

Ladybirds Children's Services

Northern Ireland · Charity number 108165

Details

Status Received

Registered 2021-09-20

Register [View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register](#)

Contact

Address Unit 65 Enterprise House
2-4 Balloo Avenue
Bangor
BT19 7qt
BT19 7QT

Email hello@ladybirdschildcare.com

Website www.ladybirdschildcare.com

Activities

Purposes: The Charity's objects ("Objects") are to enhance the development and education of children and young people regardless of means, ability, gender, culture and race by:- (1) Providing high quality daycare and childcare in a safe and nurturing environment and to encourage and develop their abilities and confidence by organising activities that will enhance their health and wellbeing and their social and intellectual development. (2) Providing facilities and recreational and educational activities for the care and development of children and young people during out-of-school hours and school holidays. (3) Increasing parental recognition of the needs of children and young people and the value of a structured childcare provision and encouraging them to become involved in the activities of the Charity. (4) Advance education, relieve poverty and promote good health by the provision of advice and support to parents/guardians and offer training programmes aimed at developing good parenting. (5) Contributing to the professional development of those working in daycare and childcare.

What the charity does: The advancement of education

How the charity works: Education/training, Playgroup/after schools, Relief of poverty

Who the charity helps: Adult training, Children (5-13 year olds), Parents, Preschool (0-5 year olds)

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£177,007	£141,134	£0	12

Trustees

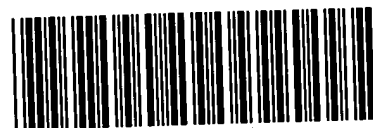
Name	Role	Appointed
Mrs Alison Blayney		
Mrs Ashley Clarke		
Ms Karin Gilkinson		
Ms Nicole Weir		
Ms Shona Lynn Kelly		

Accounts

Company registration number: NI670029
Charity registration number: NIIC108165

**LADYBIRDS CHILDREN'S SERVICES
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

SATURDAY



AEHTRB19

A19

20/12/2025

#181

COMPANIES HOUSE

Ladybirds Children's Services Contents

	Page
Reference and Administrative Details	1
Trustees' Report	2—5
Independent Examiner's Report	6
Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)	7
Comparative Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)	8
Balance Sheet	9
Notes to the Financial Statements	10—15

**Ladybirds Children's Services
Reference and Administrative Details
For The Year Ended 31 March 2025**

Trustees	Shona Kelly Karin Gilkinson Alison Blayney (appointed 09/10/2024) Ashley Clarke (appointed 09/10/2024) Nicole Weir
Charity Number	NIIC108165
Company Number	NI670029
Registered Office	357 Old Belfast Road Bangor BT19 1RB
Independent Examiner	Brian Stewart FCA Independent Examiners RBCA Limited Linenhall Exchange 26 Linenhall Street Belfast BT2 8BG

Ladybirds Children's Services
Company No. NI670029
Trustees' Report For The Year Ended 31 March 2025

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

Objectives and Activities

Aims and Objectives

The objectives of LADYBIRDS are to promote any charitable purpose for the benefit of women, children and family's resident in the Ards North Down region to improve the conditions of their lives.
In particular to:

1. Providing high quality daycare and childcare and parenting in a safe and nurturing environment and to encourage and develop their abilities and confidence by organising activities that will enhance their health and wellbeing and their social and intellectual development.
2. Providing facilities and recreational and educational activities for the care and development of children and young people during out-of-school hours and school holidays.
3. Increasing parental recognition of the needs of children and young people and the value of a structured childcare provision and encouraging them to become involved in the activities of the Charity.
4. Advance education, relieve poverty and promote good health by the provision of advice and support to parents/guardians and offer training programmes aimed at developing good parenting.
5. Contributing to the professional development of those working in daycare and childcare.

Public Benefits Statement & Declaration

The public benefit for Ladybird Children's Services are for the purposes of benefiting children, parents/guardians and families resident in the Ards North Down area are:-

- Enhance the development and education of children and young people - Enhance social and intellectual development of the children and young people taking part in the day and childcare activities
- Improve health, confidence and capabilities of parents/guardians who take up offered training and support
- Provide facilities and recreational and educational activity for children and young people during out of hours and school holidays - Encouraging parents and guardians to become involved in the activity of the charity
- Developing the skills and ability of the staff
- Provide advice and support to parents and guardians and offer training aimed at providing good parenting

No harm arises from these purposes. Incidental benefit may arise from transferable skills training offered to Board members to fulfil their duties.

LADYBIRDS has been providing onsite childcare, playgroup, mums and tots groups, parenting programmes and early intervention initiatives for 27 years, formerly operating as a community association, to ensure caring responsibilities are not a barrier to engagement on programmes for women. It has now registered as full time daycare with South Eastern Healthcare Trust, to widen participation and improve the programmes and services provided to the children. Care is provided for children who attend programmes of support and for supporting women who are returning to the workplace and who chose to support a social economy childcare setting.

Provision is split into relevant age categories and rooms - Babies aged 0-2 years, Wobblers aged 2-3, pre-pre-school aged 3-4 and pre-school aged 3-4. Plans are in place to expand to offer afterschool service and to look for a second venue to extend the places available to parents due to the current waiting list. Ladybirds Childcare unit works closely with Early Years organisation to ensure a quality accessible service in Kilcooley and Ards North Down, for the community sector.

LADYBIRDS provides a community resource for children, and advances early years and play development through the delivery of childcare programmes, parenting courses and initiatives, mentoring and guidance. It aims to ensure all children reach their developmental milestones and full potential through fostering a nurture based play programme, delivering evidence based programmes such as Media Initiative and Incredible Years which supports diversity and positive parenting training for the Early Years sector.

1. Provide a welcoming space to deliver positive play development to enable all children to meet their developmental milestones and meet their full potential.
2. To deliver positive parenting programmes for the relief of poverty and disadvantage.
3. Ensure children feel safe and secure and valued.

...CONTINUED

**Ladybirds Children's Services
Trustees' Report (continued)
For The Year Ended 31 March 2025**

Aims and Objectives - continued

4. Welcome all parents regardless of background, religion, race, marital status, political belief, sexual orientation, gender, or disability.
5. Promote equal opportunity and gender equality.
6. Providing safe and satisfying group play, in which parents are encouraged to take part in the development of the lives of their children.
7. Increase parental recognition of the needs of children & young people and the value of a structured childcare provision.
8. Encouraging parental recognition of the needs of children & young people and the value of structured childcare provision designed to meet their needs.
9. Promoting and supporting children & young people in developing Good Relations within their community and in other communities.
10. Promoting activities that will enhance the health & well-being of children & young people.
11. Doing all such other lawful things as are necessary for or conducive to the attainment of the above aims.

Special Needs Support

Ladybirds provides support for children with additional and special needs. It has facilities including a sensory garden with musical wall, acrylic mirror panels, wizzy dizzy to help with physical and sensory needs, water tray with different levels and mud kitchens to explore different textures and sensory train where we will grow our own food and experience colours and smells. Our sensory room including bubble tower, Infinity Tunnel, softie with fibre optic lights, activity wall panels, weighted blanket, selection of sensory mobile tactile toys, fibre optic rug, projector which displays scenes onto the wall, interactive keyboard and colour changing bench and a sensory mood cube. The centre will continue to develop the sensory programme to become a centre of excellence for children with additional needs.

Out of School Support / Holiday Clubs

Ladybirds provides out of school support in the form of Breakfast Clubs, Afterschool's Clubs and Holiday Clubs and Summer Schemes to support children and working parents. The schemes are focused on play development and encouraging children reaching their full potential, developing their confidence and self-esteem.

Summer Schemes are based in disadvantaged areas targeting hard to reach families who otherwise would not avail of summer scheme provision.

Achievements and Performance

Main Achievements

Staff Training

Staff continue to participate in Continuous Personal Development (CPD) throughout the year, aligned to their Personal Development Plan. Training included:

- Safeguarding
- Paediatric First Aid
- Manual Handling
- Level 2 Award in Food Safety & Catering
- CCLD Level 5 Childcare Leadership & Development
- CMI Level 3 Project Management - Food Allergy & Intolerance
- Adverse Childhood Experiences Level 1
- Level 2 Trauma Sensitive Approach
- SEN Level 2
- Level 5 Leadership and Management

Health & Wellbeing

Working in partnership with the Public Health Agency and the South Eastern Healthcare Trust, LADYBIRDS delivered a varied health and wellbeing and health promotion programme for both children and parents. This included nutritional advice, cooking on a budget, physical activity, therapeutic horticulture and arts and crafts for positive mental health.

Ladybirds also operates an onsite Foodbank which is assisting the issues of Food Poverty, which were heightened during COVID 19.

Parenting & Young Women

...CONTINUED

Ladybirds Children's Services Trustees' Report (continued) For The Year Ended 31 March 2025

Main Achievements - continued

Ladybirds has developed a comprehensive parenting support programme which is delivered face to face and digitally. It provides an intensive support programme for young women aged 16-25 who are at risk of not reaching their full potential and parents who require additional support and friendship.

Ending Violence Against Women & Girls

Ladybirds works with the South Eastern Domestic Violence Partnership, a consortium of organisations supporting victims and survivors of domestic abuse and coercive control. The organisation responded to the consultation on the NI Executive policy development to ensure the voice of local families, women and girls were heard at a regional and policy making level.

Lobbying & Advocacy

The organisation lobbies local, regional and national Government, meeting with decision makers and policy lead, to promote the support of families and children in the Ards and North Down region, on key areas which are impacting local families including poverty, affordable childcare, early years support and children with additional needs.

Promoting Intergenerational Engagement

Ladybird Children's Services recognises the valuable contribution older people provide to the local community and utilise their skills through our intergenerational programmes. Ladybirds currently partners with Oakmount Residential Home, to develop understanding of intergenerational working, older peoples issues, respect and understanding. All generations are included in our family events, which have been paused due to the Covid situation.

Education & Training

Parental educational support is encouraged through our parenting programmes. This is provided both face to face and digitally via Zoom and Teams to maximise engagement and participation. We facilitate employability support, CV building and job search for those parents who are seeking to escape the poverty trap. We have a dedicated Parenting Room in the Ladybirds Centre.

European Mobility (Erasmus+)

LADYBIRDS has been engaged in a number of Erasmus+ as an associate partner. This has enabled us to develop international links, develop good practice and share innovation/knowledge exchange. This work will conclude in Summer 2023, due to Brexit. The centre will explore the Turing Scheme as an alternative and continue to work with the British Council for International engagement.

Financial Review

Financial Position

Restricted reserves are used for the purposes intended as per the conditions of funding for each fund. LADYBIRDS's restricted reserves balance related to the timing differential receipt of funding and expenditure. These reserves should balance at zero when programmes are completed. There is a designated fund for the building project, to future proof the organisation and remove the ongoing risk of premises being sold.

Unrestricted reserves are used for items in keeping with the organisations charitable aims and objectives including redundancy liability. At the end of the current year, the charity shows a surplus of £35,873 (2024: Deficit £15,414) with the accumulated funds of £45,413 (2024: £9,540) which includes expenditure which has been capitalised for a period in the future.

Additional Note

Plans for future periods

LADYBIRDS aims to

- a) Complete the purchase of the building to implement an enhanced Children & Family Centre service for Ards North Down and strengthen the rural services for women,
- b) Ladybirds is continuing to work with NI Housing Executive to develop an onsite provision in Kilcooley estate
- c) Progress the digitalisation project to improve access to LADYBIRDS programmes via online platforms.
- d) Develop social economy to help sustain the organisation, making it less reliant on grant income.
- e) Secure funding to upgrade the building

Funds held as custodian trustee

...CONTINUED

**Ladybirds Children's Services
Trustees' Report (continued)
For The Year Ended 31 March 2025**

Additional Note - continued

LADYBIRDS does not hold funds on behalf of others.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Ladybird Children's Services is governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association and is a Company Limited by Guarantee with charitable status. LADYBIRDS is registered with HMRC for charitable purposes. On appointment to the Board of Directors, the Trustee receives induction training to ensure they are aware of the responsibility of their post. The roles and responsibilities of the Board of Directors are contained in the Board induction Manual and detail the strategic level of their decision making powers. Operational matters are delegated to the Operations Manager who reports to the Board at meetings held at least 6 times per year. There are Board Sub-Groups including Staffing and Finance.

It is a family and childcare centre, registered with the South Eastern Trust, managed day to day by an Operations Manager and a team of qualified staff. It is open Monday to Friday, 07:30 am to 17:30pm.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Ladybirds Children's Services for the purposes 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. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statement unless they are satisfied that they 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 period. In preparing the financial statements the trustees are required to:

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

Small Company Rules

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

The trustees' report was approved by the board of trustees and signed on its behalf by:

Shona Kelly

Shona Kelly

Trustee
Date

19 Dec 2025

NW

Nicole Weir

Trustee

Ladybirds Children's Services
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Ladybirds Children's Services
For The Year Ended 31 March 2025

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the charity trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Brian Stewart

Brian Stewart FCA Independent Examiners

Date

RBCA Limited

Linenhall Exchange

26 Linenhall Street

Belfast

BT2 8BG

19 Dec 2025

Ladybirds Children's Services
Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
For The Year Ended 31 March 2025

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2025 Total funds	2024 Total funds
	Notes	£	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:					
Donations and legacies	3	-	20,856	20,856	50,945
Other trading activities	4	156,151	-	156,151	101,517
		<u>156,151</u>	<u>20,856</u>	<u>177,007</u>	<u>152,462</u>
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Charitable activities:	6				
Expenditure on charitable activities		(120,278)	(20,856)	(141,134)	(167,877)
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		<u>35,873</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35,873</u>	<u>(15,415)</u>
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		<u>35,873</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35,873</u>	<u>(15,415)</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:					
Total funds brought forward		3,063	6,477	9,540	24,954
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	14	<u><u>38,936</u></u>	<u><u>6,477</u></u>	<u><u>45,413</u></u>	<u><u>9,539</u></u>

The notes on pages 10 to 15 form part of these financial statements.

Ladybirds Children's Services
Comparative Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure
Account)
For The Year Ended 31 March 2025

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2024 Total funds
	Notes	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:				
Donations and legacies	3	-	50,945	50,945
Other trading activities	4	101,517	-	101,517
		<u>101,517</u>	<u>50,945</u>	<u>152,462</u>
EXPENDITURE ON:				
Charitable activities:	6			
Expenditure on charitable activities		(112,748)	(55,129)	(167,877)
NET EXPENDITURE		<u>(11,232)</u>	<u>(4,183)</u>	<u>(15,415)</u>
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		<u>(11,232)</u>	<u>(4,183)</u>	<u>(15,415)</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:				
Total funds brought forward		14,294	10,660	24,954
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	14	<u>3,062</u>	<u>6,477</u>	<u>9,539</u>

The notes on pages 10 to 15 form part of these financial statements.

**Ladybirds Children's Services
Balance Sheet
As At 31 March 2025**

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2025 Total funds	2024 Total funds
	Notes	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	11	10,037	-	10,037	12,546
		10,037	-	10,037	12,546
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	12	-	-	-	2,400
Cash at bank and in hand		45,609	6,477	52,086	16,657
		45,609	6,477	52,086	19,057
Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year	13	(16,710)	-	(16,710)	(22,064)
NET CURRENT ASSETS (LIABILITIES)		28,899	6,477	35,376	(3,007)
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		38,936	6,477	45,413	9,539
NET ASSETS		38,936	6,477	45,413	9,539
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Restricted Funds				6,477	6,477
Unrestricted Funds				38,936	3,062
TOTAL FUNDS	14			45,413	9,539

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

The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

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

On behalf of the board

Shona Kelly

Shona Kelly
Trustee
Date

NW

Nicole Weir
Trustee

19 Dec 2025

The notes on pages 10 to 15 form part of these financial statements.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Notes to the Financial Statements

For The Year Ended 31 March 2025

1. General Information

Ladybirds Children's Services is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated in Northern Ireland, registered number NI670029 and registered charity number NIIC108165. The registered office is 357 Old Belfast Road, Bangor, BT19 1RB.

2. Accounting Policies

2.1. Basis of Preparation of Financial Statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) "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)", Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Companies Act 2006.

The charitable company is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The presentation currency is £ Sterling.

The level of rounding is to the nearest £.

2.2. Going Concern Disclosure

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

2.3. Significant judgements and estimations

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

2.4. Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

2.5. Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Ladybirds Children's Services
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For The Year Ended 31 March 2025

2.6. Resources Expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

2.7. Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of the fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Computer Equipment	20% reducing balance
--------------------	----------------------

2.8. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are basic financial assets and include cash in hand and deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments that mature in no more than three months from the date of acquisition and are readily convertible to a known amount of cash with insignificant risk of change in value, and bank overdrafts.

2.9. Financial Instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

2.10. Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax as all its income is charitable and applied for charitable purposes.

Ladybirds Children's Services
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For The Year Ended 31 March 2025

2.11.

Defined contribution plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

3. Income from Donations and Legacies

	2025	2024
	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£
Donations and gifts	20,856	50,945

The following grants are included within the total income from donations and legacies above:

	2025	2024
	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£
Grant receivables	20,856	50,945

4. Income from Other Trading Activities

	2025	2024
	Unrestricted funds	Total funds
	£	£
Income from other trading activities	156,151	101,517

5. Net Income/(Expenditure)

The net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2025	2024
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets - owned	2,509	3,136

6. Analysis of Expenditure

		2025
	Activities undertaken directly	Total
	£	£
Expenditure on charitable activities	94,354	141,134

Ladybirds Children's Services
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For The Year Ended 31 March 2025

			2024
	Activities undertaken directly	Support costs (see note 7)	Total
	£	£	£
Expenditure on charitable activities	115,008	52,869	167,877

7. Support Costs

	2025
	Expenditure on charitable activities
	£
Employee costs	14,859
Premises expenses	12,743
General administration	16,669
Depreciation	2,509
	<u>46,780</u>

	2024
	Expenditure on charitable activities
	£
Employee costs	1,483
Premises expenses	27,838
General administration	20,412
Depreciation	3,136
	<u>52,869</u>

8. Independent Examiner's Remuneration

	2025	2024
	£	£
Independent examination of the financial statements	2,000	1,530

9. Staff Costs

Staff costs were as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	93,097	115,008

No employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period of more than £60,000.

10. Average Number of Employees

Average number of employees during the year was: 12 (2024: 12)

Ladybirds Children's Services
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For The Year Ended 31 March 2025

11. Tangible Assets

**Computer
Equipment**
£

Cost

As at 1 April 2024

20,429

As at 31 March 2025

20,429

Depreciation

As at 1 April 2024

7,883

Provided during the period

2,509

As at 31 March 2025

10,392

Net Book Value

As at 31 March 2025

10,037

As at 1 April 2024

12,546

12. Debtors

2025
£

2024
£

Due within one year

Trade debtors

-

2,400

13. Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

2025
£

2024
£

Amounts owed to group undertakings

13,139

13,138

Taxation and social security

1,572

5,515

Accruals and deferred income

1,999

3,411

16,710

22,064

14. Movement in Funds

**As at 1 April
2024**
£

Income
£

Expenditure
£

**As at 31
March 2025**
£

Unrestricted funds

General:

General unrestricted fund

3,063

156,151

(120,278)

38,936

Restricted funds

Restricted fund

6,477

20,856

(20,856)

6,477

Total funds

9,540

177,007

(141,134)

45,413

**As at 1 April
2023**
£

Income
£

Expenditure
£

**As at 31
March 2024**
£

Unrestricted funds

General:

General unrestricted fund

14,294

101,517

(112,749)

3,062

...CONTINUED

Ladybirds Children's Services
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For The Year Ended 31 March 2025

Restricted funds

Restricted fund	10,660	50,945	(55,128)	6,477
Total funds	<u>24,954</u>	<u>152,462</u>	<u>(167,877)</u>	<u>9,539</u>

15. Transactions with Trustees

None of the trustees received any remuneration or any other benefits from an employment with the charity or a related entity during the current or previous year.

16. Related Party Disclosures

There were no related party transactions during the year.

17. Company limited by guarantee

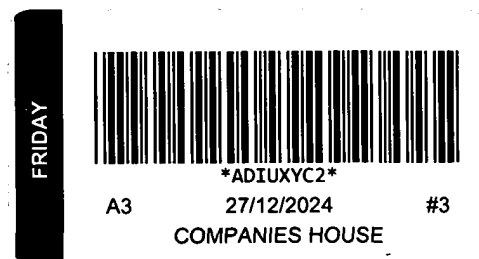
The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital.

Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company, in the event of a winding up, such an amount as may be required not exceeding £1.

Accounts

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: NI670029
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: NIC108165

**Ladybirds Children's Services
Company Limited by Guarantee
Financial Statements
31 March 2024**



Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2024

	Page
Trustees' annual report (incorporating the director's report)	1
Independent examiner's report to the trustees	8
Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)	9
Statement of financial position	10
Statement of cash flows	11
Notes to the financial statements	12-19

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)

Year ended 31 March 2024

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Ladybirds Children's Services
Charity registration number	NIC108165
Company registration number	NI670029
Principal office and registered office	357 Old Belfast Road Bangor BT19 1RB N.Ireland

The trustees

Shona Kelly
Karin Gilkinson
Georgina Murray
Nicole Weir

Independent examiner	RBCA Ltd Linenhall Exchange 26 Linenhall Street Belfast BT2 8BG
-----------------------------	---

Structure, governance and management

Ladybird Children's Services is governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association and is a Company Limited by Guarantee with charitable status. LADYBIRDS is registered with HMRC for charitable purposes. On appointment to the Board of Directors, the Trustee receives induction training to ensure they are aware of the responsibility of their post. The roles and responsibilities of the Board of Directors are contained in the Board Induction Manual and detail the strategic level of their decision making powers. Operational matters are delegated to the Operations Manager who reports to the Board at meetings held at least 6 times per year. There are Board Sub-Groups including Staffing and Finance.

It is a family and childcare centre, registered with the South Eastern Trust, managed day to day by an Operations Manager and a team of qualified staff. It is open Monday to Friday, 07.30 am to 17.30pm.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Objectives and activities

The objectives of LADYBIRDS are to promote any charitable purpose for the benefit of women, children and family's resident in the Ards North Down region to improve the conditions of their lives. In particular to:

1. Providing high quality daycare and childcare and parenting in a safe and nurturing environment and to encourage and develop their abilities and confidence by organising activities that will enhance their health and wellbeing and their social and intellectual development.
2. Providing facilities and recreational and educational activities for the care and development of children and young people during out-of-school hours and school holidays.
3. Increasing parental recognition of the needs of children and young people and the value of a structured childcare provision and encouraging them to become involved in the activities of the Charity.
4. Advance education, relieve poverty and promote good health by the provision of advice and support to parents/guardians and offer training programmes aimed at developing good parenting.
5. Contributing to the professional development of those working in daycare and childcare.

Public Benefits Statement & Declaration

The public benefit for Ladybird Children's Services are for the purposes of benefiting children, parents/guardians and families resident in the Ards North Down area are:-

- Enhance the development and education of children and young people
- Enhance social and intellectual development of the children and young people taking part in the day and childcare activities
- Improve health, confidence and capabilities of parents/guardians who take up offered training and support
- Provide facilities and recreational and educational activity for children and young people during out of hours and school holidays
- Encouraging parents and guardians to become involved in the activity of the charity
- Developing the skills and ability of the staff
- Provide advice and support to parents and guardians and offer training aimed at providing good parenting

No harm arises from these purposes. Incidental benefit may arise from transferable skills training offered to Board members to fulfil their duties.

Reserves Policy

Ladybirds reserves policy aims to cover a minimum of three months costs in order to meet unexpected demands, a delay in receiving funding and to give breathing space should there be an unfavourable change to government policy.

Regular budgetary control allows us to monitor our financial well being on a monthly basis. Reserves are restricted to ensure we can also meet any redundancy liability for employed staff who complete fixed term contracts.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Objectives and activities *(continued)*

LADYBIRDS has been providing onsite childcare, playgroup, mums and tots groups, parenting programmes and early intervention initiatives for 30 years, formerly operating as a community association, to ensure caring responsibilities are not a barrier to engagement on programmes for women. It has now registered as full time daycare with South Eastern Healthcare Trust, to widen participation and improve the programmes and services provided to the children. Care is provided for children who attend programmes of support and for supporting women who are returning to the workplace and who chose to support a social economy childcare setting.

Provision is split into relevant age categories and rooms - Babies aged 0-2 years, Wobblers aged 2-3, pre-pre-school aged 3-4 and pre-school aged 3-4. Plans are in place to expand to offer afterschool service and to look for a second venue to extend the places available to parents due to the current waiting list. Ladybirds Childcare unit works closely with Early Years organisation to ensure a quality accessible service in Kilcooley and Ards North Down, for the community sector.

LADYBIRDS provides a community resource for children, and advances early years and play development through the delivery of childcare programmes, parenting courses and initiatives, mentoring and guidance. It aims to ensure all children reach their developmental milestones and full potential through fostering a nurture based play programme, delivering evidence based programmes such as Media Initiative and Incredible Years which supports diversity and positive parenting training for the Early Years sector.

1. Provide a welcoming space to deliver positive play development to enable all children to meet their developmental milestones and meet their full potential.
2. To deliver positive parenting programmes for the relief of poverty and disadvantage.
3. Ensure children feel safe and secure and valued.
4. Welcome all parents regardless of background, religion, race, marital status, political belief, sexual orientation, gender, or disability.
5. Promote equal opportunity and gender equality.
6. Providing safe and satisfying group play, in which parents are encouraged to take part in the development of the lives of their children.
7. Increase parental recognition of the needs of children & young people and the value of a structured childcare provision.
8. Encouraging parental recognition of the needs of children & young people and the value of structured childcare provision designed to meet their needs.
9. Promoting and supporting children & young people in developing Good Relations within their community and in other communities.
10. Promoting activities that will enhance the health & well-being of children & young people.
11. Doing all such other lawful things as are necessary for or conducive to the attainment of the above aims.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Objectives and activities *(continued)*

Special Needs Support

Ladybirds provides support for children with additional and special needs. It has facilities including a sensory garden with musical wall, acrylic mirror panels, wizzy dizzy to help with physical and sensory needs, water tray with different levels and mud kitchens to explore different textures and sensory train where we will grow our own food and experience colours and smells. Our sensory room including bubble tower, Infinity Tunnel, softie with fibre optic lights, activity wall panels, weighted blanket, selection of sensory mobile tactile toys, fibre optic rug, projector which displays scenes onto the wall, interactive keyboard and colour changing bench and a sensory mood cube. The centre will continue to develop the sensory programme to become a centre of excellence for children with additional needs.

Out of School Support / Holiday Clubs

Ladybirds provides out of school support in the form of Breakfast Clubs, Afterschool's Clubs and Holiday Clubs and Summer Schemes to support children and working parents. The schemes are focused on play development and encouraging children reaching their full potential, developing their confidence and self-esteem.

Summer Schemes are based in disadvantaged areas targeting hard to reach families who otherwise would not avail of summer scheme provision.

Achievements and performance

Staff Training

Staff continue to participate in Continuous Personal Development (CPD) throughout the year, aligned to their Personal Development Plan. Training included:

- Safeguarding
- Paediatric First Aid
- Manual Handling
- Level 2 Award in Food Safety & Catering
- CCLD Level 5 Childcare Leadership & Development
- CMI Level 3 Project Management
- Food Allergy & Intolerance
- Adverse Childhood Experiences Level 1
- Level 2 Trauma Sensitive Approach
- SEN Level 2
- Level 5 Leadership and Management

Health & Wellbeing

Working in partnership with the Public Health Agency and the South Eastern Healthcare Trust, LADYBIRDS delivered a varied health and wellbeing and health promotion programme for both children and parents. This included nutritional advice, cooking on a budget, physical activity, therapeutic horticulture and arts and crafts for positive mental health. Ladybirds also operates an onsite Foodbank which is assisting the issues of Food Poverty, which were heightened during COVID 19.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Achievements and performance *(continued)*

Parenting & Young Women

Ladybirds has developed a comprehensive parenting support programme which is delivered face to face and digitally. It provides an intensive support programme for young women aged 16-25 who are at risk of not reaching their full potential and parents who require additional support and friendship.

Ending Violence Against Women & Girls

Ladybirds works with the South Eastern Domestic Violence Partnership, a consortium of organisations supporting victims and survivors of domestic abuse and coercive control. The organisation responded to the consultation on the NI Executive policy development to ensure the voice of local families, women and girls were heard at a regional and policy making level.

Lobbying & Advocacy

The organisation lobbies local, regional and national Government, meeting with decision makers and policy lead, to promote the support of families and children in the Ards and North Down region, on key areas which are impacting local families including poverty, affordable childcare, early years support and children with additional needs.

Promoting Intergenerational Engagement

Ladybird Children's Services recognises the valuable contribution older people provide to the local community and utilise their skills through our intergenerational programmes. Ladybirds currently partners with Oakmount Residential Home, to develop understanding of intergenerational working, older peoples issues, respect and understanding. All generations are included in our family events, which have been paused due to the Covid situation.

Education & Training

Parental educational support is encouraged through our parenting programmes. This is provided both face to face and digitally via Zoom and Teams to maximise engagement and participation. We facilitate employability support, CV building and job search for those parents who are seeking to escape the poverty trap. We have a dedicated Parenting Room in the Ladybirds Centre.

Cost of Living Crisis Intervention

As the cost of living crisis impact was still being felt, with ongoing challenges in the Early Years sector. LADYBIRDS remained at the forefront for planning for supporting vulnerable clients – new and existing – in relation to their health and wellbeing. Welfare packs to assist personal hygiene for women, children, men and baby boxes were provided for client referrals, working in partnership with health professionals, community organisations and concerned residents. The centre continues to offer Community Fridge Food Support programme and worked with Ards and North Down Borough Council as a distribution partner during their Hardship programme during the winter of 2023.

Financial review

Restricted reserves are used for the purposes intended as per the conditions of funding for each fund. LADYBIRDS's restricted reserves balance related to the timing differential receipt of funding and expenditure. There reserves should balance at zero when programmes are completed. There is a designated fund for the building project, to future proof the organisation and remove the ongoing risk of premises being sold.

Unrestricted reserves are used for items in keeping with the organisations charitable aims and objectives including redundancy liability. At the end of the current year, the charity shows a loss of £15,414 which includes expenditure which has been capitalised for a period in the future.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Plans for future periods

LADYBIRDS aims to

- a) Continue refurbishment of the building to implement an enhanced Children & Family Centre service for Ards North Down and strengthen the rural services for women, children and families in the Borough.
- b) Ladybirds is continuing to work with NI Housing Executive to develop an onsite provision in Kilcooley estate
- c) Progress the digitalisation project to improve access to LADYBIRDS programmes via online platforms.
- d) Develop social economy to help sustain the organisation, making it less reliant on grant income.
- e) Secure funding to upgrade the building

Funds held as custodian trustee

LADYBIRDS does not hold funds on behalf of others.

Trustees Responsibilities Statement

The Trustees who are also Directors of LADYBIRDS for the purposes of Company Law are responsible for preparing the Trustees Report and the final statements in accordance with the applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

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

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS 102)
- Make judgements and accounting 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
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Charities transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 24 Dec 2024 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

Shona Kelly
.....

Shona Kelly
Treasurer

NW

Nicole Weir
Trustee

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Ladybirds Children's Services

Year ended 31 March 2024

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Ladybirds Children's Services ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (the '2008 Act') and the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act'). You are satisfied that the accounts of the company are not required by charity or company law to be audited and have chosen instead to have an independent examination.

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements as carried out under section 65 of the 2008 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with my examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I confirm that there are no other matters to which your attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Brian Stewart
.....

Brian Stewart, for and on behalf of
RBCA Ltd
Independent Examiner
Chartered Accountants
Linenhall Exchange
26 Linenhall Street
Belfast
BT2 8BG

24 Dec 2024
Date:.....

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 March 2024

		2024	2024	2024	2023
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total funds	Total funds
	Note	funds	funds		
		£	£	£	£
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	5	-	50,945	50,945	23,689
Other trading activities	6	101,517	-	101,517	110,646
Total income		<u>101,517</u>	<u>50,945</u>	<u>152,462</u>	<u>134,335</u>
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities	7,8	112,748	55,128	167,876	139,279
Total expenditure		<u>112,748</u>	<u>55,128</u>	<u>167,876</u>	<u>139,279</u>
Net (expenditure)/income and net movement in funds		<u>(11,231)</u>	<u>(4,183)</u>	<u>(15,414)</u>	<u>(4,944)</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		14,294	10,660	24,954	29,898
Total funds carried forward		<u>3,063</u>	<u>6,477</u>	<u>9,540</u>	<u>24,954</u>

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

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Financial Position

31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	£	2023 £
Fixed assets				
Tangible fixed assets	12		12,546	9,154
Current assets				
Debtors	13	2,400		2,400
Cash at bank and in hand		16,657		34,721
		19,057		37,121
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	22,063		21,321
Net current (liabilities)/assets			(3,006)	15,800
Total assets less current liabilities			9,540	24,954
Net assets			9,540	24,954
Funds of the charity				
Restricted funds			6,477	10,660
Unrestricted funds			3,063	14,294
Total charity funds	16		9,540	24,954

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

Directors' responsibilities:

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

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

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 24 Dec 2024 ..., and are signed on behalf of the board by:

Shona Kelly
Shona Kelly
Treasurer


Nicole Weir
Trustee

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended 31 March 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net (expenditure)/income	(15,414)	(4,944)
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	3,136	2,288
Interest payable and similar charges	506	515
Accrued (income)/expenses	-	(2)
<i>Changes in:</i>		
Trade and other debtors	-	(1,800)
Trade and other creditors	742	(2,625)
Cash generated from operations	(11,030)	6,568
Interest paid	(506)	(515)
Net cash (used in)/from operating activities	<u>(11,536)</u>	<u>(7,083)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of tangible assets	(6,528)	(280)
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(6,528)</u>	<u>(280)</u>
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(18,064)	(7,363)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	34,721	42,084
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u>16,657</u>	<u>34,721</u>

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2024

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in N.Ireland and a registered charity in Northern Ireland. The address of the registered office is 357 Old Belfast Road, Bagor, BT19 1RB, N.Ireland.

2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the 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) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Tangible assets *(continued)*

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, except to which it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Equipment	- 20% reducing balance
-----------	------------------------

Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

For impairment testing of goodwill, the goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquisition date, allocated to each of the cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the charity are assigned to those units.

Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Financial instruments *(continued)*

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

Defined contribution plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

4. Limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee and has no authorised or issued share capital. The company has charitable status accepted by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under reference NIC670029

5. Donations and legacies

	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Donations				
Donations	-	-	15,762	15,762
Grants				
Grants receivable	50,945	50,945	7,927	7,927
	<u>50,945</u>	<u>50,945</u>	<u>23,689</u>	<u>23,689</u>

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

6. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Creche Income	101,517	101,517	110,646	110,646

7. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Charitable Activities	110,712	55,128	165,840
	2,036	-	2,036
	112,748	55,128	167,876

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Charitable Activities	108,435	28,889	137,324
Support costs	1,955	-	1,955
	110,390	28,889	139,279

8. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Activities undertaken directly £	Total funds 2024 £	Total fund 2023 £
Charitable Activities	165,840	-	165,840	137,324
Governance costs	-	2,036	2,036	1,955
	165,840	2,036	167,876	139,279

9. Net (expenditure)/income

Net (expenditure)/income is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2024 £	2023 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	3,136	2,288

10. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	95,692	79,084
Employer contributions to pension plans	1,978	1,635
	97,670	80,719

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

10. Staff costs *(continued)*

The average head count of employees during the year was 12 (2023: 11).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2023: Nil).

11. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No Trustees have received remuneration in the year.

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2023	13,901	13,901
Additions	6,528	6,528
At 31 March 2024	20,429	20,429
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2023	4,747	4,747
Charge for the year	3,136	3,166
At 31 March 2024	7,883	7,883
Carrying amount		
At 31 March 2024	12,546	12,546
At 31 March 2023	9,154	9,154

13. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Other debtors	2,400	2,400

14. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Accruals and deferred income	3,410	3,409
Social security and other taxes	5,515	774
Other creditors	13,138	17,138
	22,063	21,321

15. Pensions and other post retirement benefits

Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £1,978 (2023: £1,635).

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

16. Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>14,294</u>	<u>101,517</u>	<u>(112,748)</u>	<u>3,063</u>

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>14,038</u>	<u>110,646</u>	<u>(110,390)</u>	<u>14,294</u>

Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
Restricted Fund	<u>10,660</u>	<u>50,945</u>	<u>(55,128)</u>	<u>6,477</u>

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
Restricted Fund	<u>15,860</u>	<u>23,689</u>	<u>(28,889)</u>	<u>10,660</u>

17. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	12,546	–	12,546
Current assets			37,121
Creditors less than 1 year	<u>(22,063)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>(22,063)</u>
Net assets	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>27,604</u>

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	9,154	–	9,154
Current assets	26,461	10,660	37,121
Creditors less than 1 year	<u>(21,321)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>(21,321)</u>
Net assets	<u>14,294</u>	<u>10,660</u>	<u>24,954</u>

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

18. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 Apr 2023	Cash flows	At 31 Mar 2024
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>34,721</u>	<u>(18,064)</u>	<u>16,657</u>

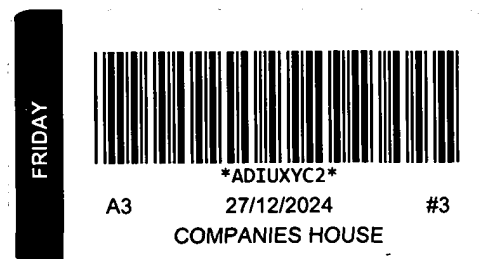
Ladybirds Children's Services

Northern Ireland - Charity number 108165

Annual report

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: NI670029
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: NIC108165

**Ladybirds Children's Services
Company Limited by Guarantee
Financial Statements
31 March 2024**



Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2024

	Page
Trustees' annual report (incorporating the director's report)	1
Independent examiner's report to the trustees	8
Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)	9
Statement of financial position	10
Statement of cash flows	11
Notes to the financial statements	12-19

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)

Year ended 31 March 2024

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Ladybirds Children's Services
Charity registration number	NIC108165
Company registration number	NI670029
Principal office and registered office	357 Old Belfast Road Bangor BT19 1RB N.Ireland

The trustees

Shona Kelly
Karin Gilkinson
Georgina Murray
Nicole Weir

Independent examiner	RBCA Ltd Linenhall Exchange 26 Linenhall Street Belfast BT2 8BG
-----------------------------	---

Structure, governance and management

Ladybird Children's Services is governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association and is a Company Limited by Guarantee with charitable status. LADYBIRDS is registered with HMRC for charitable purposes. On appointment to the Board of Directors, the Trustee receives induction training to ensure they are aware of the responsibility of their post. The roles and responsibilities of the Board of Directors are contained in the Board Induction Manual and detail the strategic level of their decision making powers. Operational matters are delegated to the Operations Manager who reports to the Board at meetings held at least 6 times per year. There are Board Sub-Groups including Staffing and Finance.

It is a family and childcare centre, registered with the South Eastern Trust, managed day to day by an Operations Manager and a team of qualified staff. It is open Monday to Friday, 07.30 am to 17.30pm.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Objectives and activities

The objectives of LADYBIRDS are to promote any charitable purpose for the benefit of women, children and family's resident in the Ards North Down region to improve the conditions of their lives. In particular to:

1. Providing high quality daycare and childcare and parenting in a safe and nurturing environment and to encourage and develop their abilities and confidence by organising activities that will enhance their health and wellbeing and their social and intellectual development.
2. Providing facilities and recreational and educational activities for the care and development of children and young people during out-of-school hours and school holidays.
3. Increasing parental recognition of the needs of children and young people and the value of a structured childcare provision and encouraging them to become involved in the activities of the Charity.
4. Advance education, relieve poverty and promote good health by the provision of advice and support to parents/guardians and offer training programmes aimed at developing good parenting.
5. Contributing to the professional development of those working in daycare and childcare.

Public Benefits Statement & Declaration

The public benefit for Ladybird Children's Services are for the purposes of benefiting children, parents/guardians and families resident in the Ards North Down area are:-

- Enhance the development and education of children and young people
- Enhance social and intellectual development of the children and young people taking part in the day and childcare activities
- Improve health, confidence and capabilities of parents/guardians who take up offered training and support
- Provide facilities and recreational and educational activity for children and young people during out of hours and school holidays
- Encouraging parents and guardians to become involved in the activity of the charity
- Developing the skills and ability of the staff
- Provide advice and support to parents and guardians and offer training aimed at providing good parenting

No harm arises from these purposes. Incidental benefit may arise from transferable skills training offered to Board members to fulfil their duties.

Reserves Policy

Ladybirds reserves policy aims to cover a minimum of three months costs in order to meet unexpected demands, a delay in receiving funding and to give breathing space should there be an unfavourable change to government policy.

Regular budgetary control allows us to monitor our financial well being on a monthly basis. Reserves are restricted to ensure we can also meet any redundancy liability for employed staff who complete fixed term contracts.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Objectives and activities *(continued)*

LADYBIRDS has been providing onsite childcare, playgroup, mums and tots groups, parenting programmes and early intervention initiatives for 30 years, formerly operating as a community association, to ensure caring responsibilities are not a barrier to engagement on programmes for women. It has now registered as full time daycare with South Eastern Healthcare Trust, to widen participation and improve the programmes and services provided to the children. Care is provided for children who attend programmes of support and for supporting women who are returning to the workplace and who chose to support a social economy childcare setting.

Provision is split into relevant age categories and rooms - Babies aged 0-2 years, Wobblers aged 2-3, pre-pre-school aged 3-4 and pre-school aged 3-4. Plans are in place to expand to offer afterschool service and to look for a second venue to extend the places available to parents due to the current waiting list. Ladybirds Childcare unit works closely with Early Years organisation to ensure a quality accessible service in Kilcooley and Ards North Down, for the community sector.

LADYBIRDS provides a community resource for children, and advances early years and play development through the delivery of childcare programmes, parenting courses and initiatives, mentoring and guidance. It aims to ensure all children reach their developmental milestones and full potential through fostering a nurture based play programme, delivering evidence based programmes such as Media Initiative and Incredible Years which supports diversity and positive parenting training for the Early Years sector.

1. Provide a welcoming space to deliver positive play development to enable all children to meet their developmental milestones and meet their full potential.
2. To deliver positive parenting programmes for the relief of poverty and disadvantage.
3. Ensure children feel safe and secure and valued.
4. Welcome all parents regardless of background, religion, race, marital status, political belief, sexual orientation, gender, or disability.
5. Promote equal opportunity and gender equality.
6. Providing safe and satisfying group play, in which parents are encouraged to take part in the development of the lives of their children.
7. Increase parental recognition of the needs of children & young people and the value of a structured childcare provision.
8. Encouraging parental recognition of the needs of children & young people and the value of structured childcare provision designed to meet their needs.
9. Promoting and supporting children & young people in developing Good Relations within their community and in other communities.
10. Promoting activities that will enhance the health & well-being of children & young people.
11. Doing all such other lawful things as are necessary for or conducive to the attainment of the above aims.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Objectives and activities *(continued)*

Special Needs Support

Ladybirds provides support for children with additional and special needs. It has facilities including a sensory garden with musical wall, acrylic mirror panels, wizzy dizzy to help with physical and sensory needs, water tray with different levels and mud kitchens to explore different textures and sensory train where we will grow our own food and experience colours and smells. Our sensory room including bubble tower, Infinity Tunnel, softie with fibre optic lights, activity wall panels, weighted blanket, selection of sensory mobile tactile toys, fibre optic rug, projector which displays scenes onto the wall, interactive keyboard and colour changing bench and a sensory mood cube. The centre will continue to develop the sensory programme to become a centre of excellence for children with additional needs.

Out of School Support / Holiday Clubs

Ladybirds provides out of school support in the form of Breakfast Clubs, Afterschool's Clubs and Holiday Clubs and Summer Schemes to support children and working parents. The schemes are focused on play development and encouraging children reaching their full potential, developing their confidence and self-esteem.

Summer Schemes are based in disadvantaged areas targeting hard to reach families who otherwise would not avail of summer scheme provision.

Achievements and performance

Staff Training

Staff continue to participate in Continuous Personal Development (CPD) throughout the year, aligned to their Personal Development Plan. Training included:

- Safeguarding
- Paediatric First Aid
- Manual Handling
- Level 2 Award in Food Safety & Catering
- CCLD Level 5 Childcare Leadership & Development
- CMI Level 3 Project Management
- Food Allergy & Intolerance
- Adverse Childhood Experiences Level 1
- Level 2 Trauma Sensitive Approach
- SEN Level 2
- Level 5 Leadership and Management

Health & Wellbeing

Working in partnership with the Public Health Agency and the South Eastern Healthcare Trust, LADYBIRDS delivered a varied health and wellbeing and health promotion programme for both children and parents. This included nutritional advice, cooking on a budget, physical activity, therapeutic horticulture and arts and crafts for positive mental health. Ladybirds also operates an onsite Foodbank which is assisting the issues of Food Poverty, which were heightened during COVID 19.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Achievements and performance *(continued)*

Parenting & Young Women

Ladybirds has developed a comprehensive parenting support programme which is delivered face to face and digitally. It provides an intensive support programme for young women aged 16-25 who are at risk of not reaching their full potential and parents who require additional support and friendship.

Ending Violence Against Women & Girls

Ladybirds works with the South Eastern Domestic Violence Partnership, a consortium of organisations supporting victims and survivors of domestic abuse and coercive control. The organisation responded to the consultation on the NI Executive policy development to ensure the voice of local families, women and girls were heard at a regional and policy making level.

Lobbying & Advocacy

The organisation lobbies local, regional and national Government, meeting with decision makers and policy lead, to promote the support of families and children in the Ards and North Down region, on key areas which are impacting local families including poverty, affordable childcare, early years support and children with additional needs.

Promoting Intergenerational Engagement

Ladybird Children's Services recognises the valuable contribution older people provide to the local community and utilise their skills through our intergenerational programmes. Ladybirds currently partners with Oakmount Residential Home, to develop understanding of intergenerational working, older peoples issues, respect and understanding. All generations are included in our family events, which have been paused due to the Covid situation.

Education & Training

Parental educational support is encouraged through our parenting programmes. This is provided both face to face and digitally via Zoom and Teams to maximise engagement and participation. We facilitate employability support, CV building and job search for those parents who are seeking to escape the poverty trap. We have a dedicated Parenting Room in the Ladybirds Centre.

Cost of Living Crisis Intervention

As the cost of living crisis impact was still being felt, with ongoing challenges in the Early Years sector. LADYBIRDS remained at the forefront for planning for supporting vulnerable clients – new and existing – in relation to their health and wellbeing. Welfare packs to assist personal hygiene for women, children, men and baby boxes were provided for client referrals, working in partnership with health professionals, community organisations and concerned residents. The centre continues to offer Community Fridge Food Support programme and worked with Ards and North Down Borough Council as a distribution partner during their Hardship programme during the winter of 2023.

Financial review

Restricted reserves are used for the purposes intended as per the conditions of funding for each fund. LADYBIRDS's restricted reserves balance related to the timing differential receipt of funding and expenditure. There reserves should balance at zero when programmes are completed. There is a designated fund for the building project, to future proof the organisation and remove the ongoing risk of premises being sold.

Unrestricted reserves are used for items in keeping with the organisations charitable aims and objectives including redundancy liability. At the end of the current year, the charity shows a loss of £15,414 which includes expenditure which has been capitalised for a period in the future.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Plans for future periods

LADYBIRDS aims to

- a) Continue refurbishment of the building to implement an enhanced Children & Family Centre service for Ards North Down and strengthen the rural services for women, children and families in the Borough.
- b) Ladybirds is continuing to work with NI Housing Executive to develop an onsite provision in Kilcooley estate
- c) Progress the digitalisation project to improve access to LADYBIRDS programmes via online platforms.
- d) Develop social economy to help sustain the organisation, making it less reliant on grant income.
- e) Secure funding to upgrade the building

Funds held as custodian trustee

LADYBIRDS does not hold funds on behalf of others.

Trustees Responsibilities Statement

The Trustees who are also Directors of LADYBIRDS for the purposes of Company Law are responsible for preparing the Trustees Report and the final statements in accordance with the applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

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

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS 102)
- Make judgements and accounting 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
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Charities transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 24 Dec 2024 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

Shona Kelly
.....

Shona Kelly
Treasurer

NW

Nicole Weir
Trustee

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Ladybirds Children's Services

Year ended 31 March 2024

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Ladybirds Children's Services ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (the '2008 Act') and the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act'). You are satisfied that the accounts of the company are not required by charity or company law to be audited and have chosen instead to have an independent examination.

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements as carried out under section 65 of the 2008 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with my examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I confirm that there are no other matters to which your attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Brian Stewart
.....

Brian Stewart, for and on behalf of
RBCA Ltd
Independent Examiner
Chartered Accountants
Linenhall Exchange
26 Linenhall Street
Belfast
BT2 8BG

24 Dec 2024
Date:.....

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 March 2024

		2024	2024	2024	2023
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total funds	Total funds
	Note	funds	funds		
		£	£	£	£
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	5	-	50,945	50,945	23,689
Other trading activities	6	101,517	-	101,517	110,646
Total income		<u>101,517</u>	<u>50,945</u>	<u>152,462</u>	<u>134,335</u>
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities	7,8	112,748	55,128	167,876	139,279
Total expenditure		<u>112,748</u>	<u>55,128</u>	<u>167,876</u>	<u>139,279</u>
Net (expenditure)/income and net movement in funds		<u>(11,231)</u>	<u>(4,183)</u>	<u>(15,414)</u>	<u>(4,944)</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		14,294	10,660	24,954	29,898
Total funds carried forward		<u>3,063</u>	<u>6,477</u>	<u>9,540</u>	<u>24,954</u>

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

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Financial Position

31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	£	2023 £
Fixed assets				
Tangible fixed assets	12		12,546	9,154
Current assets				
Debtors	13	2,400		2,400
Cash at bank and in hand		16,657		34,721
		19,057		37,121
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	22,063		21,321
Net current (liabilities)/assets			(3,006)	15,800
Total assets less current liabilities			9,540	24,954
Net assets			9,540	24,954
Funds of the charity				
Restricted funds			6,477	10,660
Unrestricted funds			3,063	14,294
Total charity funds	16		9,540	24,954

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

Directors' responsibilities:

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

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

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 24 Dec 2024 ..., and are signed on behalf of the board by:

Shona Kelly
Shona Kelly
Treasurer


Nicole Weir
Trustee

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended 31 March 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net (expenditure)/income	(15,414)	(4,944)
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	3,136	2,288
Interest payable and similar charges	506	515
Accrued (income)/expenses	-	(2)
<i>Changes in:</i>		
Trade and other debtors	-	(1,800)
Trade and other creditors	742	(2,625)
Cash generated from operations	(11,030)	6,568
Interest paid	(506)	(515)
Net cash (used in)/from operating activities	<u>(11,536)</u>	<u>(7,083)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of tangible assets	(6,528)	(280)
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(6,528)</u>	<u>(280)</u>
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(18,064)	(7,363)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	34,721	42,084
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u>16,657</u>	<u>34,721</u>

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2024

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in N.Ireland and a registered charity in Northern Ireland. The address of the registered office is 357 Old Belfast Road, Bagor, BT19 1RB, N.Ireland.

2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the 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) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Tangible assets *(continued)*

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, except to which it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Equipment	- 20% reducing balance
-----------	------------------------

Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

For impairment testing of goodwill, the goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquisition date, allocated to each of the cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the charity are assigned to those units.

Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Financial instruments *(continued)*

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

Defined contribution plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

4. Limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee and has no authorised or issued share capital. The company has charitable status accepted by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under reference NIC670029

5. Donations and legacies

	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Donations				
Donations	-	-	15,762	15,762
Grants				
Grants receivable	50,945	50,945	7,927	7,927
	<u>50,945</u>	<u>50,945</u>	<u>23,689</u>	<u>23,689</u>

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

6. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Creche Income	101,517	101,517	110,646	110,646

7. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Charitable Activities	110,712	55,128	165,840
	2,036	-	2,036
	112,748	55,128	167,876

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Charitable Activities	108,435	28,889	137,324
Support costs	1,955	-	1,955
	110,390	28,889	139,279

8. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Activities undertaken directly £	Total funds 2024 £	Total fund 2023 £
Charitable Activities	165,840	-	165,840	137,324
Governance costs	-	2,036	2,036	1,955
	165,840	2,036	167,876	139,279

9. Net (expenditure)/income

Net (expenditure)/income is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2024 £	2023 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	3,136	2,288

10. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	95,692	79,084
Employer contributions to pension plans	1,978	1,635
	97,670	80,719

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

10. Staff costs *(continued)*

The average head count of employees during the year was 12 (2023: 11).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2023: Nil).

11. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No Trustees have received remuneration in the year.

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2023	13,901	13,901
Additions	6,528	6,528
At 31 March 2024	20,429	20,429
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2023	4,747	4,747
Charge for the year	3,136	3,166
At 31 March 2024	7,883	7,883
Carrying amount		
At 31 March 2024	12,546	12,546
At 31 March 2023	9,154	9,154

13. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Other debtors	2,400	2,400

14. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Accruals and deferred income	3,410	3,409
Social security and other taxes	5,515	774
Other creditors	13,138	17,138
	22,063	21,321

15. Pensions and other post retirement benefits

Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £1,978 (2023: £1,635).

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

16. Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>14,294</u>	<u>101,517</u>	<u>(112,748)</u>	<u>3,063</u>

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>14,038</u>	<u>110,646</u>	<u>(110,390)</u>	<u>14,294</u>

Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
Restricted Fund	<u>10,660</u>	<u>50,945</u>	<u>(55,128)</u>	<u>6,477</u>

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
Restricted Fund	<u>15,860</u>	<u>23,689</u>	<u>(28,889)</u>	<u>10,660</u>

17. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	12,546	–	12,546
Current assets			37,121
Creditors less than 1 year	<u>(22,063)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>(22,063)</u>
Net assets	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>27,604</u>

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	9,154	–	9,154
Current assets	26,461	10,660	37,121
Creditors less than 1 year	<u>(21,321)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>(21,321)</u>
Net assets	<u>14,294</u>	<u>10,660</u>	<u>24,954</u>

Ladybirds Children's Services**Company Limited by Guarantee****Notes to the Financial Statements** *(continued)***Year ended 31 March 2024****18. Analysis of changes in net debt**

	At 1 Apr 2023	Cash flows	At 31 Mar 2024
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>34,721</u>	<u>(18,064)</u>	<u>16,657</u>

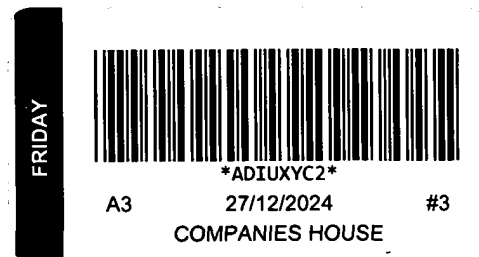
Ladybirds Children's Services

Northern Ireland - Charity number 108165

Annual return

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: NI670029
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: NIC108165

**Ladybirds Children's Services
Company Limited by Guarantee
Financial Statements
31 March 2024**



Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2024

	Page
Trustees' annual report (incorporating the director's report)	1
Independent examiner's report to the trustees	8
Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)	9
Statement of financial position	10
Statement of cash flows	11
Notes to the financial statements	12-19

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)

Year ended 31 March 2024

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Ladybirds Children's Services
Charity registration number	NIC108165
Company registration number	NI670029
Principal office and registered office	357 Old Belfast Road Bangor BT19 1RB N.Ireland

The trustees

Shona Kelly
Karin Gilkinson
Georgina Murray
Nicole Weir

Independent examiner	RBCA Ltd Linenhall Exchange 26 Linenhall Street Belfast BT2 8BG
-----------------------------	---

Structure, governance and management

Ladybird Children's Services is governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association and is a Company Limited by Guarantee with charitable status. LADYBIRDS is registered with HMRC for charitable purposes. On appointment to the Board of Directors, the Trustee receives induction training to ensure they are aware of the responsibility of their post. The roles and responsibilities of the Board of Directors are contained in the Board Induction Manual and detail the strategic level of their decision making powers. Operational matters are delegated to the Operations Manager who reports to the Board at meetings held at least 6 times per year. There are Board Sub-Groups including Staffing and Finance.

It is a family and childcare centre, registered with the South Eastern Trust, managed day to day by an Operations Manager and a team of qualified staff. It is open Monday to Friday, 07.30 am to 17.30pm.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Objectives and activities

The objectives of LADYBIRDS are to promote any charitable purpose for the benefit of women, children and family's resident in the Ards North Down region to improve the conditions of their lives. In particular to:

1. Providing high quality daycare and childcare and parenting in a safe and nurturing environment and to encourage and develop their abilities and confidence by organising activities that will enhance their health and wellbeing and their social and intellectual development.
2. Providing facilities and recreational and educational activities for the care and development of children and young people during out-of-school hours and school holidays.
3. Increasing parental recognition of the needs of children and young people and the value of a structured childcare provision and encouraging them to become involved in the activities of the Charity.
4. Advance education, relieve poverty and promote good health by the provision of advice and support to parents/guardians and offer training programmes aimed at developing good parenting.
5. Contributing to the professional development of those working in daycare and childcare.

Public Benefits Statement & Declaration

The public benefit for Ladybird Children's Services are for the purposes of benefiting children, parents/guardians and families resident in the Ards North Down area are:-

- Enhance the development and education of children and young people
- Enhance social and intellectual development of the children and young people taking part in the day and childcare activities
- Improve health, confidence and capabilities of parents/guardians who take up offered training and support
- Provide facilities and recreational and educational activity for children and young people during out of hours and school holidays
- Encouraging parents and guardians to become involved in the activity of the charity
- Developing the skills and ability of the staff
- Provide advice and support to parents and guardians and offer training aimed at providing good parenting

No harm arises from these purposes. Incidental benefit may arise from transferable skills training offered to Board members to fulfil their duties.

Reserves Policy

Ladybirds reserves policy aims to cover a minimum of three months costs in order to meet unexpected demands, a delay in receiving funding and to give breathing space should there be an unfavourable change to government policy.

Regular budgetary control allows us to monitor our financial well being on a monthly basis. Reserves are restricted to ensure we can also meet any redundancy liability for employed staff who complete fixed term contracts.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Objectives and activities *(continued)*

LADYBIRDS has been providing onsite childcare, playgroup, mums and tots groups, parenting programmes and early intervention initiatives for 30 years, formerly operating as a community association, to ensure caring responsibilities are not a barrier to engagement on programmes for women. It has now registered as full time daycare with South Eastern Healthcare Trust, to widen participation and improve the programmes and services provided to the children. Care is provided for children who attend programmes of support and for supporting women who are returning to the workplace and who chose to support a social economy childcare setting.

Provision is split into relevant age categories and rooms - Babies aged 0-2 years, Wobblers aged 2-3, pre-pre-school aged 3-4 and pre-school aged 3-4. Plans are in place to expand to offer afterschool service and to look for a second venue to extend the places available to parents due to the current waiting list. Ladybirds Childcare unit works closely with Early Years organisation to ensure a quality accessible service in Kilcooley and Ards North Down, for the community sector.

LADYBIRDS provides a community resource for children, and advances early years and play development through the delivery of childcare programmes, parenting courses and initiatives, mentoring and guidance. It aims to ensure all children reach their developmental milestones and full potential through fostering a nurture based play programme, delivering evidence based programmes such as Media Initiative and Incredible Years which supports diversity and positive parenting training for the Early Years sector.

1. Provide a welcoming space to deliver positive play development to enable all children to meet their developmental milestones and meet their full potential.
2. To deliver positive parenting programmes for the relief of poverty and disadvantage.
3. Ensure children feel safe and secure and valued.
4. Welcome all parents regardless of background, religion, race, marital status, political belief, sexual orientation, gender, or disability.
5. Promote equal opportunity and gender equality.
6. Providing safe and satisfying group play, in which parents are encouraged to take part in the development of the lives of their children.
7. Increase parental recognition of the needs of children & young people and the value of a structured childcare provision.
8. Encouraging parental recognition of the needs of children & young people and the value of structured childcare provision designed to meet their needs.
9. Promoting and supporting children & young people in developing Good Relations within their community and in other communities.
10. Promoting activities that will enhance the health & well-being of children & young people.
11. Doing all such other lawful things as are necessary for or conducive to the attainment of the above aims.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Objectives and activities *(continued)*

Special Needs Support

Ladybirds provides support for children with additional and special needs. It has facilities including a sensory garden with musical wall, acrylic mirror panels, wizzy dizzy to help with physical and sensory needs, water tray with different levels and mud kitchens to explore different textures and sensory train where we will grow our own food and experience colours and smells. Our sensory room including bubble tower, Infinity Tunnel, softie with fibre optic lights, activity wall panels, weighted blanket, selection of sensory mobile tactile toys, fibre optic rug, projector which displays scenes onto the wall, interactive keyboard and colour changing bench and a sensory mood cube. The centre will continue to develop the sensory programme to become a centre of excellence for children with additional needs.

Out of School Support / Holiday Clubs

Ladybirds provides out of school support in the form of Breakfast Clubs, Afterschool's Clubs and Holiday Clubs and Summer Schemes to support children and working parents. The schemes are focused on play development and encouraging children reaching their full potential, developing their confidence and self-esteem.

Summer Schemes are based in disadvantaged areas targeting hard to reach families who otherwise would not avail of summer scheme provision.

Achievements and performance

Staff Training

Staff continue to participate in Continuous Personal Development (CPD) throughout the year, aligned to their Personal Development Plan. Training included:

- Safeguarding
- Paediatric First Aid
- Manual Handling
- Level 2 Award in Food Safety & Catering
- CCLD Level 5 Childcare Leadership & Development
- CMI Level 3 Project Management
- Food Allergy & Intolerance
- Adverse Childhood Experiences Level 1
- Level 2 Trauma Sensitive Approach
- SEN Level 2
- Level 5 Leadership and Management

Health & Wellbeing

Working in partnership with the Public Health Agency and the South Eastern Healthcare Trust, LADYBIRDS delivered a varied health and wellbeing and health promotion programme for both children and parents. This included nutritional advice, cooking on a budget, physical activity, therapeutic horticulture and arts and crafts for positive mental health. Ladybirds also operates an onsite Foodbank which is assisting the issues of Food Poverty, which were heightened during COVID 19.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Achievements and performance *(continued)*

Parenting & Young Women

Ladybirds has developed a comprehensive parenting support programme which is delivered face to face and digitally. It provides an intensive support programme for young women aged 16-25 who are at risk of not reaching their full potential and parents who require additional support and friendship.

Ending Violence Against Women & Girls

Ladybirds works with the South Eastern Domestic Violence Partnership, a consortium of organisations supporting victims and survivors of domestic abuse and coercive control. The organisation responded to the consultation on the NI Executive policy development to ensure the voice of local families, women and girls were heard at a regional and policy making level.

Lobbying & Advocacy

The organisation lobbies local, regional and national Government, meeting with decision makers and policy lead, to promote the support of families and children in the Ards and North Down region, on key areas which are impacting local families including poverty, affordable childcare, early years support and children with additional needs.

Promoting Intergenerational Engagement

Ladybird Children's Services recognises the valuable contribution older people provide to the local community and utilise their skills through our intergenerational programmes. Ladybirds currently partners with Oakmount Residential Home, to develop understanding of intergenerational working, older peoples issues, respect and understanding. All generations are included in our family events, which have been paused due to the Covid situation.

Education & Training

Parental educational support is encouraged through our parenting programmes. This is provided both face to face and digitally via Zoom and Teams to maximise engagement and participation. We facilitate employability support, CV building and job search for those parents who are seeking to escape the poverty trap. We have a dedicated Parenting Room in the Ladybirds Centre.

Cost of Living Crisis Intervention

As the cost of living crisis impact was still being felt, with ongoing challenges in the Early Years sector. LADYBIRDS remained at the forefront for planning for supporting vulnerable clients – new and existing – in relation to their health and wellbeing. Welfare packs to assist personal hygiene for women, children, men and baby boxes were provided for client referrals, working in partnership with health professionals, community organisations and concerned residents. The centre continues to offer Community Fridge Food Support programme and worked with Ards and North Down Borough Council as a distribution partner during their Hardship programme during the winter of 2023.

Financial review

Restricted reserves are used for the purposes intended as per the conditions of funding for each fund. LADYBIRDS's restricted reserves balance related to the timing differential receipt of funding and expenditure. There reserves should balance at zero when programmes are completed. There is a designated fund for the building project, to future proof the organisation and remove the ongoing risk of premises being sold.

Unrestricted reserves are used for items in keeping with the organisations charitable aims and objectives including redundancy liability. At the end of the current year, the charity shows a loss of £15,414 which includes expenditure which has been capitalised for a period in the future.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Plans for future periods

LADYBIRDS aims to

- a) Continue refurbishment of the building to implement an enhanced Children & Family Centre service for Ards North Down and strengthen the rural services for women, children and families in the Borough.
- b) Ladybirds is continuing to work with NI Housing Executive to develop an onsite provision in Kilcooley estate
- c) Progress the digitalisation project to improve access to LADYBIRDS programmes via online platforms.
- d) Develop social economy to help sustain the organisation, making it less reliant on grant income.
- e) Secure funding to upgrade the building

Funds held as custodian trustee

LADYBIRDS does not hold funds on behalf of others.

Trustees Responsibilities Statement

The Trustees who are also Directors of LADYBIRDS for the purposes of Company Law are responsible for preparing the Trustees Report and the final statements in accordance with the applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

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

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS 102)
- Make judgements and accounting 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
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Charities transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 24 Dec 2024 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

Shona Kelly
.....

Shona Kelly
Treasurer

NW

Nicole Weir
Trustee

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Ladybirds Children's Services

Year ended 31 March 2024

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Ladybirds Children's Services ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (the '2008 Act') and the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act'). You are satisfied that the accounts of the company are not required by charity or company law to be audited and have chosen instead to have an independent examination.

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements as carried out under section 65 of the 2008 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with my examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I confirm that there are no other matters to which your attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Brian Stewart
.....

Brian Stewart, for and on behalf of
RBCA Ltd
Independent Examiner
Chartered Accountants
Linenhall Exchange
26 Linenhall Street
Belfast
BT2 8BG

24 Dec 2024
Date:.....

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 March 2024

		2024	2024	2024	2023
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total funds	Total funds
	Note	funds	funds		
		£	£	£	£
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	5	-	50,945	50,945	23,689
Other trading activities	6	101,517	-	101,517	110,646
Total income		<u>101,517</u>	<u>50,945</u>	<u>152,462</u>	<u>134,335</u>
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities	7,8	112,748	55,128	167,876	139,279
Total expenditure		<u>112,748</u>	<u>55,128</u>	<u>167,876</u>	<u>139,279</u>
Net (expenditure)/income and net movement in funds		<u>(11,231)</u>	<u>(4,183)</u>	<u>(15,414)</u>	<u>(4,944)</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		14,294	10,660	24,954	29,898
Total funds carried forward		<u>3,063</u>	<u>6,477</u>	<u>9,540</u>	<u>24,954</u>

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

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Financial Position

31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	£	2023 £
Fixed assets				
Tangible fixed assets	12		12,546	9,154
Current assets				
Debtors	13	2,400		2,400
Cash at bank and in hand		16,657		34,721
		19,057		37,121
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	22,063		21,321
Net current (liabilities)/assets			(3,006)	15,800
Total assets less current liabilities			9,540	24,954
Net assets			9,540	24,954
Funds of the charity				
Restricted funds			6,477	10,660
Unrestricted funds			3,063	14,294
Total charity funds	16		9,540	24,954

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

Directors' responsibilities:

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

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

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 24 Dec 2024 ..., and are signed on behalf of the board by:

Shona Kelly
Shona Kelly
Treasurer


Nicole Weir
Trustee

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended 31 March 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net (expenditure)/income	(15,414)	(4,944)
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	3,136	2,288
Interest payable and similar charges	506	515
Accrued (income)/expenses	-	(2)
<i>Changes in:</i>		
Trade and other debtors	-	(1,800)
Trade and other creditors	742	(2,625)
Cash generated from operations	(11,030)	6,568
Interest paid	(506)	(515)
Net cash (used in)/from operating activities	<u>(11,536)</u>	<u>(7,083)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of tangible assets	(6,528)	(280)
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(6,528)</u>	<u>(280)</u>
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(18,064)	(7,363)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	34,721	42,084
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u>16,657</u>	<u>34,721</u>

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2024

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in N.Ireland and a registered charity in Northern Ireland. The address of the registered office is 357 Old Belfast Road, Bagor, BT19 1RB, N.Ireland.

2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the 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) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Tangible assets *(continued)*

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, except to which it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Equipment	- 20% reducing balance
-----------	------------------------

Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

For impairment testing of goodwill, the goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquisition date, allocated to each of the cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the charity are assigned to those units.

Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Financial instruments *(continued)*

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

Defined contribution plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

4. Limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee and has no authorised or issued share capital. The company has charitable status accepted by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under reference NIC670029

5. Donations and legacies

	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Donations				
Donations	-	-	15,762	15,762
Grants				
Grants receivable	50,945	50,945	7,927	7,927
	<u>50,945</u>	<u>50,945</u>	<u>23,689</u>	<u>23,689</u>

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

6. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Creche Income	101,517	101,517	110,646	110,646

7. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Charitable Activities	110,712	55,128	165,840
	2,036	-	2,036
	112,748	55,128	167,876

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Charitable Activities	108,435	28,889	137,324
Support costs	1,955	-	1,955
	110,390	28,889	139,279

8. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Activities undertaken directly £	Total funds 2024 £	Total fund 2023 £
Charitable Activities	165,840	-	165,840	137,324
Governance costs	-	2,036	2,036	1,955
	165,840	2,036	167,876	139,279

9. Net (expenditure)/income

Net (expenditure)/income is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2024 £	2023 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	3,136	2,288

10. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	95,692	79,084
Employer contributions to pension plans	1,978	1,635
	97,670	80,719

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

10. Staff costs *(continued)*

The average head count of employees during the year was 12 (2023: 11).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2023: Nil).

11. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No Trustees have received remuneration in the year.

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2023	13,901	13,901
Additions	6,528	6,528
At 31 March 2024	20,429	20,429
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2023	4,747	4,747
Charge for the year	3,136	3,166
At 31 March 2024	7,883	7,883
Carrying amount		
At 31 March 2024	12,546	12,546
At 31 March 2023	9,154	9,154

13. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Other debtors	2,400	2,400

14. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Accruals and deferred income	3,410	3,409
Social security and other taxes	5,515	774
Other creditors	13,138	17,138
	22,063	21,321

15. Pensions and other post retirement benefits

Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £1,978 (2023: £1,635).

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

16. Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>14,294</u>	<u>101,517</u>	<u>(112,748)</u>	<u>3,063</u>

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>14,038</u>	<u>110,646</u>	<u>(110,390)</u>	<u>14,294</u>

Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
Restricted Fund	<u>10,660</u>	<u>50,945</u>	<u>(55,128)</u>	<u>6,477</u>

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
Restricted Fund	<u>15,860</u>	<u>23,689</u>	<u>(28,889)</u>	<u>10,660</u>

17. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	12,546	–	12,546
Current assets			37,121
Creditors less than 1 year	<u>(22,063)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>(22,063)</u>
Net assets	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>27,604</u>

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	9,154	–	9,154
Current assets	26,461	10,660	37,121
Creditors less than 1 year	<u>(21,321)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>(21,321)</u>
Net assets	<u>14,294</u>	<u>10,660</u>	<u>24,954</u>

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

18. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 Apr 2023	Cash flows	At 31 Mar 2024
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>34,721</u>	<u>(18,064)</u>	<u>16,657</u>

Accounts

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: NI670029
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: NIC108165

**Ladybirds Children's Services
Company Limited by Guarantee
Financial Statements
31 March 2023**

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2023

	Page
Trustees' annual report (incorporating the director's report)	1
Independent examiner's report to the trustees	7
Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)	8
Statement of financial position	9
Statement of cash flows	10
Notes to the financial statements	11

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)

Year ended 31 March 2023

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Ladybirds Children's Services
Charity registration number	NIC108165
Company registration number	NI670029
Principal office and registered office	357 Old Belfast Road Bagor BT19 1RB N.Ireland

The trustees

Shona Kelly
Karin Gilkinson
Georgina Murray
Nicole Weir

Independent examiner	Johnston Graham Limited 216/218 Holywood Road Belfast BT4 1PD
-----------------------------	--

Structure, governance and management

Ladybird Children's Services is governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association and is a Company Limited by Guarantee with charitable status. LADYBIRDS is registered with HMRC for charitable purposes. On appointment to the Board of Directors, the Trustee receives induction training to ensure they are aware of the responsibility of their post. The roles and responsibilities of the Board of Directors are contained in the Board Induction Manual and detail the strategic level of their decision making powers. Operational matters are delegated to the Operations Manager who reports to the Board at meetings held at least 6 times per year. There are Board Sub-Groups including Staffing and Finance.

It is a family and childcare centre, registered with the South Eastern Trust, managed day to day by an Operations Manager and a team of qualified staff. It is open Monday to Friday, 07.30 am to 17.30pm.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

Objectives and activities

The objectives of LADYBIRDS are to promote any charitable purpose for the benefit of women, children and family's resident in the Ards North Down region to improve the conditions of their lives. In particular to:

1. Providing high quality daycare and childcare and parenting in a safe and nurturing environment and to encourage and develop their abilities and confidence by organising activities that will enhance their health and wellbeing and their social and intellectual development.
2. Providing facilities and recreational and educational activities for the care and development of children and young people during out-of-school hours and school holidays.
3. Increasing parental recognition of the needs of children and young people and the value of a structured childcare provision and encouraging them to become involved in the activities of the Charity.
4. Advance education, relieve poverty and promote good health by the provision of advice and support to parents/guardians and offer training programmes aimed at developing good parenting.
5. Contributing to the professional development of those working in daycare and childcare.

Public Benefits Statement & Declaration

The public benefit for Ladybird Children's Services are for the purposes of benefiting children, parents/guardians and families resident in the Ards North Down area are:-

- Enhance the development and education of children and young people
- Enhance social and intellectual development of the children and young people taking part in the day and childcare activities
- Improve health, confidence and capabilities of parents/guardians who take up offered training and support
- Provide facilities and recreational and educational activity for children and young people during out of hours and school holidays
- Encouraging parents and guardians to become involved in the activity of the charity
- Developing the skills and ability of the staff
- Provide advice and support to parents and guardians and offer training aimed at providing good parenting

No harm arises from these purposes. Incidental benefit may arise from transferable skills training offered to Board members to fulfil their duties.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

Objectives and activities *(continued)*

LADYBIRDS has been providing onsite childcare, playgroup, mums and tots groups, parenting programmes and early intervention initiatives for 27 years, formerly operating as a community association, to ensure caring responsibilities are not a barrier to engagement on programmes for women. It has now registered as full time daycare with South Eastern Healthcare Trust, to widen participation and improve the programmes and services provided to the children. Care is provided for children who attend programmes of support and for supporting women who are returning to the workplace and who chose to support a social economy childcare setting.

Provision is split into relevant age categories and rooms - Babies aged 0-2 years, Wobblers aged 2-3, pre-pre-school aged 3-4 and pre-school aged 3-4. Plans are in place to expand to offer afterschool service and to look for a second venue to extend the places available to parents due to the current waiting list. Ladybirds Childcare unit works closely with Early Years organisation to ensure a quality accessible service in Kilcooley and Ards North Down, for the community sector.

LADYBIRDS provides a community resource for children, and advances early years and play development through the delivery of childcare programmes, parenting courses and initiatives, mentoring and guidance. It aims to ensure all children reach their developmental milestones and full potential through fostering a nurture based play programme, delivering evidence based programmes such as Media Initiative and Incredible Years which supports diversity and positive parenting training for the Early Years sector.

1. Provide a welcoming space to deliver positive play development to enable all children to meet their developmental milestones and meet their full potential.
2. To deliver positive parenting programmes for the relief of poverty and disadvantage.
3. Ensure children feel safe and secure and valued.
4. Welcome all parents regardless of background, religion, race, marital status, political belief, sexual orientation, gender, or disability.
5. Promote equal opportunity and gender equality.
6. Providing safe and satisfying group play, in which parents are encouraged to take part in the development of the lives of their children.
7. Increase parental recognition of the needs of children & young people and the value of a structured childcare provision.
8. Encouraging parental recognition of the needs of children & young people and the value of structured childcare provision designed to meet their needs.
9. Promoting and supporting children & young people in developing Good Relations within their community and in other communities.
10. Promoting activities that will enhance the health & well-being of children & young people.
11. Doing all such other lawful things as are necessary for or conducive to the attainment of the above aims.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

Objectives and activities *(continued)*

Special Needs Support

Ladybirds provides support for children with additional and special needs. It has facilities including a sensory garden with musical wall, acrylic mirror panels, wizzy dizzy to help with physical and sensory needs, water tray with different levels and mud kitchens to explore different textures and sensory train where we will grow our own food and experience colours and smells. Our sensory room including bubble tower, Infinity Tunnel, softie with fibre optic lights, activity wall panels, weighted blanket, selection of sensory mobile tactile toys, fibre optic rug, projector which displays scenes onto the wall, interactive keyboard and colour changing bench and a sensory mood cube. The centre will continue to develop the sensory programme to become a centre of excellence for children with additional needs.

Out of School Support / Holiday Clubs

Ladybirds provides out of school support in the form of Breakfast Clubs, Afterschool's Clubs and Holiday Clubs and Summer Schemes to support children and working parents. The schemes are focused on play development and encouraging children reaching their full potential, developing their confidence and self-esteem.

Summer Schemes are based in disadvantaged areas targeting hard to reach families who otherwise would not avail of summer scheme provision.

Achievements and performance

Staff Training

Staff continue to participate in Continuous Personal Development (CPD) throughout the year, aligned to their Personal Development Plan. Training included:

- Safeguarding
- Paediatric First Aid
- Manual Handling
- Level 2 Award in Food Safety & Catering
- CCLD Level 5 Childcare Leadership & Development
- CMI Level 3 Project Management
- Food Allergy & Intolerance
- Adverse Childhood Experiences Level 1
- Level 2 Trauma Sensitive Approach
- SEN Level 2

Health & Wellbeing

Working in partnership with the Public Health Agency and the South Eastern Healthcare Trust, LADYBIRDS delivered a varied health and wellbeing and health promotion programme for both children and parents. This included nutritional advice, cooking on a budget, physical activity, therapeutic horticulture and arts and crafts for positive mental health. Ladybirds also operates an onsite Foodbank which is assisting the issues of Food Poverty, which were heightened during COVID 19.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

Achievements and performance *(continued)*

Parenting & Young Women

Ladybirds has developed a comprehensive parenting support programme which is delivered face to face and digitally. It provides an intensive support programme for young women aged 16-25 who are at risk of not reaching their full potential and parents who require additional support and friendship.

Promoting Intergenerational Engagement

Ladybird Children's Services recognises the valuable contribution older people provide to the local community and utilise their skills through our intergenerational programmes. Ladybirds currently partners with Oakmount Residential Home, to develop understanding of intergenerational working, older peoples issues, respect and understanding. All generations are included in our family events, which have been paused due to the Covid situation.

Education & Training

Parental educational support is encouraged through our parenting programmes. This is provided both face to face and digitally via Zoom and Teams to maximise engagement and participation. We facilitate employability support, CV building and job search for those parents who are seeking to escape the poverty trap. We have a dedicated Parenting Room in the Ladybirds Centre.

European Mobility (Erasmus+)

LADYBIRDS has been engaged in a number of Erasmus+ as an associate partner. This has enabled us to develop international links, develop good practice and share innovation/knowledge exchange. This work will conclude in Summer 2023, due to Brexit. The centre will explore the Turing Scheme as an alternative and continue to work with the British Council for International engagement.

COVID19 Crisis Intervention

As the COVID19 pandemic impact was still being felt, with ongoing challenges in the Early Years sector. LADYBIRDS remained at the forefront for planning for supporting vulnerable clients - new and existing - in relation to their health and wellbeing. Welfare packs to assist personal hygiene for women, children, men and baby boxes were provided for client referrals, working in partnership with health professionals, community organisations and concerned residents. Parent support sessions were delivered both face to face and an online capacity using Zoom, with a specific emphasis on mental wellbeing boosting activities to support those in isolation due to lockdown, or who have long term issues as a result, including Long Covid. Food Support packs continued to be offered to all participants as well as the formulation of a local essential services directory covering all of the Ards and North Down Area.

Financial review

Restricted reserves are used for the purposes intended as per the conditions of funding for each fund. LADYBIRDS's restricted reserves balance related to the timing differential receipt of funding and expenditure. There reserves should balance at zero when programmes are completed. There is a designated fund for the building project, to future proof the organisation and remove the ongoing risk of premises being sold.

Unrestricted reserves are used for items in keeping with the organisations charitable aims and objectives including redundancy liability. At the end of the current year, the charity shows a loss of £16,191 which includes expenditure which has been capitalised for a period in the future.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

Plans for future periods

LADYBIRDS aims to

- a) Complete the purchase of the building to implement an enhanced Children & Family Centre service for Ards North Down and strengthen the rural services for women,
- b) Ladybirds is continuing to work with NI Housing Executive to develop an onsite provision in Kilcooley estate
- c) Progress the digitalisation project to improve access to LADYBIRDS programmes via online platforms.
- d) Develop social economy to help sustain the organisation, making it less reliant on grant income.
- e) Secure funding to upgrade the building

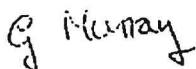
Funds held as custodian trustee

LADYBIRDS does not hold funds on behalf of others.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 14 December 2023 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



Georgina Murray
Trustee



Nicole Weir
Trustee

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Ladybirds Children's Services

Year ended 31 March 2023

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Ladybirds Children's Services ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (the '2008 Act') and the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act'). You are satisfied that the accounts of the company are not required by charity or company law to be audited and have chosen instead to have an independent examination.

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements as carried out under section 65 of the 2008 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with my examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I confirm that there are no other matters to which your attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

E Mulholland

E Mulholland for and on behalf of
Johnston Graham Limited
Independent Examiner

216/218 Holywood Road
Belfast
BT4 1PD

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 March 2023

		Unrestricted funds £	2023 Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
	Note				
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	5	–	23,689	23,689	72,556
Other trading activities	6	110,646	–	110,646	91,400
Total income		<u>110,646</u>	<u>23,689</u>	<u>134,335</u>	<u>163,956</u>
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities	7,8	<u>110,390</u>	<u>28,889</u>	<u>139,279</u>	<u>149,918</u>
Total expenditure		<u>110,390</u>	<u>28,889</u>	<u>139,279</u>	<u>149,918</u>
Net (expenditure)/income and net movement in funds		<u>256</u>	<u>(5,200)</u>	<u>(4,944)</u>	<u>14,038</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		14,038	15,860	29,898	15,860
Total funds carried forward		<u>14,294</u>	<u>10,660</u>	<u>24,954</u>	<u>29,898</u>

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

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Financial Position

31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	£	2022 £
Fixed assets				
Tangible fixed assets	12		9,154	11,162
Current assets				
Debtors	13	2,400		600
Cash at bank and in hand		34,721		42,084
		<u>37,121</u>		<u>42,684</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>21,321</u>		<u>23,948</u>
Net current assets			<u>15,800</u>	<u>18,736</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>24,954</u>	<u>29,898</u>
Net assets			<u>24,954</u>	<u>29,898</u>
Funds of the charity				
Restricted funds			10,660	15,860
Unrestricted funds			14,294	14,038
Total charity funds	16		<u>24,954</u>	<u>29,898</u>

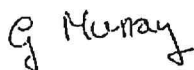
For the year ending 31 March 2023 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

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

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

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 14 December 2023, and are signed on behalf of the board by:



Georgina Murray
Trustee



Nicole Weir
Trustee

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended 31 March 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net (expenditure)/income	(4,944)	14,038
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	2,288	2,206
Interest payable and similar charges	515	561
Accrued (income)/expenses	(2)	2,211
<i>Changes in:</i>		
Trade and other debtors	(1,800)	(600)
Trade and other creditors	(2,625)	465
Cash generated from operations	(6,568)	18,881
Interest paid	(515)	(561)
Net cash (used in)/from operating activities	<u>(7,083)</u>	<u>18,320</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of tangible assets	<u>(280)</u>	<u>(7,275)</u>
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(280)</u>	<u>(7,275)</u>
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents	(7,363)	11,045
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	42,084	31,039
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u>34,721</u>	<u>42,084</u>

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2023

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in N.Ireland and a registered charity in Northern Ireland. The address of the registered office is 357 Old Belfast Road, Bagor, BT19 1RB, N.Ireland.

2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the 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) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Tangible assets *(continued)*

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, except to which it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Equipment - 20% reducing balance

Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

For impairment testing of goodwill, the goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquisition date, allocated to each of the cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the charity are assigned to those units.

Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Financial instruments *(continued)*

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

Defined contribution plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

4. Limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee and has no authorised or issued share capital. The company has charitable status accepted by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under reference NIC670029

5. Donations and legacies

	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Donations				
Donations	15,762	15,762	10,434	10,434
Grants				
Grants receivable	7,927	7,927	62,122	62,122
	<u>23,689</u>	<u>23,689</u>	<u>72,556</u>	<u>72,556</u>

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2023

6. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Creche Income	110,646	110,646	91,400	91,400

7. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£
Charitable Activities	108,435	28,889	137,324
Support costs	1,955	–	1,955
	<u>110,390</u>	<u>28,889</u>	<u>139,279</u>

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£
Citable Activities	77,362	70,315	147,677
Support costs	–	2,241	2,241
	<u>77,362</u>	<u>72,556</u>	<u>149,918</u>

8. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly	Support costs	Total funds 2023	Total fund 2022
	£	£	£	£
Charitable Activities	137,324	–	137,324	147,677
Governance costs	–	1,955	1,955	2,241
	<u>137,324</u>	<u>1,955</u>	<u>139,279</u>	<u>149,918</u>

9. Net (expenditure)/income

Net (expenditure)/income is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2023	2022
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>2,288</u>	<u>2,206</u>

10. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	79,084	84,058
Employer contributions to pension plans	1,635	1,844
	<u>80,719</u>	<u>85,902</u>

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

10. Staff costs *(continued)*

The average head count of employees during the year was 11 (2022: 11).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2022: Nil).

11. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No Trustees have received remuneration in the year.

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2022	13,621	13,621
Additions	280	280
At 31 March 2023	13,901	13,901
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2022	2,459	2,459
Charge for the year	2,288	2,288
At 31 March 2023	4,747	4,747
Carrying amount		
At 31 March 2023	9,154	9,154
At 31 March 2022	11,162	11,162

13. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Other debtors	2,400	600

14. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Accruals and deferred income	3,409	3,411
Social security and other taxes	774	824
Other creditors	17,138	19,713
	21,321	23,948

15. Pensions and other post retirement benefits

Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £1,635 (2022: £1,844).

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2023

16. Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
General funds	14,038	110,646	(110,390)	14,294

	At 1 April 2021	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£
General funds	–	91,400	(77,362)	14,038

Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
Restricted Fund	15,860	23,689	(28,889)	10,660

	At 1 April 2021	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£
Restricted Fund	15,860	72,556	(72,556)	15,860

17. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	9,154	–	9,154
Current assets	26,461	10,660	37,121
Creditors less than 1 year	(21,321)	–	(21,321)
Net assets	14,294	10,660	24,954

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	11,162	–	11,162
Current assets	26,824	15,860	42,684
Creditors less than 1 year	(23,948)	–	(23,948)
Net assets	14,038	15,860	29,898

Ladybirds Children's Services

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

18. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 Apr 2022	Cash flows	At 31 Mar 2023
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>42,084</u>	<u>(7,363)</u>	<u>34,721</u>

Ladybirds Children's Services

Northern Ireland - Charity number 108165

Annual report

PLEASE FIND ATTACHED IN CHAIRTY ACCOUNTS ATTACHMENT

Ladybirds Children's Services

Northern Ireland - Charity number 108165

Annual return

PLEASE FIND ATTACHED IN CHAIRTY ACCOUNTS ATTACHMENT