Restricted funds	(7,155)	(38,541)	36,663	(9,033)
Total funds	(50,458)	(39,020)	36,663	(52,815)

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	(43,201)	(101)	-	(43,302)
Restricted funds	<u>(4,166)</u>	<u>(37,339)</u>	<u>34,350</u>	<u>(7,155)</u>
Total funds	<u><u>(47,367)</u></u>	<u><u>(37,440)</u></u>	<u><u>34,350</u></u>	<u><u>(50,457)</u></u>

13 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Current assets	36,376	18,376	54,752
Current liabilities	<u>(1,938)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,938)</u>
Total net assets	<u><u>34,438</u></u>	<u><u>18,376</u></u>	<u><u>52,814</u></u>

14 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 April 2023 £	Cash flow £	At 31 March 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	52,876	(1,518)	51,358
Net debt	<u><u>52,876</u></u>	<u><u>(1,518)</u></u>	<u><u>51,358</u></u>

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Service

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102442

Annual report

Company registration number: NI044660

Charity registration number: NIC102442

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Draft

Catherine McRory FCMA CGMA
Baxterworld Ltd
Unit 3, Dargan Industrial Park
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Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees	Jayne Ballentine Richard Marshall Karen McConkey Diane Burgess Fran O'Boyle James Mahon Elaine McDonald
Secretary	Heather Caldwell
Principal Office	Naomi Centre 2 Cullybackey Road Ballymena BT43 5DF
Registered Office	Naomi Centre 2 Cullybackey Road Ballymena BT43 5DF The charity is incorporated in Northern Ireland.
Company Registration Number	NI044660
Charity Registration Number	NIC102442
Bankers	Danske Bank Broadway 1-2 Broadway Ballymena BT43 6EA
Independent Examiner	Catherine McRory FCMA CGMA Baxterworld Ltd Unit 3, Dargan Industrial Park 60-84 Dargan Crescent Belfast Co. Antrim BT3 9JP

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present their strategic report for the year ended 31 March 2024, in compliance with s414C of the Companies Act 2006.

Performance and achievements 2022 - 2023

The financial year 2022 / 23 has seen the charity continue to offer a much needed service to the community, supporting separated families to have contact, especially after the effects and impact of Covid.

Thankfully, we appear to have come out of the most severe impacts of Covid, and have been able to return to full in person / face to face service, with provisions in place for families e.g. having individual stations, limiting the number of families to 6 in the halls, to minimise the potential for spreading infections.

With our first full year of weekly service at both centres since the start of the pandemic, we saw the centres provide contact for a total of 416 Family Visits, which 1033 hours of contact.

Contact children would not have had without the service provided by the charity.

Our main achievements over this financial year were

Thursday sessions - Thursday sessions were started in Ballymena, providing additional support and options for families that cannot commit to Saturday contact. This addition also brings BACCS in line with other contact centres.

Child Protection - We updated Child Protection Training for many of the volunteers, ensuring their knowledge and skills are up to date in order to support vulnerable families.

Toys and Resources - Toys and resources in the centres have also been updated, to help provide and facilitate more 'natural contact' with families, and give them opportunities to interact and engage

Christmas - With the support of Women's Aid, we were able to give much needed and much appreciated presents to all the kids in the centre. All available volunteers were also taken for their traditional Christmas Lunch.

Uplift - We have received a 3.54% uplift in our funding from the Northern Health and Social Care Trust, to support with the rising costs of day to day running, and help facilitate the addition of Thursday contact.

Antrim Centre

Over the financial year, we provided total of 228 family visits, and a total of 529 contact hours.

Ballymena Centre

Over this financial year, we provided 188 family visits and a total of 504 contact hours.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre
Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Financial review

Policy on reserves

It is the Charity's policy to maintain unrestricted reserves equal to 6 months running costs. In 2024, that value is £18,332. The Unrestricted reserves total £43,781 for 2024 which is equivalent to just over 1 year's running costs.

The strategic report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 4 November 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Karen McConkey
Trustee

Draft

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Trustees' Report

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

Objectives and activities

Public benefit

The benefits which flow from this purpose include: 1. The relief of the emotional impact of separation due to family breakdown 2. The re-establishment of a level of trust between the parents. 3. Increased contact between the child and the absent parent within a safe neutral environment 4. The child is safe from risk of harm e.g. domestic abuse or substance abuse. These benefits will be evidenced by 1. The number of families using the service 2. The number of families moving on to more positive contact outside the centre (presently 70% plus) 3. Family evaluation sheets 4. Anecdotal evidence from users of the centres 5. Feedback from referrers, e.g. social services, solicitors, child court officers and courts. 6. Research

The purposes of our charity may lead to the following harm 1. Confrontation between parents. 2. Families become reliant on the centres We can minimise the harm and show it is outweighed by the benefits by 1. Pre visits with families to carry out risk assessment and address the need for the centre to be a temporary solution to child contact 2. Staggered arrival and departure times for families 3. Carry out regular reviews with all family members to address ways of moving on. 4. Research showing the success of the centres and their objectives. The only private benefits flowing from this purpose are 1. Volunteers may enhance their employment opportunities through the training and experience gained from supporting child contact. This training may be transferable to other settings. 2. Volunteers may receive travelling expenses. 3. Volunteers who are Directors or sit on the management committee may enhance their employment opportunities through the skills gained as part of the Management Board. These private benefits are incidental and necessary to ensure that the benefit is provided to our beneficiaries. The beneficiaries are the people of Ballymena, Antrim and Larne areas who are experiencing family breakdown and wish to establish contact with their children, whether parents, grandparents or siblings. Although most of our families reside in these three areas, it is not our policy to refuse people from other areas of Northern Ireland or outside the province. Other aspects Staff and volunteers are found to facilitate the smooth running of the centre; Volunteers benefit from increased skills through ongoing training which could enhance their career opportunities and gain experience through teamwork and networking with other volunteers Volunteers may find themselves in confrontational situations or may become emotionally affected by the needs of the children but this is minimised by: 1. Vetting of volunteers 2. Ongoing training 3. Support policies to assist volunteers We also promote and publicise the concept of Child Contact Centres: this leads to awareness by the public of the role of Children's Contact Centres so that they can seek referrals in times of need and this is demonstrated through the number of referrals, whether through social services, courts, solicitors, or self-referral.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 3 of the Charities Act 2008 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland.

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre is a Company Limited by Guarantee, governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association and registered as a charity with the Charities Commission of NI.

It is governed by a voluntary Management Committee which is responsible for strategic planning and decision making, financial governance and probity and have employment responsibility for all staff. Volunteering opportunities within the organisation are openly advertised through a wide range of media outlets. All volunteers complete a mandatory training programme, are subject to a six-month probationary period and complete a comprehensive induction process. Those volunteers who are to be appointed to the Management Committee receive specialist training to assist them to fulfil their roles in relation to governance of the organisation.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Trustees' Report

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Members to the Management Committee are proposed at the annual general meeting. Office bearers are elected at the first Management Committee meeting following the annual general meeting.

Organisational structure

The day-to-day management and operation of the activities are carried out by a staff team, led by the Centre Co-ordinator, who also reports to the Committee. Operational volunteers contribute to the day to day activities of the charity and their contribution is invaluable to the charity meeting its aims and objectives.

Financial instruments

Objectives and policies

The charity's activities expose it to a number of financial risks including credit risk, cash flow risk and liquidity risk. The use of financial derivatives is governed by the charity's policies approved by the board of trustees, which provide written principles on the use of financial derivatives to manage these risks. The charity does not use derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

Cash flow risk

The charity's activities expose it primarily to the financial risks of changes in foreign currency exchange rates and interest rates. The charity uses foreign exchange forward contracts and interest rate swap contracts to hedge these exposures.

Interest bearing assets and liabilities are held at fixed rate to ensure certainty of cash flows.

Credit risk

The charity's principal financial assets are bank balances and cash, trade and other receivables, and investments. The charity's credit risk is primarily attributable to its trade receivables. The amounts presented in the balance sheet are net of allowances for doubtful receivables. An allowance for impairment is made where there is an identified loss event which, based on previous experience, is evidence of a reduction in the recoverability of the cash flows.

The credit risk on liquid funds and derivative financial instruments is limited because the counterparties are banks with high credit-ratings assigned by international credit-rating agencies.

The charity has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over a large number of counterparties and customers.

Liquidity risk

In order to maintain liquidity to ensure that sufficient funds are available for ongoing operations and future developments, the charity uses a mixture of long-term and short-term debt finance.

Further details regarding liquidity risk can be found in the Statement of accounting policies in the financial statements.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 4 November 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Karen McConkey
Trustee

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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 of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare 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 and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 4 November 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Karen McConkey
Trustee

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024 which are set out on pages 8 to 16 .

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 65(2) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (the 2008 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the 2008 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 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 the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 you as 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 accounts 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 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

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.

.....
Catherine McRory FCMA CGMA

Baxterworld Ltd
Unit 3, Dargan Industrial Park
60-84 Dargan Crescent
Belfast
Co. Antrim
BT3 9JP

4 November 2024

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Charitable activities	3	-	38,541	38,541	37,339
Investment income	4	479	-	479	101
Total Income		<u>479</u>	<u>38,541</u>	<u>39,020</u>	<u>37,440</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	5	-	(36,663)	(36,663)	(34,350)
Total Expenditure		<u>-</u>	<u>(36,663)</u>	<u>(36,663)</u>	<u>(34,350)</u>
Net income		<u>479</u>	<u>1,878</u>	<u>2,357</u>	<u>3,090</u>
Net movement in funds		479	1,878	2,357	3,090
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>43,303</u>	<u>7,155</u>	<u>50,458</u>	<u>47,367</u>
Total funds carried forward	12	<u>43,782</u>	<u>9,033</u>	<u>52,815</u>	<u>50,457</u>
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	
Income and Endowments from:					
Charitable activities	3	-	-	37,339	37,339
Investment income	4	101	-	-	101
Total Income		<u>101</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>37,339</u>	<u>37,440</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	5	-	-	(34,350)	(34,350)
Total Expenditure		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(34,350)</u>	<u>(34,350)</u>
Net income		<u>101</u>	<u>101</u>	<u>2,989</u>	<u>3,090</u>
Net movement in funds		101	101	2,989	3,090
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>43,201</u>	<u>43,201</u>	<u>4,166</u>	<u>47,367</u>
Total funds carried forward	12	<u>43,302</u>	<u>43,302</u>	<u>7,155</u>	<u>50,457</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.
The funds breakdown for 2024 & 2023 is shown in note 12.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

(Registration number: NI044660)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Current assets			
Debtors	9	3,394	-
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>51,358</u>	<u>52,876</u>
		54,752	52,876
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	10	<u>(1,938)</u>	<u>(2,418)</u>
Net assets		<u>52,814</u>	<u>50,458</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted funds		9,033	7,155
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>43,782</u>	<u>43,302</u>
Total funds	12	<u>52,815</u>	<u>50,457</u>

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

Directors' responsibilities:

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

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements on pages 8 to 16 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 4 November 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

.....
Karen McConkey
Trustee

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

1 Charity status

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

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

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

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Going concern

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

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

The charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

Income and endowments

Investment income

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

Expenditure

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

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

Charitable activities

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

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees's meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Taxation

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

Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

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

Trade creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

Borrowings

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

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

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

Fund structure

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

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

Financial instruments

Classification

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

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

Recognition and measurement

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

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

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

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

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

Investments

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

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

3 Income from charitable activities

	Restricted funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£
Charitable Activities	38,541	38,541	37,339

4 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	General	£	£
	£	£	£
Interest receivable and similar income; Interest receivable on bank deposits	479	479	101

5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Note	Restricted funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
		£	£	£
Charitable Activities		7,972	7,972	6,049
Staff costs		27,865	27,865	27,150
Governance costs	6	826	826	1,151
		36,663	36,663	34,350

£Nil (2023 - £Nil) of the above expenditure was attributable to unrestricted funds and £36,663 (2023 - £33,436) to restricted funds.

In addition to the expenditure analysed above, there are also governance costs of £826 (2023 - £914) which relate directly to charitable activities. See note 6 for further details.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

6 Analysis of governance and support costs

Governance costs

	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Other governance costs	826	826	1,151
	826	826	1,151

7 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	26,469	24,611
Social security costs	-	991
Pension costs	990	793
Other staff costs	406	755
	27,865	27,150

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

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

8 Taxation

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

9 Debtors

	2024 £
Accrued income	3,394

10 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	22	984
Other taxation and social security	467	381
Other creditors	129	129
Accruals	1,320	924
	1,938	2,418

11 Pension and other schemes

Defined contribution pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the charity to the scheme and amounted to £990 (2023 - £793).

12 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	(43,303)	(479)	-	(43,782)
Restricted funds	(7,155)	(38,541)	36,663	(9,033)
Total funds	(50,458)	(39,020)	36,663	(52,815)

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	(43,201)	(101)	-	(43,302)
Restricted funds	<u>(4,166)</u>	<u>(37,339)</u>	<u>34,350</u>	<u>(7,155)</u>
Total funds	<u><u>(47,367)</u></u>	<u><u>(37,440)</u></u>	<u><u>34,350</u></u>	<u><u>(50,457)</u></u>

13 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Current assets	36,376	18,376	54,752
Current liabilities	<u>(1,938)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,938)</u>
Total net assets	<u><u>34,438</u></u>	<u><u>18,376</u></u>	<u><u>52,814</u></u>

14 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 April 2023 £	Cash flow £	At 31 March 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	52,876	(1,518)	51,358
Net debt	<u><u>52,876</u></u>	<u><u>(1,518)</u></u>	<u><u>51,358</u></u>

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Service

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102442

Annual return

Company registration number: NI044660

Charity registration number: NIC102442

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Draft

Catherine McRory FCMA CGMA
Baxterworld Ltd
Unit 3, Dargan Industrial Park
60-84 Dargan Crescent
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BT3 9JP

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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Draft

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees	Jayne Ballentine Richard Marshall Karen McConkey Diane Burgess Fran O'Boyle James Mahon Elaine McDonald
Secretary	Heather Caldwell
Principal Office	Naomi Centre 2 Cullybackey Road Ballymena BT43 5DF
Registered Office	Naomi Centre 2 Cullybackey Road Ballymena BT43 5DF The charity is incorporated in Northern Ireland.
Company Registration Number	NI044660
Charity Registration Number	NIC102442
Bankers	Danske Bank Broadway 1-2 Broadway Ballymena BT43 6EA
Independent Examiner	Catherine McRory FCMA CGMA Baxterworld Ltd Unit 3, Dargan Industrial Park 60-84 Dargan Crescent Belfast Co. Antrim BT3 9JP

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present their strategic report for the year ended 31 March 2024, in compliance with s414C of the Companies Act 2006.

Performance and achievements 2022 - 2023

The financial year 2022 / 23 has seen the charity continue to offer a much needed service to the community, supporting separated families to have contact, especially after the effects and impact of Covid.

Thankfully, we appear to have come out of the most severe impacts of Covid, and have been able to return to full in person / face to face service, with provisions in place for families e.g. having individual stations, limiting the number of families to 6 in the halls, to minimise the potential for spreading infections.

With our first full year of weekly service at both centres since the start of the pandemic, we saw the centres provide contact for a total of 416 Family Visits, which 1033 hours of contact.

Contact children would not have had without the service provided by the charity.

Our main achievements over this financial year were

Thursday sessions - Thursday sessions were started in Ballymena, providing additional support and options for families that cannot commit to Saturday contact. This addition also brings BACCS in line with other contact centres.

Child Protection - We updated Child Protection Training for many of the volunteers, ensuring their knowledge and skills are up to date in order to support vulnerable families.

Toys and Resources - Toys and resources in the centres have also been updated, to help provide and facilitate more 'natural contact' with families, and give them opportunities to interact and engage

Christmas - With the support of Women's Aid, we were able to give much needed and much appreciated presents to all the kids in the centre. All available volunteers were also taken for their traditional Christmas Lunch.

Uplift - We have received a 3.54% uplift in our funding from the Northern Health and Social Care Trust, to support with the rising costs of day to day running, and help facilitate the addition of Thursday contact.

Antrim Centre

Over the financial year, we provided total of 228 family visits, and a total of 529 contact hours.

Ballymena Centre

Over this financial year, we provided 188 family visits and a total of 504 contact hours.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre
Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Financial review

Policy on reserves

It is the Charity's policy to maintain unrestricted reserves equal to 6 months running costs. In 2024, that value is £18,332. The Unrestricted reserves total £43,781 for 2024 which is equivalent to just over 1 year's running costs.

The strategic report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 4 November 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Karen McConkey
Trustee

Draft

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Trustees' Report

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

Objectives and activities

Public benefit

The benefits which flow from this purpose include: 1. The relief of the emotional impact of separation due to family breakdown 2. The re-establishment of a level of trust between the parents. 3. Increased contact between the child and the absent parent within a safe neutral environment 4. The child is safe from risk of harm e.g. domestic abuse or substance abuse. These benefits will be evidenced by 1. The number of families using the service 2. The number of families moving on to more positive contact outside the centre (presently 70% plus) 3. Family evaluation sheets 4. Anecdotal evidence from users of the centres 5. Feedback from referrers, e.g. social services, solicitors, child court officers and courts. 6. Research

The purposes of our charity may lead to the following harm 1. Confrontation between parents. 2. Families become reliant on the centres We can minimise the harm and show it is outweighed by the benefits by 1. Pre visits with families to carry out risk assessment and address the need for the centre to be a temporary solution to child contact 2. Staggered arrival and departure times for families 3. Carry out regular reviews with all family members to address ways of moving on. 4. Research showing the success of the centres and their objectives. The only private benefits flowing from this purpose are 1. Volunteers may enhance their employment opportunities through the training and experience gained from supporting child contact. This training may be transferable to other settings. 2. Volunteers may receive travelling expenses. 3. Volunteers who are Directors or sit on the management committee may enhance their employment opportunities through the skills gained as part of the Management Board. These private benefits are incidental and necessary to ensure that the benefit is provided to our beneficiaries. The beneficiaries are the people of Ballymena, Antrim and Larne areas who are experiencing family breakdown and wish to establish contact with their children, whether parents, grandparents or siblings. Although most of our families reside in these three areas, it is not our policy to refuse people from other areas of Northern Ireland or outside the province. Other aspects Staff and volunteers are found to facilitate the smooth running of the centre; Volunteers benefit from increased skills through ongoing training which could enhance their career opportunities and gain experience through teamwork and networking with other volunteers Volunteers may find themselves in confrontational situations or may become emotionally affected by the needs of the children but this is minimised by: 1. Vetting of volunteers 2. Ongoing training 3. Support policies to assist volunteers We also promote and publicise the concept of Child Contact Centres: this leads to awareness by the public of the role of Children's Contact Centres so that they can seek referrals in times of need and this is demonstrated through the number of referrals, whether through social services, courts, solicitors, or self-referral.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 3 of the Charities Act 2008 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland.

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre is a Company Limited by Guarantee, governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association and registered as a charity with the Charities Commission of NI.

It is governed by a voluntary Management Committee which is responsible for strategic planning and decision making, financial governance and probity and have employment responsibility for all staff. Volunteering opportunities within the organisation are openly advertised through a wide range of media outlets. All volunteers complete a mandatory training programme, are subject to a six-month probationary period and complete a comprehensive induction process. Those volunteers who are to be appointed to the Management Committee receive specialist training to assist them to fulfil their roles in relation to governance of the organisation.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Trustees' Report

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Members to the Management Committee are proposed at the annual general meeting. Office bearers are elected at the first Management Committee meeting following the annual general meeting.

Organisational structure

The day-to-day management and operation of the activities are carried out by a staff team, led by the Centre Co-ordinator, who also reports to the Committee. Operational volunteers contribute to the day to day activities of the charity and their contribution is invaluable to the charity meeting its aims and objectives.

Financial instruments

Objectives and policies

The charity's activities expose it to a number of financial risks including credit risk, cash flow risk and liquidity risk. The use of financial derivatives is governed by the charity's policies approved by the board of trustees, which provide written principles on the use of financial derivatives to manage these risks. The charity does not use derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

Cash flow risk

The charity's activities expose it primarily to the financial risks of changes in foreign currency exchange rates and interest rates. The charity uses foreign exchange forward contracts and interest rate swap contracts to hedge these exposures.

Interest bearing assets and liabilities are held at fixed rate to ensure certainty of cash flows.

Credit risk

The charity's principal financial assets are bank balances and cash, trade and other receivables, and investments. The charity's credit risk is primarily attributable to its trade receivables. The amounts presented in the balance sheet are net of allowances for doubtful receivables. An allowance for impairment is made where there is an identified loss event which, based on previous experience, is evidence of a reduction in the recoverability of the cash flows.

The credit risk on liquid funds and derivative financial instruments is limited because the counterparties are banks with high credit-ratings assigned by international credit-rating agencies.

The charity has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over a large number of counterparties and customers.

Liquidity risk

In order to maintain liquidity to ensure that sufficient funds are available for ongoing operations and future developments, the charity uses a mixture of long-term and short-term debt finance.

Further details regarding liquidity risk can be found in the Statement of accounting policies in the financial statements.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 4 November 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Karen McConkey
Trustee

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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 of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare 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 and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 4 November 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Karen McConkey
Trustee

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024 which are set out on pages 8 to 16 .

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 65(2) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (the 2008 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the 2008 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 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 the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 you as 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 accounts 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 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

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.

.....
Catherine McRory FCMA CGMA

Baxterworld Ltd
Unit 3, Dargan Industrial Park
60-84 Dargan Crescent
Belfast
Co. Antrim
BT3 9JP

4 November 2024

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Charitable activities	3	-	38,541	38,541	37,339
Investment income	4	479	-	479	101
Total Income		<u>479</u>	<u>38,541</u>	<u>39,020</u>	<u>37,440</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	5	-	(36,663)	(36,663)	(34,350)
Total Expenditure		<u>-</u>	<u>(36,663)</u>	<u>(36,663)</u>	<u>(34,350)</u>
Net income		<u>479</u>	<u>1,878</u>	<u>2,357</u>	<u>3,090</u>
Net movement in funds		479	1,878	2,357	3,090
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>43,303</u>	<u>7,155</u>	<u>50,458</u>	<u>47,367</u>
Total funds carried forward	12	<u>43,782</u>	<u>9,033</u>	<u>52,815</u>	<u>50,457</u>
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	
Income and Endowments from:					
Charitable activities	3	-	-	37,339	37,339
Investment income	4	101	-	-	101
Total Income		<u>101</u>	<u>101</u>	<u>37,339</u>	<u>37,440</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	5	-	-	(34,350)	(34,350)
Total Expenditure		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(34,350)</u>	<u>(34,350)</u>
Net income		<u>101</u>	<u>101</u>	<u>2,989</u>	<u>3,090</u>
Net movement in funds		101	101	2,989	3,090
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>43,201</u>	<u>43,201</u>	<u>4,166</u>	<u>47,367</u>
Total funds carried forward	12	<u>43,302</u>	<u>43,302</u>	<u>7,155</u>	<u>50,457</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.
The funds breakdown for 2024 & 2023 is shown in note 12.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

(Registration number: NI044660)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Current assets			
Debtors	9	3,394	-
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>51,358</u>	<u>52,876</u>
		54,752	52,876
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	10	<u>(1,938)</u>	<u>(2,418)</u>
Net assets		<u>52,814</u>	<u>50,458</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted funds		9,033	7,155
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>43,782</u>	<u>43,302</u>
Total funds	12	<u>52,815</u>	<u>50,457</u>

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

Directors' responsibilities:

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

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements on pages 8 to 16 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 4 November 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

.....
Karen McConkey
Trustee

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

1 Charity status

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

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

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

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Going concern

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

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

The charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

Income and endowments

Investment income

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

Expenditure

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

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

Charitable activities

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

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees's meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Taxation

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

Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

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

Trade creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

Borrowings

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

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

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

Fund structure

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

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

Financial instruments

Classification

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

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

Recognition and measurement

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

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

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

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

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

Investments

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

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

3 Income from charitable activities

	Restricted funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£
Charitable Activities	38,541	38,541	37,339

4 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	General	£	£
	£	£	£
Interest receivable and similar income; Interest receivable on bank deposits	479	479	101

5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Note	Restricted funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
		£	£	£
Charitable Activities		7,972	7,972	6,049
Staff costs		27,865	27,865	27,150
Governance costs	6	826	826	1,151
		36,663	36,663	34,350

£Nil (2023 - £Nil) of the above expenditure was attributable to unrestricted funds and £36,663 (2023 - £33,436) to restricted funds.

In addition to the expenditure analysed above, there are also governance costs of £826 (2023 - £914) which relate directly to charitable activities. See note 6 for further details.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

6 Analysis of governance and support costs

Governance costs

	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Other governance costs	826	826	1,151
	826	826	1,151

7 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	26,469	24,611
Social security costs	-	991
Pension costs	990	793
Other staff costs	406	755
	27,865	27,150

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

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

8 Taxation

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

9 Debtors

	2024 £
Accrued income	3,394

10 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	22	984
Other taxation and social security	467	381
Other creditors	129	129
Accruals	1,320	924
	1,938	2,418

11 Pension and other schemes

Defined contribution pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the charity to the scheme and amounted to £990 (2023 - £793).

12 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	(43,303)	(479)	-	(43,782)
Restricted funds	(7,155)	(38,541)	36,663	(9,033)
Total funds	(50,458)	(39,020)	36,663	(52,815)

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	(43,201)	(101)	-	(43,302)
Restricted funds	<u>(4,166)</u>	<u>(37,339)</u>	<u>34,350</u>	<u>(7,155)</u>
Total funds	<u><u>(47,367)</u></u>	<u><u>(37,440)</u></u>	<u><u>34,350</u></u>	<u><u>(50,457)</u></u>

13 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds £	Total funds £
	General £	£		
Current assets	36,376	18,376		54,752
Current liabilities	<u>(1,938)</u>	<u>-</u>		<u>(1,938)</u>
Total net assets	<u><u>34,438</u></u>	<u><u>18,376</u></u>		<u><u>52,814</u></u>

14 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 April 2023 £	Cash flow £	At 31 March 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	52,876	(1,518)	51,358
Net debt	<u><u>52,876</u></u>	<u><u>(1,518)</u></u>	<u><u>51,358</u></u>

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Service

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102442

Accounts

Company registration number: NI044660

Charity registration number: NIC102442

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Catherine McRory FCMA CGMA
Baxterworld Ltd
Unit 3, Dargan Industrial Park
60-84 Dargan Crescent
Belfast
Co. Antrim
BT3 9JP

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees	Jayne Ballentine Richard Marshall Karen McConkey Diane Burgess Fran O'Boyle James Mahon Elaine McDonald
Secretary	Heather Caldwell
Principal Office	Naomi Centre 2 Cullybackey Road Ballymena BT43 5DF
Registered Office	Naomi Centre 2 Cullybackey Road Ballymena BT43 5DF The charity is incorporated in Northern Ireland.
Company Registration Number	NI044660
Charity Registration Number	NIC102442
Bankers	Danske Bank Broadway 1-2 Broadway Ballymena BT43 6EA
Independent Examiner	Catherine McRory FCMA CGMA Baxterworld Ltd Unit 3, Dargan Industrial Park 60-84 Dargan Crescent Belfast Co. Antrim BT3 9JP

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present their strategic report for the year ended 31 March 2023, in compliance with s414C of the Companies Act 2006.

Performance and achievements 2022 - 2023

The financial year 2022 / 23 has seen the charity continue to offer a much needed service to the community, supporting separated families to have contact, especially after the effects and impact of Covid.

Thankfully, we appear to have come out of the most severe impacts of Covid, and have been able to return to full in person / face to face service, with provisions in place for families e.g. having individual stations, limiting the number of families to 6 in the halls, to minimise the potential for spreading infections.

With our first full year of weekly service at both centres since the start of the pandemic, we saw the centres provide contact for a total of 416 Family Visits, which 1033 hours of contact.

Contact children would not have had without the service provided by the charity.

Our main achievements over this financial year were

Thursday sessions - Thursday sessions were started in Ballymena, providing additional support and options for families that cannot commit to Saturday contact. This addition also brings BACCS in line with other contact centres.

Child Protection - We updated Child Protection Training for many of the volunteers, ensuring their knowledge and skills are up to date in order to support vulnerable families.

Toys and Resources - Toys and resources in the centres have also been updated, to help provide and facilitate more 'natural contact' with families, and give them opportunities to interact and engage

Christmas - With the support of Women's Aid, we were able to give much needed and much appreciated presents to all the kids in the centre. All available volunteers were also taken for their traditional Christmas Lunch.

Uplift - We have received a 3.54% uplift in our funding from the Northern Health and Social Care Trust, to support with the rising costs of day to day running, and help facilitate the addition of Thursday contact.

Antrim Centre

Over the financial year, we provided total of 228 family visits, and a total of 529 contact hours.

Ballymena Centre

Over this financial year, we provided 188 family visits and a total of 504 contact hours.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre
Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Financial review

Policy on reserves

It is the Charity's policy to maintain unrestricted reserves equal to 6 months running costs. In 2023, that value is £17,175. The Unrestricted reserves total £43,303 for 2023 which is equivalent to just over 1 year's running costs.

The strategic report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 13 November 2023 and signed on its behalf by:


Karen McConkey
Trustee

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Trustees' Report

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Objectives and activities

Public benefit

The benefits which flow from this purpose include: 1. The relief of the emotional impact of separation due to family breakdown 2. The re-establishment of a level of trust between the parents. 3. Increased contact between the child and the absent parent within a safe neutral environment 4. The child is safe from risk of harm e.g. domestic abuse or substance abuse. These benefits will be evidenced by 1. The number of families using the service 2. The number of families moving on to more positive contact outside the centre (presently 70% plus) 3. Family evaluation sheets 4. Anecdotal evidence from users of the centres 5. Feedback from referrers, e.g. social services, solicitors, child court officers and courts. 6. Research

The purposes of our charity may lead to the following harm 1. Confrontation between parents. 2. Families become reliant on the centres We can minimise the harm and show it is outweighed by the benefits by 1. Pre visits with families to carry out risk assessment and address the need for the centre to be a temporary solution to child contact 2. Staggered arrival and departure times for families 3. Carry out regular reviews with all family members to address ways of moving on. 4. Research showing the success of the centres and their objectives. The only private benefits flowing from this purpose are 1. Volunteers may enhance their employment opportunities through the training and experience gained from supporting child contact. This training may be transferable to other settings. 2. Volunteers may receive travelling expenses. 3. Volunteers who are Directors or sit on the management committee may enhance their employment opportunities through the skills gained as part of the Management Board. These private benefits are incidental and necessary to ensure that the benefit is provided to our beneficiaries. The beneficiaries are the people of Ballymena, Antrim and Larne areas who are experiencing family breakdown and wish to establish contact with their children, whether parents, grandparents or siblings. Although most of our families reside in these three areas, it is not our policy to refuse people from other areas of Northern Ireland or outside the province. Other aspects Staff and volunteers are found to facilitate the smooth running of the centre; Volunteers benefit from increased skills through ongoing training which could enhance their career opportunities and gain experience through teamwork and networking with other volunteers Volunteers may find themselves in confrontational situations or may become emotionally affected by the needs of the children but this is minimised by: 1. Vetting of volunteers 2. Ongoing training 3. Support policies to assist volunteers We also promote and publicise the concept of Child Contact Centres: this leads to awareness by the public of the role of Children's Contact Centres so that they can seek referrals in times of need and this is demonstrated through the number of referrals, whether through social services, courts, solicitors, or self-referral.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 3 of the Charities Act 2008 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland.

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre is a Company Limited by Guarantee, governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association and registered as a charity with the Charities Commission of NI.

It is governed by a voluntary Management Committee which is responsible for strategic planning and decision making, financial governance and probity and have employment responsibility for all staff. Volunteering opportunities within the organisation are openly advertised through a wide range of media outlets. All volunteers complete a mandatory training programme, are subject to a six-month probationary period and complete a comprehensive induction process. Those volunteers who are to be appointed to the Management Committee receive specialist training to assist them to fulfil their roles in relation to governance of the organisation.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Trustees' Report

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Members to the Management Committee are proposed at the annual general meeting. Office bearers are elected at the first Management Committee meeting following the annual general meeting.

Organisational structure

The day-to-day management and operation of the activities are carried out by a staff team, led by the Centre Co-ordinator, who also reports to the Committee. Operational volunteers contribute to the day to day activities of the charity and their contribution is invaluable to the charity meeting its aims and objectives.

Financial instruments

Objectives and policies

The charity's activities expose it to a number of financial risks including credit risk, cash flow risk and liquidity risk. The use of financial derivatives is governed by the charity's policies approved by the board of trustees, which provide written principles on the use of financial derivatives to manage these risks. The charity does not use derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

Cash flow risk

The charity's activities expose it primarily to the financial risks of changes in foreign currency exchange rates and interest rates. The charity uses foreign exchange forward contracts and interest rate swap contracts to hedge these exposures.

Interest bearing assets and liabilities are held at fixed rate to ensure certainty of cash flows.

Credit risk

The charity's principal financial assets are bank balances and cash, trade and other receivables, and investments. The charity's credit risk is primarily attributable to its trade receivables. The amounts presented in the balance sheet are net of allowances for doubtful receivables. An allowance for impairment is made where there is an identified loss event which, based on previous experience, is evidence of a reduction in the recoverability of the cash flows.

The credit risk on liquid funds and derivative financial instruments is limited because the counterparties are banks with high credit-ratings assigned by international credit-rating agencies.

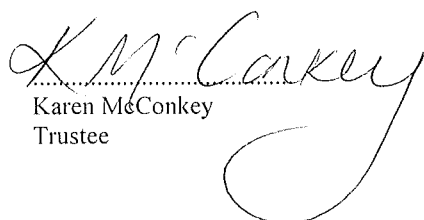
The charity has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over a large number of counterparties and customers.

Liquidity risk

In order to maintain liquidity to ensure that sufficient funds are available for ongoing operations and future developments, the charity uses a mixture of long-term and short-term debt finance.

Further details regarding liquidity risk can be found in the Statement of accounting policies in the financial statements.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 13 November 2023 and signed on its behalf by:


Karen McConkey
Trustee

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities


The trustees (who are also the directors of Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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 of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare 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 and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 13 November 2023 and signed on its behalf by:


Karen McConkey
Trustee

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023 which are set out on pages 8 to 16 .

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 65(2) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (the 2008 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the 2008 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 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 the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 you as 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 accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

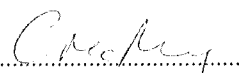
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

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

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

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.



.....
Catherine McRory

FCMA CGMA

Baxterworld Ltd
Unit 3, Dargan Industrial Park
60-84 Dargan Crescent
Belfast
Co. Antrim
BT3 9JP

13 November 2023

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2023 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	-	-	-	1,600
Charitable activities	4	-	37,339	37,339	36,066
Investment income	5	101	-	101	8
Total Income		<u>101</u>	<u>37,339</u>	<u>37,440</u>	<u>37,674</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	6	-	(34,350)	(34,350)	(32,186)
Total Expenditure		<u>-</u>	<u>(34,350)</u>	<u>(34,350)</u>	<u>(32,186)</u>
Net income		<u>101</u>	<u>2,989</u>	<u>3,090</u>	<u>5,488</u>
Net movement in funds		101	2,989	3,090	5,488
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>43,201</u>	<u>4,166</u>	<u>47,367</u>	<u>41,879</u>
Total funds carried forward	12	<u>43,302</u>	<u>7,155</u>	<u>50,457</u>	<u>47,367</u>
	Note		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3		1,600	-	1,600
Charitable activities	4		-	36,066	36,066
Investment income	5		8	-	8
Total Income			<u>1,608</u>	<u>36,066</u>	<u>37,674</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	6		-	(32,186)	(32,186)
Total Expenditure			<u>-</u>	<u>(32,186)</u>	<u>(32,186)</u>
Net income			<u>1,608</u>	<u>3,880</u>	<u>5,488</u>
Net movement in funds			1,608	3,880	5,488
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward			<u>41,593</u>	<u>286</u>	<u>41,879</u>
Total funds carried forward	12		<u>43,201</u>	<u>4,166</u>	<u>47,367</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.
The funds breakdown for 2020 & 2022 is shown in note 12.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

(Registration number: NI044660)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		52,876	48,345
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	10	<u>(2,418)</u>	<u>(978)</u>
Net assets		<u>50,458</u>	<u>47,367</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted funds		7,155	4,166
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>43,302</u>	<u>43,201</u>
Total funds	12	<u>50,457</u>	<u>47,367</u>

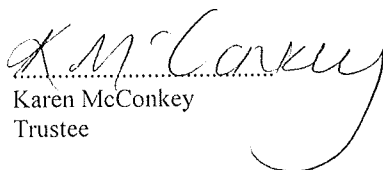
For the financial year ending 31 March 2023 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

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

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements on pages 8 to 16 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 13 November 2023 and signed on their behalf by:


Karen McConkey
Trustee

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

1 Charity status

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

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

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

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Going concern

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

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

The charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

Income and endowments

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

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

Investment income

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

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

Expenditure

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

Charitable activities

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

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees's meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Taxation

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

Cash and cash equivalents

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

Trade creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

Borrowings

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

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

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

Fund structure

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

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

Financial instruments

Classification

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

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

Recognition and measurement

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

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

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

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

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

Investments

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

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

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Donations and legacies;		
Donations from individuals	-	1,600
	-	1,600
	-	1,600

4 Income from charitable activities

	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Charitable Activities	37,339	37,339	36,066
	37,339	37,339	36,066
	37,339	37,339	36,066

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	101	101	8
	101	101	8
	101	101	8

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

		Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Charitable Activities		6,049	6,049	7,725
Staff costs		27,150	27,150	23,754
Governance costs	7	1,151	1,151	707
		34,350	34,350	32,186
		34,350	34,350	32,186

£Nil (2022 - £Nil) of the above expenditure was attributable to unrestricted funds and £33,436 (2022 - £32,015) to restricted funds.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

In addition to the expenditure analysed above, there are also governance costs of £914 (2022 - £1,030) which relate directly to charitable activities. See note 7 for further details.

7 Analysis of governance and support costs

Governance costs

	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Other governance costs	1,151	1,151	707
	<u>1,151</u>	<u>1,151</u>	<u>707</u>

8 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	24,611	21,308
Social security costs	991	932
Pension costs	793	281
Other staff costs	755	1,233
	<u>27,150</u>	<u>23,754</u>

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

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

9 Taxation

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

10 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	984	67
Other taxation and social security	381	429
Other creditors	129	62
Accruals	924	420
	2,418	978

11 Pension and other schemes

Defined contribution pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the charity to the scheme and amounted to £793 (2022 - £281).

12 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	(43,201)	(101)	-	(43,302)
Restricted funds	(4,166)	(37,339)	34,350	(7,155)
Total funds	(47,367)	(37,440)	34,350	(50,457)
	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	(41,593)	(1,608)	-	(43,201)
Restricted funds	(286)	(36,066)	32,186	(4,166)
Total funds	(41,879)	(37,674)	32,186	(47,367)

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

13 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	General £	£	£
Current assets	45,721	7,155	52,876
Current liabilities	<u>(2,418)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,418)</u>
Total net assets	<u><u>43,303</u></u>	<u><u>7,155</u></u>	<u><u>50,458</u></u>

14 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 April 2022 £	Cash flow £	At 31 March 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	48,345	4,531	52,876
Net debt	<u>48,345</u>	<u>4,531</u>	<u>52,876</u>

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Service

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102442

Annual report

Company registration number: NI044660

Charity registration number: NIC102442

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Catherine McRory FCMA CGMA
Baxterworld Ltd
Unit 3, Dargan Industrial Park
60-84 Dargan Crescent
Belfast
Co. Antrim
BT3 9JP

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees	Jayne Ballentine Richard Marshall Karen McConkey Diane Burgess Fran O'Boyle James Mahon Elaine McDonald
Secretary	Heather Caldwell
Principal Office	Naomi Centre 2 Cullybackey Road Ballymena BT43 5DF
Registered Office	Naomi Centre 2 Cullybackey Road Ballymena BT43 5DF The charity is incorporated in Northern Ireland.
Company Registration Number	NI044660
Charity Registration Number	NIC102442
Bankers	Danske Bank Broadway 1-2 Broadway Ballymena BT43 6EA
Independent Examiner	Catherine McRory FCMA CGMA Baxterworld Ltd Unit 3, Dargan Industrial Park 60-84 Dargan Crescent Belfast Co. Antrim BT3 9JP

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present their strategic report for the year ended 31 March 2023, in compliance with s414C of the Companies Act 2006.

Performance and achievements 2022 - 2023

The financial year 2022 / 23 has seen the charity continue to offer a much needed service to the community, supporting separated families to have contact, especially after the effects and impact of Covid.

Thankfully, we appear to have come out of the most severe impacts of Covid, and have been able to return to full in person / face to face service, with provisions in place for families e.g. having individual stations, limiting the number of families to 6 in the halls, to minimise the potential for spreading infections.

With our first full year of weekly service at both centres since the start of the pandemic, we saw the centres provide contact for a total of 416 Family Visits, which 1033 hours of contact.

Contact children would not have had without the service provided by the charity.

Our main achievements over this financial year were

Thursday sessions - Thursday sessions were started in Ballymena, providing additional support and options for families that cannot commit to Saturday contact. This addition also brings BACCS in line with other contact centres.

Child Protection - We updated Child Protection Training for many of the volunteers, ensuring their knowledge and skills are up to date in order to support vulnerable families.

Toys and Resources - Toys and resources in the centres have also been updated, to help provide and facilitate more 'natural contact' with families, and give them opportunities to interact and engage

Christmas - With the support of Women's Aid, we were able to give much needed and much appreciated presents to all the kids in the centre. All available volunteers were also taken for their traditional Christmas Lunch.

Uplift - We have received a 3.54% uplift in our funding from the Northern Health and Social Care Trust, to support with the rising costs of day to day running, and help facilitate the addition of Thursday contact.

Antrim Centre

Over the financial year, we provided total of 228 family visits, and a total of 529 contact hours.

Ballymena Centre

Over this financial year, we provided 188 family visits and a total of 504 contact hours.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre
Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Financial review

Policy on reserves

It is the Charity's policy to maintain unrestricted reserves equal to 6 months running costs. In 2023, that value is £17,175. The Unrestricted reserves total £43,303 for 2023 which is equivalent to just over 1 year's running costs.

The strategic report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 13 November 2023 and signed on its behalf by:


Karen McConkey
Trustee

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Trustees' Report

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Objectives and activities

Public benefit

The benefits which flow from this purpose include: 1. The relief of the emotional impact of separation due to family breakdown 2. The re-establishment of a level of trust between the parents. 3. Increased contact between the child and the absent parent within a safe neutral environment 4. The child is safe from risk of harm e.g. domestic abuse or substance abuse. These benefits will be evidenced by 1. The number of families using the service 2. The number of families moving on to more positive contact outside the centre (presently 70% plus) 3. Family evaluation sheets 4. Anecdotal evidence from users of the centres 5. Feedback from referrers, e.g. social services, solicitors, child court officers and courts. 6. Research

The purposes of our charity may lead to the following harm 1. Confrontation between parents. 2. Families become reliant on the centres We can minimise the harm and show it is outweighed by the benefits by 1. Pre visits with families to carry out risk assessment and address the need for the centre to be a temporary solution to child contact 2. Staggered arrival and departure times for families 3. Carry out regular reviews with all family members to address ways of moving on. 4. Research showing the success of the centres and their objectives. The only private benefits flowing from this purpose are 1. Volunteers may enhance their employment opportunities through the training and experience gained from supporting child contact. This training may be transferable to other settings. 2. Volunteers may receive travelling expenses. 3. Volunteers who are Directors or sit on the management committee may enhance their employment opportunities through the skills gained as part of the Management Board. These private benefits are incidental and necessary to ensure that the benefit is provided to our beneficiaries. The beneficiaries are the people of Ballymena, Antrim and Larne areas who are experiencing family breakdown and wish to establish contact with their children, whether parents, grandparents or siblings. Although most of our families reside in these three areas, it is not our policy to refuse people from other areas of Northern Ireland or outside the province. Other aspects Staff and volunteers are found to facilitate the smooth running of the centre; Volunteers benefit from increased skills through ongoing training which could enhance their career opportunities and gain experience through teamwork and networking with other volunteers Volunteers may find themselves in confrontational situations or may become emotionally affected by the needs of the children but this is minimised by: 1. Vetting of volunteers 2. Ongoing training 3. Support policies to assist volunteers We also promote and publicise the concept of Child Contact Centres: this leads to awareness by the public of the role of Children's Contact Centres so that they can seek referrals in times of need and this is demonstrated through the number of referrals, whether through social services, courts, solicitors, or self-referral.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 3 of the Charities Act 2008 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland.

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre is a Company Limited by Guarantee, governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association and registered as a charity with the Charities Commission of NI.

It is governed by a voluntary Management Committee which is responsible for strategic planning and decision making, financial governance and probity and have employment responsibility for all staff. Volunteering opportunities within the organisation are openly advertised through a wide range of media outlets. All volunteers complete a mandatory training programme, are subject to a six-month probationary period and complete a comprehensive induction process. Those volunteers who are to be appointed to the Management Committee receive specialist training to assist them to fulfil their roles in relation to governance of the organisation.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Trustees' Report

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Members to the Management Committee are proposed at the annual general meeting. Office bearers are elected at the first Management Committee meeting following the annual general meeting.

Organisational structure

The day-to-day management and operation of the activities are carried out by a staff team, led by the Centre Co-ordinator, who also reports to the Committee. Operational volunteers contribute to the day to day activities of the charity and their contribution is invaluable to the charity meeting its aims and objectives.

Financial instruments

Objectives and policies

The charity's activities expose it to a number of financial risks including credit risk, cash flow risk and liquidity risk. The use of financial derivatives is governed by the charity's policies approved by the board of trustees, which provide written principles on the use of financial derivatives to manage these risks. The charity does not use derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

Cash flow risk

The charity's activities expose it primarily to the financial risks of changes in foreign currency exchange rates and interest rates. The charity uses foreign exchange forward contracts and interest rate swap contracts to hedge these exposures.

Interest bearing assets and liabilities are held at fixed rate to ensure certainty of cash flows.

Credit risk

The charity's principal financial assets are bank balances and cash, trade and other receivables, and investments. The charity's credit risk is primarily attributable to its trade receivables. The amounts presented in the balance sheet are net of allowances for doubtful receivables. An allowance for impairment is made where there is an identified loss event which, based on previous experience, is evidence of a reduction in the recoverability of the cash flows.

The credit risk on liquid funds and derivative financial instruments is limited because the counterparties are banks with high credit-ratings assigned by international credit-rating agencies.

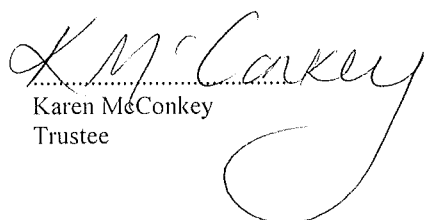
The charity has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over a large number of counterparties and customers.

Liquidity risk

In order to maintain liquidity to ensure that sufficient funds are available for ongoing operations and future developments, the charity uses a mixture of long-term and short-term debt finance.

Further details regarding liquidity risk can be found in the Statement of accounting policies in the financial statements.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 13 November 2023 and signed on its behalf by:


Karen McConkey
Trustee

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities


The trustees (who are also the directors of Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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 of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare 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 and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 13 November 2023 and signed on its behalf by:


Karen McConkey
Trustee

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023 which are set out on pages 8 to 16 .

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 65(2) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (the 2008 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the 2008 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 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 the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 you as 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 accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

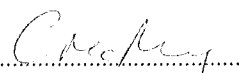
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

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

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

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.


.....
Catherine McRory

FCMA CGMA

Baxterworld Ltd
Unit 3, Dargan Industrial Park
60-84 Dargan Crescent
Belfast
Co. Antrim
BT3 9JP

13 November 2023

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2023 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	-	-	-	1,600
Charitable activities	4	-	37,339	37,339	36,066
Investment income	5	101	-	101	8
Total Income		<u>101</u>	<u>37,339</u>	<u>37,440</u>	<u>37,674</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	6	-	(34,350)	(34,350)	(32,186)
Total Expenditure		<u>-</u>	<u>(34,350)</u>	<u>(34,350)</u>	<u>(32,186)</u>
Net income		<u>101</u>	<u>2,989</u>	<u>3,090</u>	<u>5,488</u>
Net movement in funds		101	2,989	3,090	5,488
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>43,201</u>	<u>4,166</u>	<u>47,367</u>	<u>41,879</u>
Total funds carried forward	12	<u>43,302</u>	<u>7,155</u>	<u>50,457</u>	<u>47,367</u>
	Note		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3		1,600	-	1,600
Charitable activities	4		-	36,066	36,066
Investment income	5		8	-	8
Total Income			<u>1,608</u>	<u>36,066</u>	<u>37,674</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	6		-	(32,186)	(32,186)
Total Expenditure			<u>-</u>	<u>(32,186)</u>	<u>(32,186)</u>
Net income			<u>1,608</u>	<u>3,880</u>	<u>5,488</u>
Net movement in funds			1,608	3,880	5,488
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward			<u>41,593</u>	<u>286</u>	<u>41,879</u>
Total funds carried forward	12		<u>43,201</u>	<u>4,166</u>	<u>47,367</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.
The funds breakdown for 2020 & 2022 is shown in note 12.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

(Registration number: NI044660)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		52,876	48,345
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	10	<u>(2,418)</u>	<u>(978)</u>
Net assets		<u>50,458</u>	<u>47,367</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted funds		7,155	4,166
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>43,302</u>	<u>43,201</u>
Total funds	12	<u>50,457</u>	<u>47,367</u>

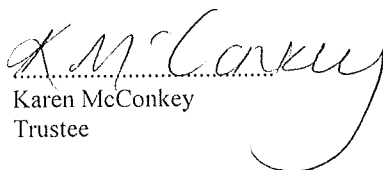
For the financial year ending 31 March 2023 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

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

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements on pages 8 to 16 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 13 November 2023 and signed on their behalf by:


Karen McConkey
Trustee

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

1 Charity status

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

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

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

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Going concern

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

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

The charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

Income and endowments

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

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

Investment income

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

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

Expenditure

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

Charitable activities

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

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees's meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Taxation

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

Cash and cash equivalents

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

Trade creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

Borrowings

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

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

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

Fund structure

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

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

Financial instruments

Classification

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

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

Recognition and measurement

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

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

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

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

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

Investments

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

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

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Donations and legacies;		
Donations from individuals	-	1,600
	-	1,600
	-	1,600

4 Income from charitable activities

	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Charitable Activities	37,339	37,339	36,066
	37,339	37,339	36,066
	37,339	37,339	36,066

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	101	101	8
	101	101	8
	101	101	8

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

		Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Charitable Activities		6,049	6,049	7,725
Staff costs		27,150	27,150	23,754
Governance costs	7	1,151	1,151	707
		34,350	34,350	32,186
		34,350	34,350	32,186

£Nil (2022 - £Nil) of the above expenditure was attributable to unrestricted funds and £33,436 (2022 - £32,015) to restricted funds.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

In addition to the expenditure analysed above, there are also governance costs of £914 (2022 - £1,030) which relate directly to charitable activities. See note 7 for further details.

7 Analysis of governance and support costs

Governance costs

	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Other governance costs	1,151	1,151	707
	<u>1,151</u>	<u>1,151</u>	<u>707</u>

8 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	24,611	21,308
Social security costs	991	932
Pension costs	793	281
Other staff costs	755	1,233
	<u>27,150</u>	<u>23,754</u>

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

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

9 Taxation

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

10 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	984	67
Other taxation and social security	381	429
Other creditors	129	62
Accruals	924	420
	2,418	978

11 Pension and other schemes

Defined contribution pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the charity to the scheme and amounted to £793 (2022 - £281).

12 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	(43,201)	(101)	-	(43,302)
Restricted funds	(4,166)	(37,339)	34,350	(7,155)
Total funds	(47,367)	(37,440)	34,350	(50,457)
	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	(41,593)	(1,608)	-	(43,201)
Restricted funds	(286)	(36,066)	32,186	(4,166)
Total funds	(41,879)	(37,674)	32,186	(47,367)

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

13 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	General £	£	£
Current assets	45,721	7,155	52,876
Current liabilities	(2,418)	-	(2,418)
Total net assets	43,303	7,155	50,458

14 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 April 2022 £	Cash flow £	At 31 March 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	48,345	4,531	52,876
Net debt	48,345	4,531	52,876

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Service

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102442

Annual return

Company registration number: NI044660

Charity registration number: NIC102442

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Catherine McRory FCMA CGMA
Baxterworld Ltd
Unit 3, Dargan Industrial Park
60-84 Dargan Crescent
Belfast
Co. Antrim
BT3 9JP

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees	Jayne Ballentine Richard Marshall Karen McConkey Diane Burgess Fran O'Boyle James Mahon Elaine McDonald
Secretary	Heather Caldwell
Principal Office	Naomi Centre 2 Cullybackey Road Ballymena BT43 5DF
Registered Office	Naomi Centre 2 Cullybackey Road Ballymena BT43 5DF The charity is incorporated in Northern Ireland.
Company Registration Number	NI044660
Charity Registration Number	NIC102442
Bankers	Danske Bank Broadway 1-2 Broadway Ballymena BT43 6EA
Independent Examiner	Catherine McRory FCMA CGMA Baxterworld Ltd Unit 3, Dargan Industrial Park 60-84 Dargan Crescent Belfast Co. Antrim BT3 9JP

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present their strategic report for the year ended 31 March 2023, in compliance with s414C of the Companies Act 2006.

Performance and achievements 2022 - 2023

The financial year 2022 / 23 has seen the charity continue to offer a much needed service to the community, supporting separated families to have contact, especially after the effects and impact of Covid.

Thankfully, we appear to have come out of the most severe impacts of Covid, and have been able to return to full in person / face to face service, with provisions in place for families e.g. having individual stations, limiting the number of families to 6 in the halls, to minimise the potential for spreading infections.

With our first full year of weekly service at both centres since the start of the pandemic, we saw the centres provide contact for a total of 416 Family Visits, which 1033 hours of contact.

Contact children would not have had without the service provided by the charity.

Our main achievements over this financial year were

Thursday sessions - Thursday sessions were started in Ballymena, providing additional support and options for families that cannot commit to Saturday contact. This addition also brings BACCS in line with other contact centres.

Child Protection - We updated Child Protection Training for many of the volunteers, ensuring their knowledge and skills are up to date in order to support vulnerable families.

Toys and Resources - Toys and resources in the centres have also been updated, to help provide and facilitate more 'natural contact' with families, and give them opportunities to interact and engage

Christmas - With the support of Women's Aid, we were able to give much needed and much appreciated presents to all the kids in the centre. All available volunteers were also taken for their traditional Christmas Lunch.

Uplift - We have received a 3.54% uplift in our funding from the Northern Health and Social Care Trust, to support with the rising costs of day to day running, and help facilitate the addition of Thursday contact.

Antrim Centre

Over the financial year, we provided total of 228 family visits, and a total of 529 contact hours.

Ballymena Centre

Over this financial year, we provided 188 family visits and a total of 504 contact hours.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre
Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Financial review

Policy on reserves

It is the Charity's policy to maintain unrestricted reserves equal to 6 months running costs. In 2023, that value is £17,175. The Unrestricted reserves total £43,303 for 2023 which is equivalent to just over 1 year's running costs.

The strategic report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 13 November 2023 and signed on its behalf by:


Karen McConkey
Trustee

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Trustees' Report

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Objectives and activities

Public benefit

The benefits which flow from this purpose include: 1. The relief of the emotional impact of separation due to family breakdown 2. The re-establishment of a level of trust between the parents. 3. Increased contact between the child and the absent parent within a safe neutral environment 4. The child is safe from risk of harm e.g. domestic abuse or substance abuse. These benefits will be evidenced by 1. The number of families using the service 2. The number of families moving on to more positive contact outside the centre (presently 70% plus) 3. Family evaluation sheets 4. Anecdotal evidence from users of the centres 5. Feedback from referrers, e.g. social services, solicitors, child court officers and courts. 6. Research The purposes of our charity may lead to the following harm 1. Confrontation between parents. 2. Families become reliant on the centres We can minimise the harm and show it is outweighed by the benefits by 1. Pre visits with families to carry out risk assessment and address the need for the centre to be a temporary solution to child contact 2. Staggered arrival and departure times for families 3. Carry out regular reviews with all family members to address ways of moving on. 4. Research showing the success of the centres and their objectives. The only private benefits flowing from this purpose are 1. Volunteers may enhance their employment opportunities through the training and experience gained from supporting child contact. This training may be transferable to other settings. 2. Volunteers may receive travelling expenses. 3. Volunteers who are Directors or sit on the management committee may enhance their employment opportunities through the skills gained as part of the Management Board. These private benefits are incidental and necessary to ensure that the benefit is provided to our beneficiaries. The beneficiaries are the people of Ballymena, Antrim and Larne areas who are experiencing family breakdown and wish to establish contact with their children, whether parents, grandparents or siblings. Although most of our families reside in these three areas, it is not our policy to refuse people from other areas of Northern Ireland or outside the province. Other aspects Staff and volunteers are found to facilitate the smooth running of the centre; Volunteers benefit from increased skills through ongoing training which could enhance their career opportunities and gain experience through teamwork and networking with other volunteers Volunteers may find themselves in confrontational situations or may become emotionally affected by the needs of the children but this is minimised by: 1. Vetting of volunteers 2. Ongoing training 3. Support policies to assist volunteers We also promote and publicise the concept of Child Contact Centres: this leads to awareness by the public of the role of Children's Contact Centres so that they can seek referrals in times of need and this is demonstrated through the number of referrals, whether through social services, courts, solicitors, or self-referral.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 3 of the Charities Act 2008 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland.

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre is a Company Limited by Guarantee, governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association and registered as a charity with the Charities Commission of NI.

It is governed by a voluntary Management Committee which is responsible for strategic planning and decision making, financial governance and probity and have employment responsibility for all staff. Volunteering opportunities within the organisation are openly advertised through a wide range of media outlets. All volunteers complete a mandatory training programme, are subject to a six-month probationary period and complete a comprehensive induction process. Those volunteers who are to be appointed to the Management Committee receive specialist training to assist them to fulfil their roles in relation to governance of the organisation.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Trustees' Report

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Members to the Management Committee are proposed at the annual general meeting. Office bearers are elected at the first Management Committee meeting following the annual general meeting.

Organisational structure

The day-to-day management and operation of the activities are carried out by a staff team, led by the Centre Co-ordinator, who also reports to the Committee. Operational volunteers contribute to the day to day activities of the charity and their contribution is invaluable to the charity meeting its aims and objectives.

Financial instruments

Objectives and policies

The charity's activities expose it to a number of financial risks including credit risk, cash flow risk and liquidity risk. The use of financial derivatives is governed by the charity's policies approved by the board of trustees, which provide written principles on the use of financial derivatives to manage these risks. The charity does not use derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

Cash flow risk

The charity's activities expose it primarily to the financial risks of changes in foreign currency exchange rates and interest rates. The charity uses foreign exchange forward contracts and interest rate swap contracts to hedge these exposures.

Interest bearing assets and liabilities are held at fixed rate to ensure certainty of cash flows.

Credit risk

The charity's principal financial assets are bank balances and cash, trade and other receivables, and investments. The charity's credit risk is primarily attributable to its trade receivables. The amounts presented in the balance sheet are net of allowances for doubtful receivables. An allowance for impairment is made where there is an identified loss event which, based on previous experience, is evidence of a reduction in the recoverability of the cash flows.

The credit risk on liquid funds and derivative financial instruments is limited because the counterparties are banks with high credit-ratings assigned by international credit-rating agencies.

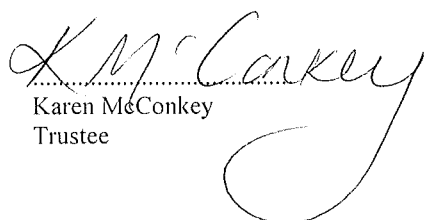
The charity has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over a large number of counterparties and customers.

Liquidity risk

In order to maintain liquidity to ensure that sufficient funds are available for ongoing operations and future developments, the charity uses a mixture of long-term and short-term debt finance.

Further details regarding liquidity risk can be found in the Statement of accounting policies in the financial statements.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 13 November 2023 and signed on its behalf by:


Karen McConkey
Trustee

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

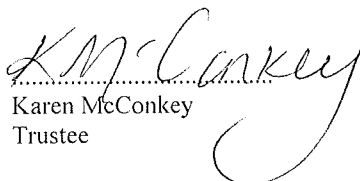
The trustees (who are also the directors of Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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 of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare 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 and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 13 November 2023 and signed on its behalf by:


Karen McConkey
Trustee

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023 which are set out on pages 8 to 16 .

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 65(2) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (the 2008 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the 2008 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 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 the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 you as 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 accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

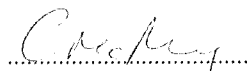
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

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

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

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.



.....
Catherine McRory

FCMA CGMA

Baxterworld Ltd
Unit 3, Dargan Industrial Park
60-84 Dargan Crescent
Belfast
Co. Antrim
BT3 9JP

13 November 2023

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2023 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	-	-	-	1,600
Charitable activities	4	-	37,339	37,339	36,066
Investment income	5	101	-	101	8
Total Income		<u>101</u>	<u>37,339</u>	<u>37,440</u>	<u>37,674</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	6	-	(34,350)	(34,350)	(32,186)
Total Expenditure		<u>-</u>	<u>(34,350)</u>	<u>(34,350)</u>	<u>(32,186)</u>
Net income		<u>101</u>	<u>2,989</u>	<u>3,090</u>	<u>5,488</u>
Net movement in funds		101	2,989	3,090	5,488
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>43,201</u>	<u>4,166</u>	<u>47,367</u>	<u>41,879</u>
Total funds carried forward	12	<u>43,302</u>	<u>7,155</u>	<u>50,457</u>	<u>47,367</u>
	Note		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3		1,600	-	1,600
Charitable activities	4		-	36,066	36,066
Investment income	5		8	-	8
Total Income			<u>1,608</u>	<u>36,066</u>	<u>37,674</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	6		-	(32,186)	(32,186)
Total Expenditure			<u>-</u>	<u>(32,186)</u>	<u>(32,186)</u>
Net income			<u>1,608</u>	<u>3,880</u>	<u>5,488</u>
Net movement in funds			1,608	3,880	5,488
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward			<u>41,593</u>	<u>286</u>	<u>41,879</u>
Total funds carried forward	12		<u>43,201</u>	<u>4,166</u>	<u>47,367</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.
The funds breakdown for 2020 & 2022 is shown in note 12.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

(Registration number: NI044660)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		52,876	48,345
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	10	<u>(2,418)</u>	<u>(978)</u>
Net assets		<u>50,458</u>	<u>47,367</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted funds		7,155	4,166
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>43,302</u>	<u>43,201</u>
Total funds	12	<u>50,457</u>	<u>47,367</u>

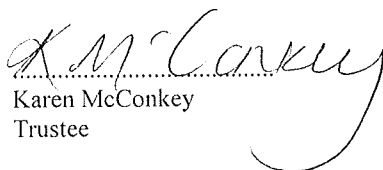
For the financial year ending 31 March 2023 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

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

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements on pages 8 to 16 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 13 November 2023 and signed on their behalf by:


Karen McConkey
Trustee

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

1 Charity status

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

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

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

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Going concern

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

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

The charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

Income and endowments

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

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

Investment income

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

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

Expenditure

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

Charitable activities

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

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees's meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Taxation

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

Cash and cash equivalents

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

Trade creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

Borrowings

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

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

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

Fund structure

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

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

Financial instruments

Classification

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

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

Recognition and measurement

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

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

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

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

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

Investments

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

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

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Donations and legacies;		
Donations from individuals	-	1,600
	-	1,600
	-	1,600

4 Income from charitable activities

	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Charitable Activities	37,339	37,339	36,066
	37,339	37,339	36,066
	37,339	37,339	36,066

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	101	101	8
	101	101	8
	101	101	8

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

		Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Charitable Activities		6,049	6,049	7,725
Staff costs		27,150	27,150	23,754
Governance costs	7	1,151	1,151	707
		34,350	34,350	32,186
		34,350	34,350	32,186

£Nil (2022 - £Nil) of the above expenditure was attributable to unrestricted funds and £33,436 (2022 - £32,015) to restricted funds.

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

In addition to the expenditure analysed above, there are also governance costs of £914 (2022 - £1,030) which relate directly to charitable activities. See note 7 for further details.

7 Analysis of governance and support costs

Governance costs

	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Other governance costs	1,151	1,151	707
	<u>1,151</u>	<u>1,151</u>	<u>707</u>

8 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	24,611	21,308
Social security costs	991	932
Pension costs	793	281
Other staff costs	755	1,233
	<u>27,150</u>	<u>23,754</u>

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

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

9 Taxation

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

10 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	984	67
Other taxation and social security	381	429
Other creditors	129	62
Accruals	924	420
	2,418	978

11 Pension and other schemes

Defined contribution pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the charity to the scheme and amounted to £793 (2022 - £281).

12 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	(43,201)	(101)	-	(43,302)
Restricted funds	(4,166)	(37,339)	34,350	(7,155)
Total funds	(47,367)	(37,440)	34,350	(50,457)
	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	(41,593)	(1,608)	-	(43,201)
Restricted funds	(286)	(36,066)	32,186	(4,166)
Total funds	(41,879)	(37,674)	32,186	(47,367)

Ballymena Area Children's Contact Centre

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

13 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	General £	£	£
Current assets	45,721	7,155	52,876
Current liabilities	(2,418)	-	(2,418)
Total net assets	43,303	7,155	50,458

14 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 April 2022 £	Cash flow £	At 31 March 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	48,345	4,531	52,876
Net debt	48,345	4,531	52,876