

Charity number: 1150296
Company number: 07528154
(England and Wales)

Leading-Link

Report of the Trustees and Unaudited Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 March 2020

Leading-Link
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Leading-Link
Report of the Trustees
For the year ended 31 March 2020

The Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements for the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2020. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of 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 the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The charity's objectives are restricted to the following:

1) To act as a resource for young people up to the age of 25 living in South East Northumberland by providing advice and assistance and organising programmes of physical, educational and other activities as a means of:

(a) advancing in life and helping young people by developing their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as independent, mature and responsible individuals;

(b) advancing education;

(c) relieving unemployment;

(d) providing recreational and leisure time activity in the interests of social welfare for people living in the area of benefit who have need by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disability, poverty or social and economic circumstances with a view to improving the conditions of life of such persons.

2) To advance the education by such means as the trustees deem fit, in particular but not exclusively by assisting the provision of facilities not required by the local education authority and promoting learning for pleasure by people no longer in full time employment through the continues development of their individual capabilities, competences, skills and understanding in subjects of educational value.

3) To promote the capacity and skills of the members of the socially and economically disadvantaged communities of South East Northumberland in such a way that they are better able to identify and help meet their needs and to participate more fully in society.

4) To promote social inclusion for the public benefit by preventing people from becoming socially excluded, relieving the needs of those people who are socially excluded and assisting them to integrate into society.

Leading-Link
Report of the Trustees Continued
For the year ended 31 March 2020

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Report of the Trustees

For the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020

Significant activities

This year we have continued to build on our three core strengths - Young Leaders, Governance and Place-based collaboration - but this year the inclusion of families made impact and achievement so much greater.

Our Young Leaders have inspired many throughout their journey which was celebrated in the Children's University graduation. 132 children graduated with 14,527 hours and 34 leaders with 7,912 hours collectively. 12 key partners cross-sector gave out much deserved trophies to some of the young people who had been awarded recognition for hard work, resilience and personal development.

Indeed this year saw the birth of a whole host of young, emerging leader groups across a further 4 schools who completed an 8 week interactive training programme in all aspects of volunteering and then shadowed our experienced young leaders in a huge variety of community settings. This included a fifth year at Blyth Live, a first year at the Hexham Abbey Festival of Flame and a third successful year of Spooky Larks in the Park at Plessey Woods attracting over 200 visitors. Some even learnt how to do the dragon dance and perform in the annual Chinese New Year Parade in Newcastle.

The experienced young leaders and emerging leaders went on to do some amazing pioneering work including organizing and hosting a very successful 'Question and Answer' session on the new Combined Authorities 'Children and Young People's Plan'. They invited key strategic decision makers including key Local Authority's specific leads on environment, transport and Children's Services and executive members of the senior management team who had written the plan. The evening was so well received that it was decided to continue to meet on a regular basis and co-create to drive the Children & Young People's Plan forward with young people at the helm. Young people from various different groups we had facilitated including an environmental group 'Pass on Plastics', Youth Voice, Physical Activity Ambassadors, Youth Media and of course the Emerging Leaders were all present.

Place-based collaboration was at its best in the flagship summer camp with over 150 targeted children on a 4 week activity camp. Partners and local activity providers came together to show just what can be achieved when everyone works agile with a common purpose and vision. Breakfast and a hot meals were served every day, trips out to venues across Northumberland together with a varied itinerary of art, sport, mindfulness and fun. Yet again, we were so proud of our young leaders who become the team leaders and role models for their younger peers. The evaluation conducted by Newcastle University demonstrated that aspirations for these children were raised and the young leaders were undoubtedly a key factor.

Our network of partners has opened up a great deal of opportunities, many to incorporate the families of the children and young people we work alongside. 30 children and their families from Blyth were bused over to Kirkley Hall for the day to visit the zoo, rock climb and work with green wood for a bit of Easter fun! Alnwick Gardens opened its doors and over 180 children, young people and adults participating with Leading Link from Lynemouth, Linton, Red Row and Blyth were given the opportunity to have a great summer day. Also during the summer period we visited Lynemouth on a weekly basis, offering family activities. Funded by CELL Big Local.

Resilience was high on our list this year and this was absolutely evident in our enterprise project. A six week initiative across three schools with 120 primary school children. They created ideas into prototypes, presented at a Dragon's Den style panel and then sold their products at Morpeth and Ashington Markets. All profits went to the individuals schools chosen charity.

Celebration was also high on the agenda again this year and our three highlights were the Children's University Graduation, the third Blyth Carnival with 500 participants and the annual Whitley Bay Playhouse partnership celebration, now in its 10th year. At the Playhouse there were 140 young people from 6 schools across the Northumberland Catholic partnership who gained the whole theatre experience of behind the scenes, rehearsals, front of house and ultimately performing to an audience of 600.

Our Governance has matched our growth and we are delighted to have been joined by two more Governors who were once Youth Ambassadors themselves with Leading Link. Now into their twenties, they have become successful in their own rights and have returned to 'give back' some of the valuable support they felt they received when younger. We are delighted to have them to ensure our provision remains rooted to our ethos ensuring we always remain young person led.

We are very much looking forward to supporting the journey of even more children, young people and their families throughout the next year.

Leading-Link
Report of the Trustees Continued
For the year ended 31 March 2020

FINANCIAL REVIEW

During the year, £41,436.30 restricted funding was received for various different specific projects, as listed below.

£6,350 CELL
£30,000 Lottery funding
£250 Keyfund
£4,836.30 Community Chest

All the above restricted funding had been spent as at the end of the reporting period.

At the beginning of the accounting period, there was £4,641 restricted funding brought forward from March 2018. This related to the Bedlington Statue. This has still not yet been spent and given that this funding was received over two years ago at the time the accounts are being prepared, this funding has been moved to unrestricted funds.

Reserves

The Charity intends to maintain a positive cash flow and thus hold reserves to enable it to continue in the event of funding releases.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

Commencement of Activities

The company was incorporated on 14 February 2011 as Leading-Link. The company commenced providing services on 1st April 2011 and was registered as a charity with the Charities Commission on 27 December 2012.

Constitution

The charity is controlled by its constitution, a memorandum of association and a governing document and bye-laws and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Recruitment and Appointment of new trustees

Appointment of Trustees was made from the long term executive team when the charity was formed. The appointments were from those prepared to volunteer and were based upon a mix of business and educational skills. New Trustees will be invited on board to replace existing trustees as they retire from the company.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Name of Charity	Leading-Link
Charity registration number	1150296
Company registration number	07528154
Principal address	The Lodge Ridge Terrace Bedlington Northumberland NE22 6ED

Trustees

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Mrs Samantha Leslie
Mrs Wendy Parker
(Appointed: 09 October 2012)
(Resigned: 01 April 2019)
Mr Ryan Smailes
Mrs Maxine Gardner
Mr Keith Newman
Mr Chris Tait
Mr Kieran Vickers

Leading-Link
Report of the Trustees Continued
For the year ended 31 March 2020

(Appointed: 12 February 2019)

(Resigned: 15 October 2020)

Mr James Palmer

Mr Richard Crulley

(Appointed: 09 July 2019)

Mrs Victoria Judson

Senior management

Lyn Horton

Independent examiners

Northumberland Accountants & Tax Advisers Ltd

Ashington Workspace

Lintonville Parkway

Ashington

Northumberland

NE63 9JZ

Bankers

Co-Operative Bank Plc

Approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on its behalf by

.....
Mrs Samantha Leslie

19 January 2021

Leading-Link
Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees
For the year ended 31 March 2020

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, 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 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 examiners 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 that in any material respect:

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 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.

.....
Mrs Bobbie Brown
FMAAT
Northumberland Accountants & Tax Advisers Ltd
Ashington Workspace
Lintonville Parkway
Ashington
Northumberland
NE63 9JZ

19 January 2021

Leading-Link
Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
For the year ended 31 March 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020 £	2019 £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies		-	34,900	34,900	41,400
Other trading activities		69,462	6,536	75,998	63,329
Total		69,462	41,436	110,898	104,729
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		(4,593)	(41,436)	(46,029)	(39,424)
Charitable activities	2	(76,604)	-	(76,604)	(74,342)
Total		(81,197)	(41,436)	(122,633)	(113,766)
Net income/expenditure		(11,735)	-	(11,735)	(9,037)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		38,313	-	38,313	47,350
Total funds carried forward		26,578	-	26,578	38,313

Leading-Link
Statement of Financial Position
As at 31 March 2020

	Notes	2020 £	2019 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	6	8,909	9,249
		8,909	9,249
Current assets			
Debtors	7	9,365	8,911
Cash at bank and in hand		18,349	27,781
		27,714	36,692
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	(10,045)	(7,628)
Net current assets		17,669	29,064
Total assets less current liabilities		26,578	38,313
Net assets		26,578	38,313
The funds of the charity			
Unrestricted income funds		26,578	38,313
Total funds		26,578	38,313

For the year ended 31 March 2020 the 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 company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476,
- 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.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board and signed on its behalf by:

Mrs Samantha Leslie
Trustee

19 January 2021

Leading-Link
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 March 2020

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for investments which are included at market value and the revaluation of certain fixed assets and 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 (FRS 102), and the Companies Act 2006.

Leading-Link meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

Going concern

The reporting entity showed a deficit in this reporting period. Income has dropped by £24,453 leading to a deficit of £11,735. However, this was covered by the reserves held by the Charity and the accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis, as there are no concerns over the longevity of the entity.

Funds

Leading-Link Limited receives both restricted and unrestricted funding. All notes to the accounts refer to both restricted and non-restricted funds.

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets, other than freehold land, are stated at cost or valuation less depreciation and any provision for impairment. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following basis:

Computer equipment	20% Straight line
Motor vehicles	20% per annum on cost
Fixtures and fittings	20% per annum on cost

2. Costs of charitable activities by activity type

	2020	2019
	£	£
Support costs		
Direct Charitable expenditure	75,072	72,695
Other office costs	443	431
Depreciation of assets	1,089	1,216
	<u>76,604</u>	<u>74,342</u>

Leading-Link
Notes to the Financial Statements Continued
For the year ended 31 March 2020

3. Analysis of support costs

	Raising funds	Direct Charitable expenditure	Depreciation of assets	2020	2019
	£	£	£	£	£
Advertising & promotions	264	58,691	1,089	60,044	61,801
Travelling expenses	-	3,018	-	3,018	3,959
Telephones, postage and stationery	-	3,265	-	3,265	2,926
Repairs, consumables & renewals	-	852	-	852	313
Insurance	-	2,325	-	2,325	1,500
Professional fees	-	4,450	-	4,450	2,058
Training & Staff Development	-	-	-	-	144
Governance costs	-	2,471	-	2,914	2,218
	264	75,072	1,089	76,868	74,919

4. Staff costs

Total staff costs for the year ended 31 March 2020 were:

	2020	2019
	£	£
Salaries and wages	56,140	54,393
Social security costs	1,526	4,950
Pension costs	1,025	809
	58,691	60,151

5. Comparative for the Statement of Financial Activities

The comparative year values on the Statement of Financial Activities are for unrestricted funds.

Leading-Link
Notes to the Financial Statements Continued
For the year ended 31 March 2020

6. Tangible fixed assets

Cost or valuation	Land and buildings £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Total £
At 01 April 2019	7,169	1,994	11,069	20,231
Additions	-	-	750	750
Revaluations	-	(45)	-	(45)
At 31 March 2020	7,169	1,948	11,819	20,936
Depreciation				
At 01 April 2019	-	1,809	9,174	10,983
Charge for year	-	-	1,044	1,044
At 31 March 2020	-	1,809	10,218	12,027
Net book values				
At 31 March 2020	7,169	139	1,601	8,909
At 31 March 2019	7,169	184	1,895	9,248

7. Debtors

	2020 £	2019 £
Amounts due within one year:		
Trade debtors	9,365	8,911
	9,365	8,911

8. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2020 £	2019 £
Trade creditors	6,147	3,739
Other creditors	3,418	3,439
Accruals and deferred income	480	450
	10,045	7,628

9. Company limited by guarantee

Leading-Link is a company limited by guarantee and accordingly does not have a share capital.

Leading-Link
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ended 31 March 2020

	2020	2019
	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENT		
Donations and legacies		
Grants receivable	34,900	41,400
	34,900	41,400
Other trading activities		
Fundraising events	11,570	19,283
Service Level Agreements	64,428	44,046
	75,998	63,329
Total incoming resources	110,898	104,729
EXPENDITURE		
Raising donations and legacies		
Direct Charitable Expenditure	(45,765)	(38,847)
	(45,765)	(38,847)
SUPPORT COSTS		
Advertising & promotions		
Fundraising Advertising & promotions	(264)	(433)
Advertising & promotions (Direct Charitable expenditure)	(58,691)	(60,152)
Advertising & promotions (Depreciation of assets)	(1,089)	(1,216)
	(60,044)	(61,801)
Travelling expenses		
Travelling expenses (Direct Charitable expenditure)	(3,018)	(3,959)
	(3,018)	(3,959)
Telephones, postage and stationery		
Telephones, postage and stationery (Direct Charitable expenditure)	(3,265)	(2,926)
	(3,265)	(2,926)
Repairs, consumables & renewals		
Repairs, consumables & renewals (Direct Charitable expenditure)	(852)	(313)
	(852)	(313)
Insurance		
Insurance (Direct Charitable expenditure)	(2,325)	(1,500)
	(2,325)	(1,500)
Professional fees		
Professional fees (Direct Charitable expenditure)	(4,450)	(2,058)
	(4,450)	(2,058)
Training & Staff Development		
Training & Staff Development	-	(144)
	-	(144)
Governance costs		

Leading-Link
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities Continued
For the year ended 31 March 2020

Governance costs (Direct Charitable expenditure)	(2,471)	(1,787)
Governance costs (Other office costs)	(443)	(431)
	(2,914)	(2,218)
Total resources expended	(122,633)	(113,766)
Net Expenditure	(11,735)	(9,037)