

Family Care Adoption Services

Northern Ireland · Charity number 103068

Details

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

Contact

Address	Family Care Adoption Services 50 Knockbreda Road Belfast BT6 0jb BT6 0JB
Phone	028 9069 1133
Email	email@familycareadoption.org
Website	www.familycareadoption.co.uk

Activities

Purposes: The objects for which the Society is established are to alleviate the needs of children without families able to care for them and to promote the relief and care of such children.

What the charity does: 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, Youth development

Who the charity helps: Carers, Children (5-13 year olds), Preschool (0-5 year olds), Youth (14-25 year olds)

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£388,786	£428,951	£34,401	10

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Mr Kieran Murphy		
Mr Stephen Small		
Mrs Marie Frawley		
Mrs Naoimh Barr		
Mrs Patricia McGrogan		
Ms Joan Coulter		
Ms Joan Porter		

Accounts

Charity registration number NIC103068 (England and Wales)

Company registration number NI023076

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mrs M Frawley	
	Mr S Small	
	Mrs P McGrogan	
	Mr K Murphy	(Appointed 28 October 2025)
	Ms J Porter	(Appointed 28 October 2025)
	Ms F McCausland	
	Mrs N Barr	(Appointed 12 December 2024)
Secretary	Ms J Coulter	(Appointed 31 October 2024)
Charity registration number	NIC103068	
Company number	NI023076	
Registered office	50 Knockbreda Road Belfast BT6 0JB	
Auditor	GMcG Group Limited 17 Mandeville Street Portadown Craigavon Co Armagh BT62 3PB	
Bankers	AIB 35 University Road Belfast BT7 1ND	
	Ulster Bank Limited Danesfort Stranmillis Road Belfast BT9 5UB	
Solicitors	Rosemary Connolly 2 The Square Warrenpoint Co Down BT34 3JT	

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
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**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charitable company's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

The main objectives of Family Care Adoption Services (FCAS) are:

- To provide a comprehensive range of specialist services to anyone affected by adoption;
- To provide these services directly to individuals and on behalf of Health & Social Care Trusts;
- To contribute to the development of adoption service provision throughout Northern Ireland;
- To develop innovative services for children and young people in care or adopted.

The principal activities of FCAS are:-

- To recruit and prepare families in adoption for children offered to the charitable company for adoption placement;
- To provide a comprehensive range of adoption support services in accordance with the provisions of the Adoption (Northern Ireland) Order 1987;
- To provide a range of ancillary support services for adults and children involved in care or adoption proceedings.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland in deciding what activities the charitable company should undertake.

Achievements and performance

The achievements of the charitable company during the year included:-

- The charitable company continued to assess and approve prospective adoptive parents for placements. Most were also dually approved as foster carers so as to be available for those children whose legal proceedings were not complete at the time of placement. Five placements were made in the year with others at various stages of progress at the year end.
- The charitable company continues to work with Family Routes and Adopt NI to deliver birth family counselling. This partnership has been in place since 2009, with Adopt NI joining in 2015. The programme was funded by the Health and Social Care board to September 2023 (now known as the Strategic Planning and Performance Group - SPPG) and continues to be funded on a rolling basis.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

Achievements and performance (continued)

FCAS provides services to the five Health and Social Care Trusts in relation to providing family placements for children from care in need of adoption. This is a core service for the charity and is key in providing and maintaining financial stability as each placement generates an inter-agency fee. In a time of financial constraint however, the Trusts are increasingly likely to seek placements within their own resources as a first preference, which may present some uncertainty in future periods.

The charity continues to engage with the five Northern Catholic Diocese on an annual basis in relation to their contributions towards service provision to adopted and fostered adults, and to adults historically raised in children's homes which were regarded as operating under the auspices of the Catholic Church. This is an oversubscribed and increasing area of work for which the charity is active in seeking additional funding support, which to date have been unsuccessful. Ongoing service provision is therefore at risk due to the limited and uncertain nature of funding in this area.

The Next Step Project is a service that provides support to birth parents, and other relatives, whose children are going to be placed or have already been placed for adoption. This service continued in the year but is due to be retendered with future funding therefore uncertain.

The charity received core funding from the Department of Health towards salaried posts within the charity albeit at the 50% reduction rate applied in the 2023/24 financial year. Core funding has always been made available to the charity and is vital for financial stability; any further reduction in core funding would therefore put the charity at significant financial risk.

The charity's Life Story Project which was funded by the Lottery Community Fund for a five year period beginning in April 2019 ended in August 2024. The Project worked with Young People aged 11-22 who were in Care, had left Care or had been adopted from Care, and who had questions about their lives and experiences. The organisation made several applications for further funding to continue this important work but unfortunately were unsuccessful.

Financial review

The charitable company's financial results are set out in detail on pages 11 to 29.

There is an overall deficit on funds this year of £48,573 (2024 - £7,401). The charitable company has maintained an overall strong financial position, especially in the current funding climate.

The accumulated funds (unrestricted and restricted) now stand at £451,404 (2024 - £499,977). This comprises restricted funds of £62,764 (2024 - £97,358) and unrestricted funds of £388,640 (2024 - £402,619). In the financial period an amount of £101,912 (2024 - £94,520) was transferred from unrestricted funds to restricted funds as a contribution from general reserves to make good a shortfall in restricted funds received in the year. In addition, an amount of £31,956 (2024 - £91,973) was transferred from restricted funds to unrestricted funds as these funds no longer carry a restriction on use. This resulted in a net transfer from unrestricted funds to restricted funds of £69,956 (2024 - £2,547).

The trustees acknowledge the ongoing support from the Department of Health, the Strategic Planning and Performance Group as well as other funders and supporters.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

Structure, governance and management

The charitable company is a company limited by guarantee, governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 20 September 1989.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mrs M Frawley

Ms J Coulter

(Resigned 31 October 2024)

Mr S Small

Mrs P McGrogan

Mr K Murphy

(Appointed 28 October 2025)

Ms J Porter

(Appointed 28 October 2025)

Ms F McCausland

Mrs N Barr

(Appointed 12 December 2024)

As set out in the Articles of Association, the existing Directors may appoint any person willing to act as a Director. There is no maximum number of Directors, but there is a minimum of two.

The members of the Board of Directors are drawn from a variety of disciplines as it is considered that a varied membership provides the necessary skills, knowledge and experience to exercise good governance of the charitable company.

Directors induction and training

The charitable company has an induction programme for new Directors. This comprises of an information pack containing details of operation aspects of the charitable company, annual reports and audited accounts, an orientation session with Board of Director members and senior staff and observation of Board of Director meeting.

Organisation

The trustees administer the charitable company and appoint a Chief Officer to manage the day to day running of the charity. The Board meets approximately 5 to 6 times per year.

Risk management

The charitable company has produced a risk management schedule as part of a formal process to identify risks to which the charitable company is exposed. This is monitored and steps taken as appropriate in order to mitigate those risks. The main risk the charitable company faces is in relation to the availability of future funding, as disclosed at 1.2 in the notes to the financial statements. The directors continuously seek sources of funding for the charitable company.

Reserves policy

Reserves are necessary to bridge the funding gap between remunerating staff and the receipt of the funds generated by the professional services provided by those staff members. Whilst core and Diocesan support some of these costs, the charitable company has to rely on the use of its services by the Health and Social Care trusts and others, if it is to remain viable.

In view of the uncertainty over the extent and timing of the flow of such work, the trustees consider that an ideal level of unrestricted reserves to be between 3 to 4 months of running costs. The current level of reserves is £451,404 of which £388,640 is unrestricted.

Plans for the future

The charitable company will continue to develop specialist adoption and childcare services in partnership with statutory and voluntary bodies.

Auditor

In accordance with the company's articles, a resolution proposing that GMcG Group Limited be reappointed as auditor of the company will be put at a General Meeting.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

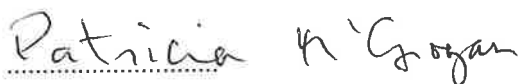
Small companies exemption

In preparing this report, the directors have taken advantage of the small companies exemptions provided by section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

Disclosure of information to auditor

Each of the trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditor is aware of such information.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



Mrs P McGrogan

Trustee and Chair

Date: 24.11.2025

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

The trustees, who are also the directors of Family Care Adoption Services for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable 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 operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that 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.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES**

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Family Care Adoption Services (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Material uncertainty related to going concern

We draw attention to note 1.2 in the financial statements, relating to uncertainty in relation to future funding levels and the reduction in core funding received from the Department of Health under its Core Grant Funding Scheme. As stated in note 1.2, these events or conditions, along with other matters as set out in note 1.2, indicate that a material uncertainty exists that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES**

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

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**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES**

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees, who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purpose of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES**

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

We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and then design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

In identifying and assessing potential risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliances with laws and regulations, we considered the following:

- . The nature of the industry and sector, control environment and business performance, including the company's remuneration policies for directors, bonus levels and performance targets, if any;
- . Results of our enquiries of management about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities;
- . Any matters we identified having obtained and reviewed the company's documentation of their policies and procedures relating to:
 - Identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instance of non-compliance;
 - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud; and
 - The internal controls established to mitigate risks of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- . The matters discussed among the audit engagement team regarding how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and potential indicators of fraud.

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the company for fraud and identified the greatest potential for fraud in revenue. In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override.

We also obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that the company operates in, focusing on provisions of those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The key laws and regulations we considered in this context included the Companies Act 2006, and local tax legislation.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which may be fundamental to the company's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES**

Audit response to risks identified

Our procedures to respond to the risks identified included the following:

- Reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with provisions of relevant laws and regulations described as having a direct effect on the financial statements;
- Enquiring of management concerning actual and potential litigation and claims;
- Performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud;
- Reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance and reviewing correspondence with tax authorities; and
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, testing the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; assessing whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

We also communicated relevant identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all engagement team members and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. In addition, as with any audit, there remains a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as they may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

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**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES**

Use of our report

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



**Ms Gillian Johnston ACA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of GMcG Group Limited**

24 November 2025

**Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor**

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**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

		Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
	Notes						
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	3	48,097	97,154	145,251	49,360	96,547	145,907
Charitable activities	4	158,630	82,526	241,156	137,092	170,104	307,196
Investments	5	2,379	-	2,379	2,707	-	2,707
Total income		<u>209,106</u>	<u>179,680</u>	<u>388,786</u>	<u>189,159</u>	<u>266,651</u>	<u>455,810</u>
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	6	144,646	284,230	428,876	135,443	327,768	463,211
Other expenditure	11	75	-	75	-	-	-
Total expenditure		<u>144,721</u>	<u>284,230</u>	<u>428,951</u>	<u>135,443</u>	<u>327,768</u>	<u>463,211</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		64,385	(104,550)	(40,165)	53,716	(61,117)	(7,401)
Transfers between funds		(69,956)	69,956	-	(2,547)	2,547	-
Other recognised gains and losses:							
Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes		(8,408)	-	(8,408)	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	8	(13,979)	(34,594)	(48,573)	51,169	(58,570)	(7,401)
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 April 2024		<u>402,619</u>	<u>97,358</u>	<u>499,977</u>	<u>351,450</u>	<u>155,928</u>	<u>507,378</u>
Fund balances at 31 March 2025		<u>388,640</u>	<u>62,764</u>	<u>451,404</u>	<u>402,619</u>	<u>97,358</u>	<u>499,977</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2025**

	Notes	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	15		5,064		6,330
Current assets					
Debtors	16	107,776		99,608	
Cash at bank and in hand		372,965		455,111	
		480,741		554,719	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(28,290)		(60,253)	
Net current assets			452,451		494,466
Total assets less current liabilities			457,515		500,796
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	18		(6,111)		(819)
Net assets			451,404		499,977
Income funds					
Restricted funds	21	62,764		97,358	
Unrestricted funds		388,640		402,619	
		451,404		499,977	

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

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 24.11.2025

Patricia M'Grogan

Mrs P McGrogan
Trustee

Company registration number NI023076

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Family Care Adoption Services is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in Northern Ireland. The registered office is 50 Knockbreda Road, Belfast, BT6 0JB.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charitable company's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charitable company is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charitable company has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

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

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

1.2 Going concern

These financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis. The trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charitable company will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, however, the trustees are aware of certain material uncertainties which may cause doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

For the past three years, as with most organisations operating in the third sector in Northern Ireland, FCAS has operated with significant uncertainty in relation to funding levels, particularly in respect of the charity's funding from the public sector. In previous periods FCAS has received funding from the Department of Health under its Core Grant Funding Scheme. A reduced amount of funding was received under this scheme in both the current and prior year leading to a deficit being incurred in both years. For the 2026 financial year this funding has been fully withdrawn, creating a material uncertainty as to how FCAS can continue to carry out its activities in the future and its ability to continue as a going concern.

FCAS has built up a level of reserves in prior years that will enable the charity to continue with its current service provision in the immediate future. However, the trustees are undertaking a review of the charity's financial viability beyond the next 6 to 12 months. Notwithstanding this uncertainty, the trustees have adopted the going concern basis of accounting in preparing these financial statements. Should FCAS cease as a charitable company at any point, a pension liability, as disclosed at notes 12 to 14 would arise, as the charity as a participating employer has a legal obligation to meet their share of the scheme's deficit, on an annuity purchase basis, on withdrawal from the scheme. The amount of any potential obligation cannot be reliably estimated but is expected to be significant.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charitable company is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charitable company has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charitable company has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment	20% Reducing balance
----------------------------------	----------------------

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charitable company reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.9 Financial instruments

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

Financial instruments are recognised in the charitable company's balance sheet when the charitable company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charitable company's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.10 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charitable company is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.11 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

The charity employs one employee for whom contributions are made to a multi-employer defined benefit scheme. The operators of the scheme have identified a potential deficit and have notified an annual additional contribution to be made under the terms of a 10 year recovery plan.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

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

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

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements (Continued)

Key sources of estimation uncertainty

Fixed assets

The annual depreciation charge on fixed assets depends primarily on the estimated lives of each type of asset and estimates of residual values. The directors regularly review these asset lives and change them as necessary to reflect current thinking on remaining lives in light of prospective economic utilisation and physical condition of the assets concerned. Changes in asset lives can have a significant impact on depreciation and amortisation charges for the period. Detail of the useful lives is included in the accounting policies.

Debtors

Short term debtors are measured at transaction price, less any impairment. Impairment of short term debtors involves some estimation uncertainty.

Pensions

The charitable company is a member of a multi-employer defined benefit pension scheme. Pension obligations have been provided in accordance with agreed upon contributions to the scheme and disclosures have been made in accordance with the requirements of FRS 102. Estimates and assumptions have been used in calculating the present value of future contributions recognised in the financial statements and in the scheme information disclosed at notes 12 to 14. The charitable company used external pension advisors to support the estimates and assumptions made.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

3 Donations and legacies	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds		Total		Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds		Total	
	2025	2025	2025	2025	2025	2025	2024	2024	2024	2024	2024	2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Grants and donations	48,097	97,154	97,154	145,251	145,251	49,360	96,547	96,547	145,907	145,907		
Donations and gifts												
Department of Health Core Funding	-	66,932	66,932	66,932	66,932	-	66,932	66,932	66,932	66,932		
Diocesan Contributions	45,340	-	-	45,340	45,340	45,340	-	-	45,340	45,340		
Rank Foundation	-	30,222	30,222	30,222	30,222	-	29,615	29,615	29,615	29,615		
Other	2,757	-	-	2,757	2,757	4,020	-	-	4,020	4,020		
	48,097	97,154	97,154	145,251	145,251	49,360	96,547	96,547	145,907	145,907		

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

4	Income from charitable activities	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
	Assessments, Child Placements and Post Adoption Support	147,755	-	147,755	118,967	-	118,967
	Other Adoption Support Services	10,875	-	10,875	18,125	-	18,125
	Life Story Project	-	26,792	26,792	-	114,882	114,882
	Next Steps Project	-	55,734	55,734	-	55,222	55,222
		<u>158,630</u>	<u>82,526</u>	<u>241,156</u>	<u>137,092</u>	<u>170,104</u>	<u>307,196</u>

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

5 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Interest receivable	2,379	2,707

6 Charitable activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Staff costs	213,815	253,861
Depreciation	1,177	1,472
Redundancy payment	5,832	-
Recruitment, training and seminars	-	1,086
Rent, rates and services	15,655	10,310
Insurance	3,901	6,380
Computer costs	3,005	3,733
Light and heat	1,719	4,571
General expenses	5,071	5,796
Repairs and maintenance	165	247
Stationery, printing and advertising	4,378	3,941
Telephone and postage	5,363	6,078
Travelling expenses	8,283	7,051
Adoption panel expenses	1,413	1,552
Subscriptions and professional fees	10,279	19,695
	<u>280,056</u>	<u>325,773</u>
Share of support costs (see note 7)	138,928	126,554
Share of governance costs (see note 7)	9,892	10,884
	<u>428,876</u>	<u>463,211</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	144,646	135,443
Restricted funds	284,230	327,768
	<u>428,876</u>	<u>463,211</u>

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

7 Support costs allocated to activities

	2025	2024
	£	£
Staff costs	131,031	118,800
Depreciation	89	111
General expenses	1,634	-
Insurance	688	1,126
Stationery	329	297
Telephone	404	458
Cleaning and hygiene	1,141	1,985
Rent	1,740	1,080
Light and heat	191	508
Travel	149	421
Computer costs	1,002	1,245
Bank charges	530	523
Governance costs	9,892	10,884
	<u>148,820</u>	<u>137,438</u>
Analysed between:		
Charitable activities	<u>148,820</u>	<u>137,438</u>

8 Net movement in funds

	2025	2024
	£	£
The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Fees payable for the audit of the charity's financial statements	4,500	4,500
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	1,266	1,583
	<u>4,500</u>	<u>1,583</u>

9 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charitable company during the year.

10 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

2025	2024
Number	Number
10	11
<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

10 Employees (Continued)

Employment costs	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	296,832	329,199
Social security costs	25,076	25,358
Other pension costs	22,938	18,104
	<u>344,846</u>	<u>372,661</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

11 Other

	Unrestricted funds	Total
	2025	2024
	£	£
Financing costs	75	-
	<u>75</u>	<u>-</u>

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

12 Pensions - TPT Retirement Solutions - The Growth Plan

The company participates in the scheme, a multi-employer scheme which provides benefits to some 521 non-associated participating employers. The scheme is a defined benefit scheme in the UK. It is not possible for the company to obtain sufficient information to enable it to account for the scheme as a defined benefit scheme. Therefore it accounts for the scheme as a defined contribution scheme.

The scheme is subject to the funding legislation outlined in the Pensions Act 2004 which came into force on 30 December 2005. This, together with documents issued by the Pensions Regulator and Technical Actuarial Standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council, set out the framework for funding defined benefit occupational pension schemes in the UK.

The scheme is classified as a 'last-man standing arrangement'. Therefore the company is potentially liable for other participating employers' obligations if those employers are unable to meet their share of the scheme deficit following withdrawal from the scheme. Participating employers are legally required to meet their share of the scheme deficit on an annuity purchase basis on withdrawal from the scheme.

A full actuarial valuation for the scheme was carried out at 30 September 2023. This valuation showed assets of £514.9m, liabilities of £531.0m and a deficit of £16.1m. To eliminate this funding shortfall, the Trustee has asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme as follows:

Deficit contributions

From 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2028:	£2,100,000	per	annum
	(payable monthly)		

Unless a concession has been agreed with the Trustee the term to 31 March 2028 applies.

Note that the scheme's previous valuation was carried out with an effective date of 30 September 2020. This valuation showed assets of £800.3m, liabilities of £831.9m and a deficit of £31.6m. To eliminate this funding shortfall, the Trustee asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme as follows:

Deficit contributions

From 1 April 2022 to 31 January 2025:	£3,312,000	per	annum
	(payable monthly)		

The recovery plan contributions are allocated to each participating employer in line with their estimated share of the Series 1 and Series 2 scheme liabilities.

Where the scheme is in deficit and where the company has agreed to a deficit funding arrangement the company recognises a liability for this obligation. The amount recognised is the net present value of the deficit reduction contributions payable under the agreement that relates to the deficit. The present value is calculated using the discount rate detailed in these disclosures. The unwinding of the discount rate is recognised as a finance cost.

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

13 Pensions - TPT Retirement Solutions - The Growth Plan (continued)

	31 March 2025 (£s)	31 March 2024 (£s)	31 March 2023 (£s)
Present value of provision	8,483	3,024	6,473

RECONCILIATION OF OPENING AND CLOSING PROVISIONS

	Period Ending 31 March 2025 (£s)	Period Ending 31 March 2024 (£s)
Provision at start of period	3,024	6,473
Unwinding of the discount factor (interest expense)	80	248
Deficit contribution paid	(3,083)	(3,699)
Remeasurements - impact of any change in assumptions	54	2
Remeasurements - amendments to the contribution schedule	8,408	-
Provision at end of period	8,483	3,024

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE IMPACT

	Period Ending 31 March 2025 (£s)	Period Ending 31 March 2024 (£s)
Interest expense	80	248
Remeasurements – impact of any change in assumptions	54	2
Remeasurements – amendments to the contribution schedule	8,408	-

ASSUMPTIONS

	31 March 2025 % per annum	31 March 2024 % per annum	31 March 2023 % per annum
Rate of discount	4.84	5.31	5.52

The discount rates shown above are the equivalent single discount rates which, when used to discount the future recovery plan contributions due, would give the same results as using a full AA corporate bond yield curve to discount the same recovery plan contributions.

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

14 Pensions - TPT Retirement Solutions - The Growth Plan (continued)

The following schedule details the deficit contributions agreed between the company and the scheme at each year end period:

DEFICIT CONTRIBUTIONS SCHEDULE

Year ending	31 March 2025 (£s)	31 March 2024 (£s)	31 March 2023 (£s)
Year 1	3,027	3,083	3,699
Year 2	3,027	-	3,083
Year 3	3,027	-	-
Year 4	-	-	-
Year 5	-	-	-
Year 6	-	-	-
Year 7	-	-	-
Year 8	-	-	-
Year 9	-	-	-
Year 10	-	-	-

The company recognises a liability measured as the present value of the contributions payable that arise from the deficit recovery agreement and the resulting expense in the income and expenditure account i.e. the unwinding of the discount rate as a finance cost in the period in which it arises.

It is these contributions that have been used to derive the company's balance sheet liability.

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

15 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £
Cost	
At 1 April 2024	139,772
At 31 March 2025	139,772
Depreciation and impairment	
At 1 April 2024	133,442
Depreciation charged in the year	1,266
At 31 March 2025	134,708
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2025	5,064
At 31 March 2024	6,330

16 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	96,766	93,593
Prepayments and accrued income	11,010	6,015
	107,776	99,608

17 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Provision for pension scheme deficit	3,027	3,083
Trade creditors	1,600	5,767
Other creditors	-	24,292
Accruals and deferred income	23,663	27,111
	28,290	60,253

18 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Provision for pension scheme deficit	5,456	-
Government grants	655	819
	6,111	819

Notes

19

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

19 Government grants

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Deferred income is included within:		
Non-current liabilities	655	819
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

20 Retirement benefit schemes

	2025	2024
	£	£
Defined contribution schemes		
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	22,938	18,104
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently administered fund.

21 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 April 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Diocesan Capital Fund	24,774	-	-	-	24,774
Life Story Project	36,160	26,792	(30,996)	(31,956)	-
Next Steps Project	-	55,734	(55,734)	-	-
DoH Core Funding	-	66,932	(168,844)	101,912	-
Other donations	36,424	30,222	(28,656)	-	37,990
	<u>97,358</u>	<u>179,680</u>	<u>(284,230)</u>	<u>69,956</u>	<u>62,764</u>

Previous year:	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Diocesan Capital Fund	24,774	-	-	-	24,774
Life Story Project	10,622	114,882	(89,344)	-	36,160
Next Steps Project	91,973	55,222	(55,222)	(91,973)	-
DoH Core Funding	-	66,932	(161,452)	94,520	-
Donations	28,559	29,615	(21,750)	-	36,424
	<u>155,928</u>	<u>266,651</u>	<u>(327,768)</u>	<u>2,547</u>	<u>97,358</u>

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

21 Restricted funds (Continued)

Diocesan Capital Fund - the various diocese have waived a loan which was made to FCAS some years ago on condition that the amount be retained by the charity to be used for its charitable purposes.

Life Story Project - this project finished during the year. It provided assistance for young people, aged 11 to 22, who are in care, leaving care or have been in care. The project was funded by the Lottery Community Fund.

Next Steps Project - this project provides support to birth families and their relatives whose child has been or is being placed for adoption. The project is funded by the Health & Social Care Board.

DoH Core Funding - the Department of Health provided funding towards the salaries of three employees.

Donations - The Rank Foundation provided a grant in the current year for salary costs of one employee.

22 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Gains and losses	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	402,619	209,106	(144,721)	(69,956)	(8,408)	388,640
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Previous year:	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Gains and losses	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	351,450	189,159	(135,443)	(2,547)	-	402,619
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

23 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025	Restricted funds 2025	Total 2025
	£	£	£
At 31 March 2025:			
Tangible assets	5,064	-	5,064
Current assets/(liabilities)	389,032	63,419	452,451
Long term liabilities	(5,456)	(655)	(6,111)
	=====	=====	=====
	388,640	62,764	451,404
	=====	=====	=====

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

23 Analysis of net assets between funds (Continued)

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
At 31 March 2024:			
Tangible assets	6,330	-	6,330
Current assets/(liabilities)	396,289	98,177	494,466
Long term liabilities	-	(819)	(819)
	<u>402,619</u>	<u>97,358</u>	<u>499,977</u>

24 Transfers between funds

In the financial period an amount of £101,912 (2024 - £94,520) was transferred from unrestricted funds to restricted funds as a contribution from general reserves to make good a shortfall in restricted funds received in the year. In addition, an amount of £31,956 (2024 - £91,973) was transferred from restricted funds to unrestricted funds as these funds no longer carry a restriction on use.

25 Financial commitments, guarantees and contingent liabilities

A portion of grants received may become repayable if the charity fails to comply with the terms of the relevant letters of offer.

The charity may, in the future, be required to make additional pension contributions in respect of the multi-employer scheme deficit as disclosed in notes 12 to 14.

26 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2024 - none).

Accounts

Charity registration number NIC103068

Company registration number NI023076 (Northern Ireland)

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
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FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mrs M Frawley Ms J Coulter Mr S Small Mrs P McGrogan Mr K Murphy Ms J Porter	(Appointed 25 October 2023) (Appointed 25 October 2023)
Charity registration number	NIC103068	
Company number	NI023076	
Registered office	50 Knockbreda Road Belfast BT6 0JB	
Auditor	GMcG Group Limited 17 Mandeville Street Portadown Craigavon Co Armagh BT62 3PB	
Bankers	AIB 35 University Road Belfast BT7 1ND Ulster Bank Limited Danesfort Stranmillis Road Belfast BT9 5UB	
Solicitors	Rosemary Connolly 2 The Square Warrenpoint Co Down BT34 3JT	

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charitable company's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

The main objectives of Family Care Adoption Services (FCAS) are:

- To provide a comprehensive range of specialist services to anyone affected by adoption;
- To provide these services directly to individuals and on behalf of Health & Social Care Trusts;
- To contribute to the development of adoption service provision throughout Northern Ireland;
- To develop innovative services for children and young people in care or adopted.

The principal activities of FCAS are:-

- To recruit and prepare families in adoption for children offered to the charitable company for adoption placement;
- To provide a comprehensive range of adoption support services in accordance with the provisions of the Adoption (Northern Ireland) Order 1987;
- To provide a range of ancillary support services for adults and children involved in care or adoption proceedings.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland in deciding what activities the charitable company should undertake.

Achievements and performance

The achievements of the charitable company during the year included:-

- The charitable company continued to assess and approve prospective adoptive parents for placements. Most were also dually approved as foster carers to as to be available for those children whose legal proceedings were not complete at the time of placement. Three placements were made in the year with others at various stages of progress at the year end.
- The charitable company continues to work with Adoption Routes and Adopt NI to deliver birth family counselling. This partnership has been in place since 2009, with Adopt NI joining in 2015. The programme was funded by the Health and Social Care board to September 2023 and continues to be funded on a rolling basis.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

Achievements and performance

FCAS provides services to the five Health and Social Care Trusts in relation to providing family placements for children from care in need of adoption. This is a core service for the charity and is key in providing and maintaining financial stability as each placement generates an inter-agency fee. In a time of financial constraint however, the Trusts are increasingly likely to seek placements within their own resources as a first preference, which may present some uncertainty in future periods.

The charity continues to engage with the five Northern Catholic Diocese on an annual basis in relation to their contributions towards service provision to adopted and fostered adults, and to adults historically raised in children's homes which were regarded as operating under the auspices of the Catholic Church. This is an oversubscribed and increasing area of work for which the charity is active in seeking additional funding support, which to date have been unsuccessful. Ongoing service provision is therefore at risk due to the limited and uncertain nature of funding in this area.

The Next Step Project is a service that provides support to birth parents, and other relatives, whose children are going to be placed or have already been placed for adoption. This service continued in the year but is due to be retendered with future funding therefore uncertain.

The charity receives core funding from the Department of Health towards salaried posts within the charity. This core funding is vital for the charity.

The charity's Life Story Project has been funded by the Lottery Community Fund for a five year period beginning in April 2019. This Project works with Young People aged 11-22 who are in Care, have left Care or who have been Adopted, and who have questions about their lives and experiences, in the past and in the present.

Financial review

The charitable company's financial results are set out in detail on pages 12 to 30.

There is an overall deficit on funds this year of £7,401 (2023 - £126,270 surplus). The charitable company has maintained an overall strong financial position, especially in the current funding climate.

The accumulated funds (unrestricted and restricted) now stand at £499,977 (2023 - £507,378). This comprises restricted funds of £97,358 (2023 - £155,928) and unrestricted funds of £402,619 (2023 - £341,450). In the financial period an amount of £94,520 (2023 - £22,155) was transferred from unrestricted funds to restricted funds as a contribution from general reserves to make good a shortfall in restricted funds received in the year. In addition, an amount of £91,973 was transferred from restricted funds to unrestricted funds as these funds no longer carry a restriction on use.

The trustees acknowledges the ongoing support from the Department of Health, the Health and Social Care Board as well as other funders and supporters.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

Structure, governance and management

The charitable company is a company limited by guarantee, governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 20 September 1989.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mrs M Frawley

Ms J Coulter

Mr S Small

Mrs J Crowe

(Retired 19 September 2023)

Mrs P McGrogan

Mr K Murphy

(Appointed 25 October 2023)

Ms J Porter

(Appointed 25 October 2023)

As set out in the Articles of Association, the existing Directors may appoint any person willing to act as a Director. There is no maximum number of Directors, but there is a minimum of two.

The members of the Board of Directors are drawn from a variety of disciplines as it is considered that a varied membership provides the necessary skills, knowledge and experience to exercise good governance of the charitable company.

Directors induction and training

The charitable company has an induction programme for new Directors. This comprises of an information pack containing details of operation aspects of the charitable company, annual reports and audited accounts, an orientation session with Board of Director members and senior staff and observation of Board of Director meeting.

Organisation

The trustees administer the charitable company and appoint a Chief Officer to manage the day to day running of the charity. The Board meets approximately 5 to 6 times per year.

Risk management

The charitable company has produced a risk management schedule as part of a formal process to identify risks to which the charitable company is exposed. This is monitored and steps taken as appropriate in order to mitigate those risks. The main risk the charitable company faces is in relation to the availability of future funding, the directors continuously seek sources of funding for the charitable company.

Reserves policy

Reserves are necessary to bridge the funding gap between remunerating staff and the receipt of the funds generated by the professional services provided by those staff members. Whilst core and Diocesan support some of these costs, the charitable company has to rely on the use of its services by the Health and Social Care trusts and others, if it is to remain viable.

In view of the uncertainty over the extent and timing of the flow of such work, the trustees consider that an ideal level of unrestricted reserves to be between 3 to 4 months of running costs. The current level of reserves is £499,977 of which £402,619 is unrestricted.

Plans for the future

The charitable company will continue to develop specialist adoption and childcare services in partnership with statutory and voluntary bodies. Some of which include:

- Funding for The Life Story Project, which provides services to young people in and from care, is secured until March 2024.
- The charitable company has engaged with the Rank Foundation for the employment of a position until March 2025.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

Auditor

In accordance with the company's articles, a resolution proposing that GMcG Group Limited be reappointed as auditor of the company will be put at a General Meeting.

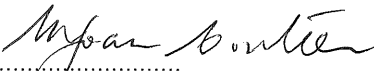
Small companies exemption

In preparing this report, the directors have taken advantage of the small companies exemptions provided by section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

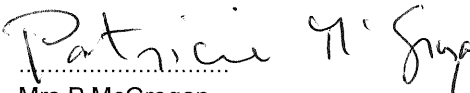
Disclosure of information to auditor

Each of the trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditor is aware of such information.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



.....
Ms J Coulter
Trustee



.....
Mrs P McGrogan
Trustee

Date: 30 Oct 2024

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

The trustees, who are also the directors of Family Care Adoption Services for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable 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 operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that 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.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Family Care Adoption Services (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES**

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES**

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees, who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purpose of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES**

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

We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and then design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

In identifying and assessing potential risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliances with laws and regulations, we considered the following:

- The nature of the industry and sector, control environment and business performance, including the company's remuneration policies for directors, bonus levels and performance targets, if any;
- Results of our enquiries of management about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities;
- Any matters we identified having obtained and reviewed the company's documentation of their policies and procedures relating to:
 - Identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instance of non-compliance;
 - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud; and
 - The internal controls established to mitigate risks of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- The matters discussed among the audit engagement team regarding how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and potential indicators of fraud.

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the company for fraud and identified the greatest potential for fraud in revenue. In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override.

We also obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that the company operates in, focusing on provisions of those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The key laws and regulations we considered in this context included the Companies Act 2006, and local tax legislation.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which may be fundamental to the company's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES**

Audit response to risks identified

Our procedures to respond to the risks identified included the following:

- Reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with provisions of relevant laws and regulations described as having a direct effect on the financial statements;
- Enquiring of management concerning actual and potential litigation and claims;
- Performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud;
- Reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance and reviewing correspondence with tax authorities; and
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, testing the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; assessing whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

We also communicated relevant identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all engagement team members and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. In addition, as with any audit, there remains a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as they may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES**

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with section 391 of the Companies Act 2014. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



**Ms Gillian Johnston ACA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of GMcG Group Limited**

5 November 2024

**Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor**

17 Mandeville Street
Portadown
Craigavon
Co Armagh
BT62 3PB

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

		Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
	Notes						
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	3	49,360	96,547	145,907	48,038	173,365	221,403
Charitable activities	4	137,092	170,104	307,196	169,838	156,275	326,113
Investments	5	2,707	-	2,707	195	-	195
Total income		<u>189,159</u>	<u>266,651</u>	<u>455,810</u>	<u>218,071</u>	<u>329,640</u>	<u>547,711</u>
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	6	135,443	327,768	463,211	107,718	313,705	421,423
Other expenditure	11	-	-	-	18	-	18
Total expenditure		<u>135,443</u>	<u>327,768</u>	<u>463,211</u>	<u>107,736</u>	<u>313,705</u>	<u>421,441</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		53,716	(61,117)	(7,401)	110,335	15,935	126,270
Transfers between funds		(2,547)	2,547	-	(22,155)	22,155	-
Net movement in funds	8	51,169	(58,570)	(7,401)	88,180	38,090	126,270
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		351,450	155,928	507,378	263,270	117,838	381,108
Fund balances at 31 March 2024		<u>402,619</u>	<u>97,358</u>	<u>499,977</u>	<u>351,450</u>	<u>155,928</u>	<u>507,378</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

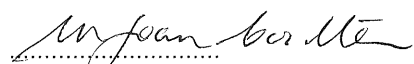
FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
BALANCE SHEET

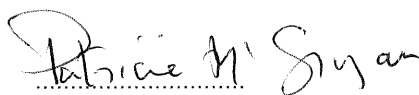
AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	15		6,330		7,913
Current assets					
Debtors	16	99,608		114,369	
Cash at bank and in hand		455,111		441,487	
		<u>554,719</u>		<u>555,856</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(60,253)		(52,593)	
Net current assets			494,466		503,263
Total assets less current liabilities			500,796		511,176
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	18		(819)		(3,798)
Net assets			<u>499,977</u>		<u>507,378</u>
Income funds					
Restricted funds	21		97,358		155,928
Unrestricted funds			402,619		351,450
			<u>499,977</u>		<u>507,378</u>

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

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 30th Oct 2024


 Ms J Coulter
 Trustee


 Mrs P McGrogan
 Trustee

Company registration number NI023076

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

		2024		2023	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	27		10,917		23,108
Investing activities					
Investment income received		2,707		195	
Net cash generated from investing activities			2,707		195
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents			13,624		23,303
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			441,487		418,184
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			455,111		441,487

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Family Care Adoption Services is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in Northern Ireland. The registered office is 97 Malone Avenue, Belfast, BT9 6EQ.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charitable company's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charitable company is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charitable company has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

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

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

1.2 Going concern

As with most organisations operating in the third sector in Northern Ireland, FCAS faces some uncertainty in relation to future funding levels, particularly in respect of the charity's funding from the public sector. FCAS has built up a level of reserves in prior years that will enable the charity to continue with its current service provision in the immediate future. Therefore, at the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charitable company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charitable company is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charitable company has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charitable company has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment	20% Reducing balance
----------------------------------	----------------------

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charitable company reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.9 Financial instruments

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

Financial instruments are recognised in the charitable company's balance sheet when the charitable company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charitable company's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.10 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charitable company is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.11 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

The charity employs one employee for whom contributions are made to a multi-employer defined benefit scheme. The operators of the scheme have identified a potential deficit and have notified an annual additional contribution to be made under the terms of a 10 year recovery plan.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

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

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

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements (Continued)

Key sources of estimation uncertainty

Fixed assets

The annual depreciation charge on fixed assets depends primarily on the estimated lives of each type of asset and estimates of residual values. The directors regularly review these asset lives and change them as necessary to reflect current thinking on remaining lives in light of prospective economic utilisation and physical condition of the assets concerned. Changes in asset lives can have a significant impact on depreciation and amortisation charges for the period. Detail of the useful lives is included in the accounting policies.

Debtors

Short term debtors are measured at transaction price, less any impairment. Impairment of short term debtors involves some estimation uncertainty.

Pensions

The charitable company is a member of a multi-employer defined benefit pension scheme. Pension obligations have been provided in accordance with agreed upon contributions to the scheme and disclosures have been made in accordance with the requirements of FRS 102. Estimates and assumptions have been used in calculating the present value of future contributions recognised in the financial statements and in the scheme information disclosed at notes 12 to 14. The charitable company used external pension advisors to support the estimates and assumptions made.

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2024 £	2024 £	2024 £	2023 £	2023 £	2023 £
Grants and donations	49,360	96,547	145,907	48,038	173,365	221,403
Donations and gifts						
Department of Health Core Funding	-	66,932	66,932	-	133,865	133,865
Diocesan Contributions	45,340	-	45,340	45,168	-	45,168
Rank Foundation	-	29,615	29,615	-	34,000	34,000
Halifax Foundation	-	-	-	-	5,500	5,500
Other	4,020	-	4,020	2,870	-	2,870
	49,360	96,547	145,907	48,038	173,365	221,403

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Assessments, Child Placements and Post Adoption Support	118,967	-	118,967	158,755	-	158,755
Other Adoption Support Services	18,125	-	18,125	11,083	-	11,083
Life Story Project	-	114,882	114,882	-	102,252	102,252
Next Steps Project	-	55,222	55,222	-	54,023	54,023
	<u>137,092</u>	<u>170,104</u>	<u>307,196</u>	<u>169,838</u>	<u>156,275</u>	<u>326,113</u>

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

5 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Interest receivable	2,707	195

6 Charitable activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Staff costs	253,861	249,500
Depreciation	1,472	1,840
Recruitment, training and seminars	1,086	2,220
Rent, rates and services	10,310	10,269
Insurance	6,380	4,203
Computer costs	3,733	4,354
Light and heat	4,571	3,120
General expenses	5,796	4,094
Repairs and maintenance	247	928
Stationery, printing and advertising	3,941	4,967
Telephone and postage	6,078	6,147
Travelling expenses	7,051	10,356
Adoption panel expenses	1,552	-
Subscriptions and professional fees	15,695	8,472
Other project costs	4,000	-
	<u>325,773</u>	<u>310,470</u>
Share of support costs (see note 7)	126,554	102,410
Share of governance costs (see note 7)	10,884	8,543
	<u>463,211</u>	<u>421,423</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	135,443	107,718
Restricted funds	327,768	313,705
	<u>463,211</u>	<u>421,423</u>

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

7 Support costs allocated to activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Staff costs	118,800	95,510
Depreciation	111	138
Insurance	1,126	741
Stationery	297	374
Telephone	458	500
Cleaning and hygiene	1,985	1,664
Rent	1,080	1,080
Light and heat	508	345
Travel	421	135
Computer costs	1,245	1,285
Bank charges	523	638
Governance costs	10,884	8,543
	<u>137,438</u>	<u>110,953</u>
Analysed between:		
Charitable activities	<u>137,438</u>	<u>110,953</u>

8 Net movement in funds

	2024	2023
	£	£
The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Fees payable for the audit of the charity's financial statements	4,500	4,500
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	1,583	1,978
	<u>6,083</u>	<u>6,478</u>

9 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charitable company during the year.

10 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

2024	2023
Number	Number
11	11
<u>11</u>	<u>11</u>

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

10 Employees (Continued)

Employment costs	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	329,199	291,518
Social security costs	25,358	31,246
Other pension costs	18,104	22,246
	<u>372,661</u>	<u>345,010</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

11 Other

	Total Unrestricted funds	
	2024	2023
	£	£
Financing costs	-	18
	<u>-</u>	<u>18</u>

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

12 Pensions - TPT Retirement Solutions - The Growth Plan

The company participates in the scheme, a multi-employer scheme which provides benefits to some 638 non-associated participating employers. The scheme is a defined benefit scheme in the UK. It is not possible for the company to obtain sufficient information to enable it to account for the scheme as a defined benefit scheme. Therefore it accounts for the scheme as a defined contribution scheme.

The scheme is subject to the funding legislation outlined in the Pensions Act 2004 which came into force on 30 December 2005. This, together with documents issued by the Pensions Regulator and Technical Actuarial Standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council, set out the framework for funding defined benefit occupational pension schemes in the UK.

The scheme is classified as a 'last-man standing arrangement'. Therefore the company is potentially liable for other participating employers' obligations if those employers are unable to meet their share of the scheme deficit following withdrawal from the scheme. Participating employers are legally required to meet their share of the scheme deficit on an annuity purchase basis on withdrawal from the scheme.

A full actuarial valuation for the scheme was carried out at 30 September 2020. This valuation showed assets of £800.3m, liabilities of £831.9m and a deficit of £31.6m. To eliminate this funding shortfall, the Trustee has asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme as follows:

Deficit contributions

From 1 April 2022 to 31 January 2025:	£3,312,000	per	annum
	(payable monthly)		

Unless a concession has been agreed with the Trustee the term to 31 January 2025 applies.

Note that the scheme's previous valuation was carried out with an effective date of 30 September 2017. This valuation showed assets of £794.9m, liabilities of £926.4m and a deficit of £131.5m. To eliminate this funding shortfall, the Trustee asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme as follows:

Deficit contributions

From 1 April 2019 to 30 September 2025:	£11,243,000	per	annum
	(payable monthly and increasing by 3% each on 1st April)		

The recovery plan contributions are allocated to each participating employer in line with their estimated share of the Series 1 and Series 2 scheme liabilities.

Where the scheme is in deficit and where the company has agreed to a deficit funding arrangement the company recognises a liability for this obligation. The amount recognised is the net present value of the deficit reduction contributions payable under the agreement that relates to the deficit. The present value is calculated using the discount rate detailed in these disclosures. The unwinding of the discount rate is recognised as a finance cost.

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

13 Pensions - TPT Retirement Solutions - The Growth Plan (continued)

	31 March 2024 (£s)	31 March 2023 (£s)	31 March 2022 (£s)
Present value of provision	3,024	6,473	10,154

RECONCILIATION OF OPENING AND CLOSING PROVISIONS

	Period Ending 31 March 2024 (£s)	Period Ending 31 March 2023 (£s)
Provision at start of period	6,473	10,154
Unwinding of the discount factor (interest expense)	248	191
Deficit contribution paid	(3,699)	(3,699)
Remeasurements - impact of any change in assumptions	2	(173)
Remeasurements - amendments to the contribution schedule	-	-
Provision at end of period	3,024	6,473

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE IMPACT

	Period Ending 31 March 2024 (£s)	Period Ending 31 March 2023 (£s)
Interest expense	248	191
Remeasurements – impact of any change in assumptions	2	(173)
Remeasurements – amendments to the contribution schedule	-	-
Contributions paid in respect of future service*	*	*
Costs recognised in income and expenditure account	*	*

*includes defined contribution schemes and future service contributions (i.e. excluding any deficit reduction payments) to defined benefit schemes which are treated as defined contribution schemes. To be completed by the company.

ASSUMPTIONS

	31 March 2024 % per annum	31 March 2023 % per annum	31 March 2022 % per annum
Rate of discount	5.31	5.52	2.35

The discount rates shown above are the equivalent single discount rates which, when used to discount the future recovery plan contributions due, would give the same results as using a full AA corporate bond yield curve to discount the same recovery plan contributions.

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

14 Pensions - TPT Retirement Solutions - The Growth Plan (continued)

The following schedule details the deficit contributions agreed between the company and the scheme at each year end period:

DEFICIT CONTRIBUTIONS SCHEDULE

Year ending	31 March 2024 (£s)	31 March 2023 (£s)	31 March 2022 (£s)
Year 1	3,083	3,699	3,699
Year 2	-	3,083	3,699
Year 3	-	-	3,083
Year 4	-	-	-
Year 5	-	-	-
Year 6	-	-	-
Year 7	-	-	-
Year 8	-	-	-
Year 9	-	-	-
Year 10	-	-	-

The company must recognise a liability measured as the present value of the contributions payable that arise from the deficit recovery agreement and the resulting expense in the income and expenditure account i.e. the unwinding of the discount rate as a finance cost in the period in which it arises.

It is these contributions that have been used to derive the company's balance sheet liability.

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

15 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £
Cost	
At 1 April 2023	139,772
At 31 March 2024	139,772
Depreciation and impairment	
At 1 April 2023	131,859
Depreciation charged in the year	1,583
At 31 March 2024	133,442
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2024	6,330
At 31 March 2023	7,913

16 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	93,593	107,870
Prepayments and accrued income	6,015	6,499
	99,608	114,369

17 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Provision for pension scheme deficit	3,083	3,699
Trade creditors	5,767	3,030
Other creditors	24,292	24,292
Accruals and deferred income	27,111	21,572
	60,253	52,593

18 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Provision for pension scheme deficit		-	2,774
Government grants	19	819	1,024
		819	3,798

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

19 Government grants

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Deferred income is included within:		
Non-current liabilities	819	1,024
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

20 Retirement benefit schemes

	2024	2023
	£	£
Defined contribution schemes		
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	18,104	22,246
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently administered fund.

21 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Diocesan Capital Fund	24,774	-	-	-	24,774
Life Story Project	10,622	114,882	(89,344)	-	36,160
Next Steps Project	91,973	55,222	(55,222)	(91,973)	-
DoH Core Funding	-	66,932	(161,452)	94,520	-
Donations	28,559	29,615	(21,750)	-	36,424
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	155,928	266,651	(327,768)	2,547	97,358
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Previous year:	At 1 April 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Diocesan Capital Fund	24,774	-	-	-	24,774
Life Story Project	1,091	102,252	(98,706)	5,985	10,622
Next Steps Project	91,973	54,023	(54,023)	-	91,973
DoH Core Funding	-	133,865	(150,035)	16,170	-
Donations	-	39,500	(10,941)	-	28,559
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	117,838	329,640	(313,705)	22,155	155,928
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

21 Restricted funds (Continued)

Diocesan Capital Fund - the various diocese have waived a loan which was made to FCAS some years ago on condition that the amount be retained by the charity to be used for its charitable purposes.

Life Story Project - this project assists young people, aged 11 to 22, who are in care, leaving care or have been in care. The project is funded by the Lottery Community Fund.

Next Steps Project - this project provides support to birth families and their relatives whose child has been or is being placed for adoption. The project is funded by the Health & Social Care Board.

DoH Core Funding - the Department of Health has provided funding towards the salaries of three employees.

Donations - The Rank Foundation provided a grant in the current year for salary costs of one employee.

22 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	351,450	189,159	(135,443)	(2,547)	402,619
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Previous year:	At 1 April 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	263,270	218,071	(107,736)	(22,155)	351,450
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

23 Transfers between funds

An amount of £94,520 (2023 - £22,155) was transferred from unrestricted funds to restricted funds as a contribution from general reserves to make good a shortfall in restricted funds received in the year. In addition, an amount of £91,973 was transferred from restricted funds to unrestricted funds as these funds no longer carry a restriction on use.

24 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024	Restricted funds 2024	Total 2024
	£	£	£
At 31 March 2024:			
Tangible assets	6,330	-	6,330
Current assets/(liabilities)	396,289	98,177	494,466
Long term liabilities	-	(819)	(819)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	402,619	97,358	499,977
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

24 Analysis of net assets between funds (Continued)

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
At 31 March 2023:			
Tangible assets	7,913	-	7,913
Current assets/(liabilities)	346,311	156,952	503,263
Long term liabilities	(2,774)	(1,024)	(3,798)
	<u>351,450</u>	<u>155,928</u>	<u>507,378</u>

25 Financial commitments, guarantees and contingent liabilities

A portion of grants received may become repayable if the charity fails to comply with the terms of the relevant letters of offer.

The charity may, in the future, be required to make additional pension contributions in respect of the multi-employer scheme deficit as disclosed in notes 12 to 14.

26 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2023 - none).

27 Cash generated from operations	2024 £	2023 £
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	(7,401)	126,270
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(2,707)	(195)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	1,583	1,978
Movements in working capital:		
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	14,761	(80,213)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	4,886	(24,476)
(Decrease) in deferred income	(205)	(256)
Cash generated from operations	<u>10,917</u>	<u>23,108</u>

28 Analysis of changes in net funds

The charitable company had no material debt during the year.

Annual report

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charitable company's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

The main objectives of Family Care Adoption Services (FCAS) are:

- To provide a comprehensive range of specialist services to anyone affected by adoption;
- To provide these services directly to individuals and on behalf of Health & Social Care Trusts;
- To contribute to the development of adoption service provision throughout Northern Ireland;
- To develop innovative services for children and young people in care or adopted.

The principal activities of FCAS are:-

- To recruit and prepare families in adoption for children offered to the charitable company for adoption placement;
- To provide a comprehensive range of adoption support services in accordance with the provisions of the Adoption (Northern Ireland) Order 1987;
- To provide a range of ancillary support services for adults and children involved in care or adoption proceedings.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland in deciding what activities the charitable company should undertake.

Achievements and performance

The achievements of the charitable company during the year included:-

- The charitable company continued to assess and approve prospective adoptive parents for placements. Most were also dually approved as foster carers to as to be available for those children whose legal proceedings were not complete at the time of placement. Three placements were made in the year with others at various stages of progress at the year end.
- The charitable company continues to work with Adoption Routes and Adopt NI to deliver birth family counselling. This partnership has been in place since 2009, with Adopt NI joining in 2015. The programme was funded by the Health and Social Care board to September 2023 and continues to be funded on a rolling basis.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

Achievements and performance

FCAS provides services to the five Health and Social Care Trusts in relation to providing family placements for children from care in need of adoption. This is a core service for the charity and is key in providing and maintaining financial stability as each placement generates an inter-agency fee. In a time of financial constraint however, the Trusts are increasingly likely to seek placements within their own resources as a first preference, which may present some uncertainty in future periods.

The charity continues to engage with the five Northern Catholic Diocese on an annual basis in relation to their contributions towards service provision to adopted and fostered adults, and to adults historically raised in children's homes which were regarded as operating under the auspices of the Catholic Church. This is an oversubscribed and increasing area of work for which the charity is active in seeking additional funding support, which to date have been unsuccessful. Ongoing service provision is therefore at risk due to the limited and uncertain nature of funding in this area.

The Next Step Project is a service that provides support to birth parents, and other relatives, whose children are going to be placed or have already been placed for adoption. This service continued in the year but is due to be retendered with future funding therefore uncertain.

The charity receives core funding from the Department of Health towards salaried posts within the charity. This core funding is vital for the charity.

The charity's Life Story Project has been funded by the Lottery Community Fund for a five year period beginning in April 2019. This Project works with Young People aged 11-22 who are in Care, have left Care or who have been Adopted, and who have questions about their lives and experiences, in the past and in the present.

Financial review

The charitable company's financial results are set out in detail on pages 12 to 30.

There is an overall deficit on funds this year of £7,401 (2023 - £126,270 surplus). The charitable company has maintained an overall strong financial position, especially in the current funding climate.

The accumulated funds (unrestricted and restricted) now stand at £499,977 (2023 - £507,378). This comprises restricted funds of £97,358 (2023 - £155,928) and unrestricted funds of £402,619 (2023 - £341,450). In the financial period an amount of £94,520 (2023 - £22,155) was transferred from unrestricted funds to restricted funds as a contribution from general reserves to make good a shortfall in restricted funds received in the year. In addition, an amount of £91,973 was transferred from restricted funds to unrestricted funds as these funds no longer carry a restriction on use.

The trustees acknowledges the ongoing support from the Department of Health, the Health and Social Care Board as well as other funders and supporters.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

Structure, governance and management

The charitable company is a company limited by guarantee, governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 20 September 1989.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mrs M Frawley

Ms J Coulter

Mr S Small

Mrs J Crowe

(Retired 19 September 2023)

Mrs P McGrogan

Mr K Murphy

(Appointed 25 October 2023)

Ms J Porter

(Appointed 25 October 2023)

As set out in the Articles of Association, the existing Directors may appoint any person willing to act as a Director. There is no maximum number of Directors, but there is a minimum of two.

The members of the Board of Directors are drawn from a variety of disciplines as it is considered that a varied membership provides the necessary skills, knowledge and experience to exercise good governance of the charitable company.

Directors induction and training

The charitable company has an induction programme for new Directors. This comprises of an information pack containing details of operation aspects of the charitable company, annual reports and audited accounts, an orientation session with Board of Director members and senior staff and observation of Board of Director meeting.

Organisation

The trustees administer the charitable company and appoint a Chief Officer to manage the day to day running of the charity. The Board meets approximately 5 to 6 times per year.

Risk management

The charitable company has produced a risk management schedule as part of a formal process to identify risks to which the charitable company is exposed. This is monitored and steps taken as appropriate in order to mitigate those risks. The main risk the charitable company faces is in relation to the availability of future funding, the directors continuously seek sources of funding for the charitable company.

Reserves policy

Reserves are necessary to bridge the funding gap between remunerating staff and the receipt of the funds generated by the professional services provided by those staff members. Whilst core and Diocesan support some of these costs, the charitable company has to rely on the use of its services by the Health and Social Care trusts and others, if it is to remain viable.

In view of the uncertainty over the extent and timing of the flow of such work, the trustees consider that an ideal level of unrestricted reserves to be between 3 to 4 months of running costs. The current level of reserves is £499,977 of which £402,619 is unrestricted.

Plans for the future

The charitable company will continue to develop specialist adoption and childcare services in partnership with statutory and voluntary bodies. Some of which include:

- Funding for The Life Story Project, which provides services to young people in and from care, is secured until March 2024.
- The charitable company has engaged with the Rank Foundation for the employment of a position until March 2025.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

Auditor

In accordance with the company's articles, a resolution proposing that GMcG Group Limited be reappointed as auditor of the company will be put at a General Meeting.

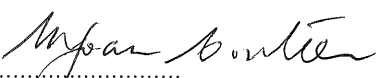
Small companies exemption

In preparing this report, the directors have taken advantage of the small companies exemptions provided by section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

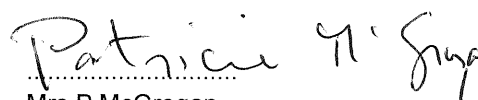
Disclosure of information to auditor

Each of the trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditor is aware of such information.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



.....
Ms J Coulter
Trustee



.....
Mrs P McGrogan
Trustee

Date: 30 Oct 2024

Annual return

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Family Care Adoption Services (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES**

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES**

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees, who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purpose of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES**

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

We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and then design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

In identifying and assessing potential risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliances with laws and regulations, we considered the following:

- The nature of the industry and sector, control environment and business performance, including the company's remuneration policies for directors, bonus levels and performance targets, if any;
- Results of our enquiries of management about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities;
- Any matters we identified having obtained and reviewed the company's documentation of their policies and procedures relating to:
 - Identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instance of non-compliance;
 - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud; and
 - The internal controls established to mitigate risks of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- The matters discussed among the audit engagement team regarding how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and potential indicators of fraud.

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the company for fraud and identified the greatest potential for fraud in revenue. In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override.

We also obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that the company operates in, focusing on provisions of those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The key laws and regulations we considered in this context included the Companies Act 2006, and local tax legislation.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which may be fundamental to the company's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES**

Audit response to risks identified

Our procedures to respond to the risks identified included the following:

- Reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with provisions of relevant laws and regulations described as having a direct effect on the financial statements;
- Enquiring of management concerning actual and potential litigation and claims;
- Performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud;
- Reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance and reviewing correspondence with tax authorities; and
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, testing the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; assessing whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

We also communicated relevant identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all engagement team members and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. In addition, as with any audit, there remains a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as they may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES**

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with section 391 of the Companies Act 2014. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



**Ms Gillian Johnston ACA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of GMcG Group Limited**

5 November 2024

**Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor**

17 Mandeville Street
Portadown
Craigavon
Co Armagh
BT62 3PB

Accounts

Charity registration number NIC103068

Company registration number NI023076 (Northern Ireland)

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
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Balance sheet	12
Statement of cash flows	13
Notes to the financial statements	14 - 28

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mrs M Frawley Ms J Coulter Mr S Small Mrs J Crowe Mrs P McGrogan
Charity registration number	NIC103068
Company number	NI023076
Registered office	97 Malone Avenue Belfast BT9 6EQ
Auditor	GMcG Group Limited 17 Mandeville Street Portadown Craigavon Co Armagh BT62 3PB
Bankers	AIB 35 University Road Belfast BT7 1ND Ulster Bank Limited Danesfort Stranmillis Road Belfast BT9 5UB
Solicitors	Rosemary Connolly 2 The Square Warrenpoint Co Down BT34 3JT

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charitable company's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

The main objectives of Family Care Adoption Services (FCAS) are:

- To provide a comprehensive range of specialist services to anyone affected by adoption;
- To provide these services directly to individuals and on behalf of Health & Social Care Trusts;
- To contribute to the development of adoption service provision throughout Northern Ireland;
- To develop innovative services for children and young people in care or adopted.

The principal activities of FCAS are:-

- To recruit and prepare families in adoption for children offered to the charitable company for adoption placement;
- To provide a comprehensive range of adoption support services in accordance with the provisions of the Adoption (Northern Ireland) Order 1987;
- To provide a range of ancillary support services for adults and children involved in care or adoption proceedings.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland in deciding what activities the charitable company should undertake.

Achievements and performance

The achievements of the charitable company during the year included:-

- Projected targets for post adoption and support services and updated projections were met for the year, with adoption placement numbers increasing on the prior year.
- The charitable company continued to assess and approve prospective adoptive parents for placements. Most were also dually approved as foster carers to as to be available for those children whose legal proceedings were not complete at the time of placement.
- The charitable company continues to work with Adoption Routes and Adopt NI to deliver birth family counselling. This partnership has been in place since 2009, with Adopt NI joining in 2015. The programme was funded by the Health and Social Care board to September 2023 and continues to be funded on a rolling basis.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

Achievements and performance

FCAS provides services to the five Health and Social Care Trusts in relation to providing family placements for children from care in need of adoption. This is a core service for the charity and is key in providing and maintaining financial stability as each placement generates an inter-agency fee. In a time of financial constraint however, the Trusts are increasingly likely to seek placements within their own resources as a first preference, which may present some uncertainty in future periods.

The charity continues to engage with the five Northern Catholic Diocese on an annual basis in relation to their contributions towards service provision to adopted and fostered adults, and to adults historically raised in children's homes which were regarded as operating under the auspices of the Catholic Church. This is an oversubscribed and increasing area of work for which the charity is active in seeking additional funding support, which to date have been unsuccessful. Ongoing service provision is therefore at risk due to the limited and uncertain nature of funding in this area.

The Next Step Project is a service that provides support to birth parents, and other relatives, whose children are going to be placed or have already been placed for adoption. This service continued in the year but is due to be retendered with future funding therefore uncertain.

The charity receives core funding from the Department of Health towards salaried posts within the charity. This core funding is vital for the charity.

The charity's Life Story Project has been funded by the Lottery Community Fund for a five year period beginning in April 2019. This Project works with Young People aged 11-22 who are in Care, have left Care or who have been Adopted, and who have questions about their lives and experiences, in the past and in the present.

Financial review

The charitable company's financial results are set out in detail on pages 11 to 28.

There is an overall surplus on funds this year of £126,270 (2022 - £19,547). The charitable company has maintained an overall strong financial position.

The accumulated funds (unrestricted and restricted) now stand at £507,378 (2022 - £381,108). This comprises restricted funds of £155,928 (2022 - £117,838) and unrestricted funds of £341,450 (2022 - £263,270).

The trustees acknowledges the ongoing support from the Department of Health, the Health and Social Care Board as well as other funders and supporters.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

Structure, governance and management

The charitable company is a company limited by guarantee, governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 20 September 1989.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mrs M Frawley
Ms J Coulter
Mr S Small
Mrs J Crowe
Mrs P McGrogan

As set out in the Articles of Association, the existing Directors may appoint any person willing to act as a Director. There is no maximum number of Directors, but there is a minimum of two.

The members of the Board of Directors are drawn from a variety of disciplines as it is considered that a varied membership provides the necessary skills, knowledge and experience to exercise good governance of the charitable company.

Directors induction and training

The charitable company has an induction programme for new Directors. This comprises of an information pack containing details of operation aspects of the charitable company, annual reports and audited accounts, an orientation session with Board of Director members and senior staff and observation of Board of Director meeting.

Organisation

The trustees administer the charitable company and appoint a Chief Officer to manage the day to day running of the charity. The Board meets approximately 5 to 6 times per year.

Risk management

The charitable company has produced a risk management schedule as part of a formal process to identify risks to which the charitable company is exposed. This is monitored and steps taken as appropriate in order to mitigate those risks. The main risk the charitable company faces is in relation to the availability of future funding, the directors continuously seek sources of funding for the charitable company.

Reserves policy

Reserves are necessary to bridge the funding gap between remunerating staff and the receipt of the funds generated by the professional services provided by those staff members. Whilst core and Diocesan support some of these costs, the charitable company has to rely on the use of its services by the Health and Social Care trusts and others, if it is to remain viable.

In view of the uncertainty over the extent and timing of the flow of such work, the trustees consider that an ideal level of unrestricted reserves to be between 3 to 4 months of running costs. The current level of reserves is £507,378 of which £351,450 is unrestricted.

Plans for the future

The charitable company will continue to develop specialist adoption and childcare services in partnership with statutory and voluntary bodies. Some of which include:

- Funding for The Life Story Project, which provides services to young people in and from care, is secured until March 2024.
- The charitable company has engaged with the Rank Foundation for the employment of a position until March 2025.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees, who are also the directors of Family Care Adoption Services for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that 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.

Small companies exemption

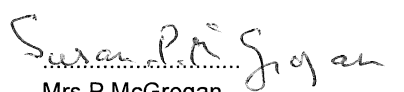
In preparing this report, the directors have taken advantage of the small companies exemptions provided by section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

Disclosure of information to auditor

Each of the trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditor is aware of such information.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.


.....
Ms J Coulter
Trustee


.....
Mrs P McGrogan
Trustee

Date: 19/9/23

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Family Care Adoption Services (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

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

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES**

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES**

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees, who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purpose of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

- 7 -

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17 Mandeville Street
PORTADOWN
Craigavon
BT62 3PB

Tel: +44 (0)28 3833 2801
Fax: +44 (0)28 3835 0293



**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES**

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

We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and then design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

In identifying and assessing potential risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliances with laws and regulations, we considered the following:

- . The nature of the industry and sector, control environment and business performance, including the company's remuneration policies for directors, bonus levels and performance targets, if any;
- . Results of our enquiries of management about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities;
- . Any matters we identified having obtained and reviewed the company's documentation of their policies and procedures relating to:
 - Identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instance of non-compliance;
 - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud; and
 - The internal controls established to mitigate risks of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- . The matters discussed among the audit engagement team regarding how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and potential indicators of fraud.

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the company for fraud and identified the greatest potential for fraud in revenue. In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override.

We also obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that the company operates in, focusing on provisions of those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The key laws and regulations we considered in this context included the Companies Act 2006, and local tax legislation.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which may be fundamental to the company's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES**

Audit response to risks identified

Our procedures to respond to the risks identified included the following:

- Reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with provisions of relevant laws and regulations described as having a direct effect on the financial statements;
- Enquiring of management concerning actual and potential litigation and claims;
- Performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud;
- Reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance and reviewing correspondence with tax authorities; and
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, testing the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; assessing whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

We also communicated relevant identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all engagement team members and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. In addition, as with any audit, there remains a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as they may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES**

Use of our report

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



**Ms Gillian Johnston ACA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of GMcG Group Limited**

21 December 2023

**Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor**

17 Mandeville Street
Portadown
Craigavon
Co Armagh
BT62 3PB

- 10 -

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**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

		Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
	Notes						
<u>Income from:</u>							
Donations and legacies	3	48,038	173,365	221,403	239,306	-	239,306
Charitable activities	4	169,838	156,275	326,113	85,079	153,838	238,917
Investments	5	195	-	195	15	-	15
Total income		<u>218,071</u>	<u>329,640</u>	<u>547,711</u>	<u>324,400</u>	<u>153,838</u>	<u>478,238</u>
<u>Expenditure on:</u>							
Charitable activities	6	107,718	313,705	421,423	308,926	149,765	458,691
Other	11	18	-	18	-	-	-
Total expenditure		<u>107,736</u>	<u>313,705</u>	<u>421,441</u>	<u>308,926</u>	<u>149,765</u>	<u>458,691</u>
Net incoming resources before transfers		110,335	15,935	126,270	15,474	4,073	19,547
Gross transfers between funds		(22,155)	22,155	-	-	-	-
Net income for the year/ Net movement in funds		88,180	38,090	126,270	15,474	4,073	19,547
Fund balances at 1 April 2022		263,270	117,838	381,108	247,796	113,765	361,561
Fund balances at 31 March 2023		<u>351,450</u>	<u>155,928</u>	<u>507,378</u>	<u>263,270</u>	<u>117,838</u>	<u>381,108</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

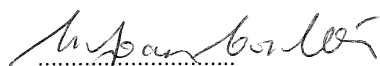
The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

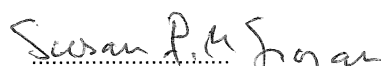
**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2023**

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	15		7,913		9,891
Current assets					
Debtors	16	114,369		34,156	
Cash at bank and in hand		441,487		418,184	
		555,856		452,340	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(52,593)		(73,388)	
Net current assets			503,263		378,952
Total assets less current liabilities			511,176		388,843
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	18		(3,798)		(7,735)
Net assets			507,378		381,108
Income funds					
Restricted funds	20	155,928		117,838	
Unrestricted funds		351,450		263,270	
		507,378		381,108	

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

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 19/9/23


Ms J Coulter
Trustee


Mrs P McGrogan
Trustee

Company registration number NI023076

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

		2023		2022	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	24		23,108		(1,427)
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-		(2,801)	
Investment income received		195		15	
Net cash generated from/(used in) investing activities			195		(2,786)
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents			23,303		(4,213)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			418,184		422,397
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			<u>441,487</u>		<u>418,184</u>

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Family Care Adoption Services is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in Northern Ireland. The registered office is 97 Malone Avenue, Belfast, BT9 6EQ.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charitable company's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charitable company is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charitable company has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

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

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

1.2 Going concern

As with most organisations operating in the third sector in Northern Ireland, FCAS faces some uncertainty in relation to future funding levels, particularly in respect of the charity's funding from the public sector. FCAS has built up a level of reserves in prior years that will enable the charity to continue with its current service provision in the immediate future. Therefore, at the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charitable company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charitable company is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charitable company has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charitable company has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment	20% Reducing balance
----------------------------------	----------------------

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charitable company reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.9 Financial instruments

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

Financial instruments are recognised in the charitable company's balance sheet when the charitable company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charitable company's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.10 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charitable company is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.11 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

The charity employs one employee for whom contributions are made to a multi-employer defined benefit scheme. The operators of the scheme have identified a potential deficit and have notified an annual additional contribution to be made under the terms of a 10 year recovery plan.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

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

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

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements (Continued)

Key sources of estimation uncertainty

Fixed assets

The annual depreciation charge on fixed assets depends primarily on the estimated lives of each type of asset and estimates of residual values. The directors regularly review these asset lives and change them as necessary to reflect current thinking on remaining lives in light of prospective economic utilisation and physical condition of the assets concerned. Changes in asset lives can have a significant impact on depreciation and amortisation charges for the period. Detail of the useful lives is included in the accounting policies.

Debtors

Short term debtors are measured at transaction price, less any impairment. Impairment of short term debtors involves some estimation uncertainty.

Pensions

The charitable company is a member of a multi-employer defined benefit pension scheme. Pension obligations have been provided in accordance with agreed upon contributions to the scheme and disclosures have been made in accordance with the requirements of FRS 102. Estimates and assumptions have been used in calculating the present value of future contributions recognised in the financial statements and in the scheme information disclosed at notes 12 to 14. The charitable company used external pension advisors to support the estimates and assumptions made.

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total Unrestricted funds	
	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Grants and donations	48,038	173,365	221,403	187,205
Government and National Lottery grants	-	-	-	52,101
	<u>48,038</u>	<u>173,365</u>	<u>221,403</u>	<u>239,306</u>
Donations and gifts				
Department of Health Core Funding	-	133,865	133,865	129,822
Diocesan Contributions	45,168	-	45,168	47,950
Rank Foundation	-	34,000	34,000	-
Halifax Foundation	-	5,500	5,500	-
Other	2,870	-	2,870	9,433
	<u>48,038</u>	<u>173,365</u>	<u>221,403</u>	<u>187,205</u>

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

4 Charitable activities

	2023	2022
	£	£
Assessments, Child Placements and Post Adoption Support	158,755	61,924
Other Adoption Support Services	11,083	23,155
Life Story Project	102,252	99,215
Next Steps Project	54,023	54,623
	<u>326,113</u>	<u>238,917</u>
	<u>326,113</u>	<u>238,917</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	169,838	85,079
Restricted funds	156,275	153,838
	<u>326,113</u>	<u>238,917</u>
	<u>326,113</u>	<u>238,917</u>

5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2023	2022
	£	£
Interest receivable	195	15
	<u>195</u>	<u>15</u>

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

6 Charitable activities

	2023	2022
	£	£
Staff costs	249,500	330,939
Depreciation	1,840	2,300
Redundancy payment	-	11,303
Recruitment, training and seminars	2,220	865
Rent, rates and services	10,269	14,024
Cleaning and hygiene	-	1,585
Insurance	4,203	6,154
Computer costs	4,354	4,600
Light and heat	3,120	2,849
General expenses	4,094	2,247
Repairs and maintenance	928	735
Stationery, printing and advertising	4,967	3,250
Telephone and postage	6,147	9,038
Travelling expenses	10,356	10,959
Adoption panel expenses	-	626
Audit and accountancy	-	3,880
Bank charges and interest	-	728
Subscriptions and professional fees	8,472	9,078
	<u>310,470</u>	<u>415,160</u>
Share of support costs (see note 7)	102,410	38,531
Share of governance costs (see note 7)	8,543	5,000
	<u>421,423</u>	<u>458,691</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	107,718	308,926
Restricted funds	313,705	149,765
	<u>421,423</u>	<u>458,691</u>

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

7 Support costs

	Support costs	Governance costs	2023	Support costs	Governance costs	2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	95,510	-	95,510	32,882	-	32,882
Depreciation	138	-	138	173	-	173
Insurance	741	-	741	-	-	-
Stationery	374	-	374	245	-	245
Telephone	500	-	500	680	-	680
Cleaning and hygiene	1,664	-	1,664	1,086	-	1,086
Rent	1,080	-	1,080	1,480	-	1,480
Light and heat	345	-	345	317	-	317
Travel	135	-	135	135	-	135
Computer costs	1,285	-	1,285	1,533	-	1,533
Bank charges	638	-	638	-	-	-
Audit and accountancy	-	7,880	7,880	-	5,000	5,000
Board meetings and AGM	-	663	663	-	-	-
	<u>102,410</u>	<u>8,543</u>	<u>110,953</u>	<u>38,531</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>43,531</u>
Analysed between						
Charitable activities	<u>102,410</u>	<u>8,543</u>	<u>110,953</u>	<u>38,531</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>43,531</u>

8 Auditor's remuneration

Fees payable to the charitable company's auditor and associates:	2023	2022
	£	£
Audit of the charitable company's annual accounts	<u>4,500</u>	<u>5,000</u>

9 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charitable company during the year.

10 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

2023	2022
Number	Number
<u>11</u>	<u>13</u>

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

10 Employees (Continued)

Employment costs	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	291,518	307,614
Social security costs	31,246	28,900
Other pension costs	22,246	27,307
	<u>345,010</u>	<u>363,821</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

11 Other

	Unrestricted funds	Total
	2023	2022
	£	£
Financing costs	18	-
	<u>18</u>	<u>-</u>

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

12 Pensions - TPT Retirement Solutions - The Growth Plan

The company participates in the scheme, a multi-employer scheme which provides benefits to some 638 non-associated participating employers. The scheme is a defined benefit scheme in the UK. It is not possible for the company to obtain sufficient information to enable it to account for the scheme as a defined benefit scheme. Therefore it accounts for the scheme as a defined contribution scheme.

The scheme is subject to the funding legislation outlined in the Pensions Act 2004 which came into force on 30 December 2005. This, together with documents issued by the Pensions Regulator and Technical Actuarial Standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council, set out the framework for funding defined benefit occupational pension schemes in the UK.

The scheme is classified as a 'last-man standing arrangement'. Therefore the company is potentially liable for other participating employers' obligations if those employers are unable to meet their share of the scheme deficit following withdrawal from the scheme. Participating employers are legally required to meet their share of the scheme deficit on an annuity purchase basis on withdrawal from the scheme.

A full actuarial valuation for the scheme was carried out at 30 September 2020. This valuation showed assets of £800.3m, liabilities of £831.9m and a deficit of £31.6m. To eliminate this funding shortfall, the Trustee has asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme as follows:

Deficit contributions

From 1 April 2022 to 31 January 2025:	£3,312,000	per	annum
	(payable monthly)		

Unless a concession has been agreed with the Trustee the term to 31 January 2025 applies.

Note that the scheme's previous valuation was carried out with an effective date of 30 September 2017. This valuation showed assets of £794.9m, liabilities of £926.4m and a deficit of £131.5m. To eliminate this funding shortfall, the Trustee asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme as follows:

Deficit contributions

From 1 April 2019 to 30 September 2025:	£11,243,000	per	annum
	(payable monthly and increasing by 3% each on 1st April)		

The recovery plan contributions are allocated to each participating employer in line with their estimated share of the Series 1 and Series 2 scheme liabilities.

Where the scheme is in deficit and where the company has agreed to a deficit funding arrangement the company recognises a liability for this obligation. The amount recognised is the net present value of the deficit reduction contributions payable under the agreement that relates to the deficit. The present value is calculated using the discount rate detailed in these disclosures. The unwinding of the discount rate is recognised as a finance cost.

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

13 Pensions - TPT Retirement Solutions - The Growth Plan (continued)

	31 March 2023 (£s)	31 March 2022 (£s)	31 March 2021 (£s)
Present value of provision	6,473	10,154	40,187

RECONCILIATION OF OPENING AND CLOSING PROVISIONS

	Period Ending 31 March 2023 (£s)	Period Ending 31 March 2022 (£s)
Provision at start of period	10,154	40,187
Unwinding of the discount factor (interest expense)	191	232
Deficit contribution paid	(3,699)	(10,170)
Remeasurements - impact of any change in assumptions	(173)	(233)
Remeasurements - amendments to the-contribution schedule		(19,862)
Provision at end of period	6,473	10,154

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE IMPACT

	Period Ending 31 March 2023 (£s)	Period Ending 31 March 2022 (£s)
Interest expense	191	232
Remeasurements – impact of any change in assumptions	(173)	(233)
Remeasurements – amendments to the-contribution schedule		(19,862)
Contributions paid in respect of future service*		*
Costs recognised in income and expenditure account		*

*includes defined contribution schemes and future service contributions (i.e. excluding any deficit reduction payments) to defined benefit schemes which are treated as defined contribution schemes. To be completed by the company.

ASSUMPTIONS

	31 March 2023 % per annum	31 March 2022 % per annum	31 March 2021 % per annum
Rate of discount	5.52	2.35	0.66

The discount rates shown above are the equivalent single discount rates which, when used to discount the future recovery plan contributions due, would give the same results as using a full AA corporate bond yield curve to discount the same recovery plan contributions.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

14 Pensions - TPT Retirement Solutions - The Growth Plan (continued)

The following schedule details the deficit contributions agreed between the company and the scheme at each year end period:

DEFICIT CONTRIBUTIONS SCHEDULE

Year ending	31 March 2023 (£s)	31 March 2022 (£s)	31 March 2021 (£s)
Year 1	3,699	3,699	10,170
Year 2	3,083	3,699	10,475
Year 3	-	3,083	10,789
Year 4	-	-	9,261
Year 5	-	-	-
Year 6	-	-	-
Year 7	-	-	-
Year 8	-	-	-
Year 9	-	-	-
Year 10	-	-	-

The company must recognise a liability measured as the present value of the contributions payable that arise from the deficit recovery agreement and the resulting expense in the income and expenditure account i.e. the unwinding of the discount rate as a finance cost in the period in which it arises.

It is these contributions that have been used to derive the company's balance sheet liability.

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

15 Tangible fixed assets

Fixtures, fittings and equipment
£

Cost

At 1 April 2022 139,772

At 31 March 2023 139,772

Depreciation and impairment

At 1 April 2022 129,881

Depreciation charged in the year 1,978

At 31 March 2023 131,859

Carrying amount

At 31 March 2023 7,913

At 31 March 2022 9,891

16 Debtors

2023 **2022**

Amounts falling due within one year: **£** **£**

Trade debtors 107,870 29,384

Prepayments and accrued income 6,499 4,772

114,369 34,156

17 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

2023 **2022**

£ **£**

Provision for pension scheme deficit 3,699 3,699

Trade creditors 3,030 185

Other creditors 24,292 35,125

Accruals and deferred income 21,572 34,379

52,593 73,388

18 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

2023 **2022**

£ **£**

Provision for pension scheme deficit 2,774 6,455

Government grants 1,024 1,280

3,798 7,735

Notes

19

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

19 Government grants

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Deferred income is included within:		
Non-current liabilities	1,024	1,280
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

20 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds			Movement in funds				
	Balance at 1 April 2021	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Balance at 1 April 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Diocesan Capital Fund	24,774	-	-	24,774	-	-	-	24,774
Life Story Project	88,991	54,623	(51,641)	1,091	102,252	(98,706)	5,985	10,622
Next Steps Project	-	99,215	(98,124)	91,973	54,023	(54,023)	-	91,973
DoH Core Funding	-	-	-	-	133,865	(150,035)	16,170	-
Donations	-	-	-	-	39,500	(10,941)	-	28,559
	<u>113,765</u>	<u>153,838</u>	<u>(149,765)</u>	<u>117,838</u>	<u>329,640</u>	<u>(313,705)</u>	<u>22,155</u>	<u>155,928</u>

Diocesan Capital Fund - the various diocese have waived a loan which was made to FCAS some years ago on condition that the amount be retained by the charity to be used for its charitable purposes.

Life Story Project - this project assists young people, aged 11 to 22, who are in care, leaving care or have been in care. The project is funded by the Lottery Community Fund.

Next Steps Project - this project provides support to birth families and their relatives whose child has been or is being placed for adoption. The project is funded by the Health & Social Care Board.

DoH Core Funding - the Department of Health has provided funding for the salaries of three employees.

Donations - The Rank Foundation provided a grant in the current year for salary costs of one employee. the Halifax Foundation provided funding towards rent expenses.

FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

21 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Fund balances at 31 March 2023 are represented by:						
Tangible assets	7,913	-	7,913	9,891	-	9,891
Current assets/(liabilities)	346,311	156,952	503,263	259,834	119,118	378,952
Long term liabilities	(2,774)	(1,024)	(3,798)	(6,455)	(1,280)	(7,735)
	<u>351,450</u>	<u>155,928</u>	<u>507,378</u>	<u>263,270</u>	<u>117,838</u>	<u>381,108</u>

22 Financial commitments, guarantees and contingent liabilities

A portion of grants received may become repayable if the charity fails to comply with the terms of the relevant letters of offer.

The charity may, in the future, be required to make additional pension contributions in respect of the multi-employer scheme deficit as disclosed in notes 12 to 14.

23 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2022 - none).

24 Cash generated from operations

	2023 £	2022 £
Surplus for the year	126,270	19,547
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(195)	(15)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	1,978	2,473
Movements in working capital:		
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(80,213)	4,440
(Decrease) in creditors	(24,476)	(27,552)
(Decrease) in deferred income	(256)	(320)
Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	<u>23,108</u>	<u>(1,427)</u>

25 Analysis of changes in net funds

The charitable company had no debt during the year.

Annual report

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charitable company's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

The main objectives of Family Care Adoption Services (FCAS) are:

- To provide a comprehensive range of specialist services to anyone affected by adoption;
- To provide these services directly to individuals and on behalf of Health & Social Care Trusts;
- To contribute to the development of adoption service provision throughout Northern Ireland;
- To develop innovative services for children and young people in care or adopted.

The principal activities of FCAS are:-

- To recruit and prepare families in adoption for children offered to the charitable company for adoption placement;
- To provide a comprehensive range of adoption support services in accordance with the provisions of the Adoption (Northern Ireland) Order 1987;
- To provide a range of ancillary support services for adults and children involved in care or adoption proceedings.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland in deciding what activities the charitable company should undertake.

Achievements and performance

The achievements of the charitable company during the year included:-

- Projected targets for post adoption and support services and updated projections were met for the year, with adoption placement numbers increasing on the prior year.
- The charitable company continued to assess and approve prospective adoptive parents for placements. Most were also dually approved as foster carers to as to be available for those children whose legal proceedings were not complete at the time of placement.
- The charitable company continues to work with Adoption Routes and Adopt NI to deliver birth family counselling. This partnership has been in place since 2009, with Adopt NI joining in 2015. The programme was funded by the Health and Social Care board to September 2023 and continues to be funded on a rolling basis.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

Achievements and performance

FCAS provides services to the five Health and Social Care Trusts in relation to providing family placements for children from care in need of adoption. This is a core service for the charity and is key in providing and maintaining financial stability as each placement generates an inter-agency fee. In a time of financial constraint however, the Trusts are increasingly likely to seek placements within their own resources as a first preference, which may present some uncertainty in future periods.

The charity continues to engage with the five Northern Catholic Diocese on an annual basis in relation to their contributions towards service provision to adopted and fostered adults, and to adults historically raised in children's homes which were regarded as operating under the auspices of the Catholic Church. This is an oversubscribed and increasing area of work for which the charity is active in seeking additional funding support, which to date have been unsuccessful. Ongoing service provision is therefore at risk due to the limited and uncertain nature of funding in this area.

The Next Step Project is a service that provides support to birth parents, and other relatives, whose children are going to be placed or have already been placed for adoption. This service continued in the year but is due to be retendered with future funding therefore uncertain.

The charity receives core funding from the Department of Health towards salaried posts within the charity. This core funding is vital for the charity.

The charity's Life Story Project has been funded by the Lottery Community Fund for a five year period beginning in April 2019. This Project works with Young People aged 11-22 who are in Care, have left Care or who have been Adopted, and who have questions about their lives and experiences, in the past and in the present.

Financial review

The charitable company's financial results are set out in detail on pages 11 to 28.

There is an overall surplus on funds this year of £126,270 (2022 - £19,547). The charitable company has maintained an overall strong financial position.

The accumulated funds (unrestricted and restricted) now stand at £507,378 (2022 - £381,108). This comprises restricted funds of £155,928 (2022 - £117,838) and unrestricted funds of £341,450 (2022 - £263,270).

The trustees acknowledges the ongoing support from the Department of Health, the Health and Social Care Board as well as other funders and supporters.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

Structure, governance and management

The charitable company is a company limited by guarantee, governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 20 September 1989.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mrs M Frawley
Ms J Coulter
Mr S Small
Mrs J Crowe
Mrs P McGrogan

As set out in the Articles of Association, the existing Directors may appoint any person willing to act as a Director. There is no maximum number of Directors, but there is a minimum of two.

The members of the Board of Directors are drawn from a variety of disciplines as it is considered that a varied membership provides the necessary skills, knowledge and experience to exercise good governance of the charitable company.

Directors induction and training

The charitable company has an induction programme for new Directors. This comprises of an information pack containing details of operation aspects of the charitable company, annual reports and audited accounts, an orientation session with Board of Director members and senior staff and observation of Board of Director meeting.

Organisation

The trustees administer the charitable company and appoint a Chief Officer to manage the day to day running of the charity. The Board meets approximately 5 to 6 times per year.

Risk management

The charitable company has produced a risk management schedule as part of a formal process to identify risks to which the charitable company is exposed. This is monitored and steps taken as appropriate in order to mitigate those risks. The main risk the charitable company faces is in relation to the availability of future funding, the directors continuously seek sources of funding for the charitable company.

Reserves policy

Reserves are necessary to bridge the funding gap between remunerating staff and the receipt of the funds generated by the professional services provided by those staff members. Whilst core and Diocesan support some of these costs, the charitable company has to rely on the use of its services by the Health and Social Care trusts and others, if it is to remain viable.

In view of the uncertainty over the extent and timing of the flow of such work, the trustees consider that an ideal level of unrestricted reserves to be between 3 to 4 months of running costs. The current level of reserves is £507,378 of which £351,450 is unrestricted.

Plans for the future

The charitable company will continue to develop specialist adoption and childcare services in partnership with statutory and voluntary bodies. Some of which include:

- Funding for The Life Story Project, which provides services to young people in and from care, is secured until March 2024.
- The charitable company has engaged with the Rank Foundation for the employment of a position until March 2025.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees, who are also the directors of Family Care Adoption Services for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that 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.

Small companies exemption

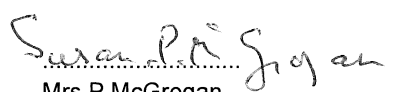
In preparing this report, the directors have taken advantage of the small companies exemptions provided by section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

Disclosure of information to auditor

Each of the trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditor is aware of such information.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.


.....
Ms J Coulter
Trustee


.....
Mrs P McGrogan
Trustee

Date: 19/9/23

Annual return

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Family Care Adoption Services (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

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

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES**

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES**

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees, who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purpose of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

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**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES**

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

We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and then design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

In identifying and assessing potential risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliances with laws and regulations, we considered the following:

- . The nature of the industry and sector, control environment and business performance, including the company's remuneration policies for directors, bonus levels and performance targets, if any;
- . Results of our enquiries of management about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities;
- . Any matters we identified having obtained and reviewed the company's documentation of their policies and procedures relating to:
 - Identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instance of non-compliance;
 - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud; and
 - The internal controls established to mitigate risks of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- . The matters discussed among the audit engagement team regarding how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and potential indicators of fraud.

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the company for fraud and identified the greatest potential for fraud in revenue. In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override.

We also obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that the company operates in, focusing on provisions of those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The key laws and regulations we considered in this context included the Companies Act 2006, and local tax legislation.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which may be fundamental to the company's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES**

Audit response to risks identified

Our procedures to respond to the risks identified included the following:

- Reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with provisions of relevant laws and regulations described as having a direct effect on the financial statements;
- Enquiring of management concerning actual and potential litigation and claims;
- Performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud;
- Reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance and reviewing correspondence with tax authorities; and
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, testing the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; assessing whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

We also communicated relevant identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all engagement team members and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. In addition, as with any audit, there remains a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as they may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES**

Use of our report

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



**Ms Gillian Johnston ACA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of GMcG Group Limited**

21 December 2023

**Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor**

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