

Charity Registration No. 1112897

Company Registration No. 03629625 (England and Wales)

**AUTISM ALLIANCE UK LIMITED**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

# AUTISM ALLIANCE UK LIMITED

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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<b>Trustees</b>	Mr A Grainger Ms J Howson Ms D Harrison-Sales Ms C Edwards-Daem Ms J Lasota
<b>Secretary</b>	Mr A Grainger
<b>Charity number</b>	1112897
<b>Company number</b>	03629625
<b>Registered office</b>	Sefton House Bridle Road Petersfield House Bootle L30 4XR
<b>Independent examiner</b>	Jean Ellis BA FCA CTA DSG Castle Chambers 43 Castle Street Liverpool L2 9TL
<b>Bankers</b>	Royal Bank of Scotland 41 Maghull Road Maghull Merseyside L31 2HE

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# AUTISM ALLIANCE UK LIMITED

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# **AUTISM ALLIANCE UK LIMITED**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTOR'S REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

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The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021.

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

### **Objectives and activities**

The charity's objects are to promote, maintain, improve and advance the education, development, health and welfare of people with autism and/or related conditions. The members of the company are chief executives of the constituent charities of the alliance. The members elect three (and not more than fifteen) from among their number to be Trustees of the charity and Directors of the company. The members meet in general meetings at least twice a year.

The Trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

### **Achievements and performance**

The last 18 months have been extremely challenging for all Autism Alliance members during the pandemic working to keep service users and team members safe during this unprecedented time. We have been unable to host face-to-face meetings but have met regularly with members via the Zoom video conferencing platform to deliver specific talks which included legal representatives from Landmark Chambers who delivered a talk on the Autism Act 2009 and the Care Act 2014, a representative from BASW and the Deputy Chief Inspector People with a learning disability and autistic people from the CQC.

Autism Alliance have been working in partnership with the British Association of Social Workers (BASW) on the Homes not Hospitals workstream, helping to produce key documents to support social workers in a more specialised way of working to avoid admissions to hospital and to support, advocate and challenge on behalf of autistic people and people with a learning disability currently in assessment and treatment units to enable a return to home as soon as possible. Documents produced include best practice commissioning and examples, the role of the social worker and key guidance and resources.

Working in collaboration with BASW the Autism Alliance produced material and co-hosted three webinars' subjects covered Know your Rights, what a good care needs assessment looks like and working in partnership. All three webinars were well attended by people with autism, carers, individuals with lived experience and health and social care professionals. These webinars provided specific knowledge and skills to support autistic people and people with a learning disability. The Autism Alliance continue to work closely with BASW to develop further information and advice for the benefit of autistic people and their families.

We worked with the Department of Health and Social Care Task Force, a group set to ensure that a concerted and determined action was taken to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 in the care sector, both for those who rely on care and support and the social care workforce. The taskforce also considered the impact of COVID-19 on the care sector over next 12 months and produced a report for Government to support this plan to enable people to live as safely as possible whilst maintaining contacts and activity.

The Autism Alliance have worked closely with the Department of Health and Social Care sitting on the Autism Strategy Executive Committee advising on the Autism Strategy 2021. The strategy was launched on the 21st July 2021 and the Autism Alliance will remain on the executive board to ensure that the targets on the implementation plan are achieved.

The Autism Alliance were also invited to participate in the Autism Commission at Westminster, an independent, cross-party group with leaders from the autism sector to influence policy and practice for an autism friendly world.

### **Financial review**

The funds of the Alliance are supplied by its members in the form of subscriptions or other contributions.

# **AUTISM ALLIANCE UK LIMITED**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTOR'S REPORT) (CONTINUED)** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

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It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six month's expenditure. The Trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year.

It is not envisaged that the Alliance will generate sufficient surplus funds to warrant investments. Accordingly, no investments policy has been developed.

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

The Board of Trustees has overall responsibility for ensuring that the charity has appropriate systems of controls, financial or otherwise. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities and to provide reasonable assurance that:

- the charity is operating efficiently and effectively;
- its assets are safeguarded against unauthorised use or disposition;
- proper records are maintained and financial information used within the charity or for publication is reliable;
- the charity complies with relevant laws and regulations.

The systems of internal control are designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance against material misstatement or loss. They include:

- an annual budget approved by the Board of Trustees;
- regular consideration by the Board of Trustees of financial results, variance from budgets and non financial performance indicators;
- delegation of authority;
- identification and management of risks.

### **Structure, governance and management**

The charity is a company limited by guarantee.

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

Mr A Grainger

Ms J Howson

Ms M Simpson

(Resigned 17 September 2021)

Ms D Harrison-Sales

Ms C Edwards-Daem

Ms J Lasota

Mr J Spiers

(Resigned 14 October 2020)

None of the Trustees have any beneficial interest in the company. All of the Trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

# AUTISM ALLIANCE UK LIMITED

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTOR'S REPORT) (CONTINUED) *FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021*

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



Mr A Grainger  
**Trustee**

11 November 2021

# AUTISM ALLIANCE UK LIMITED

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

### TO THE TRUSTEES OF AUTISM ALLIANCE UK LIMITED

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I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Autism Alliance UK Limited (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2021.

#### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the Trustees of the charity (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 the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity 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 carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable 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 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 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 financial statements to be reached.



Jean Ellis BA FCA CTA  
DSG  
Castle Chambers  
43 Castle Street  
Liverpool  
L2 9TL

Dated: 11 November 2021

# AUTISM ALLIANCE UK LIMITED

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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		Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2020 £
	Notes		
<b><u>Income from:</u></b>			
Donations and legacies	3	58,500	92,514
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b><u>Expenditure on:</u></b>			
Charitable activities	4	2,591	84,292
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Net income for the year/ Net movement in funds</b>		55,909	8,222
Fund balances at 1 April 2020		131,166	122,944
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Fund balances at 31 March 2021</b>		187,075	131,166
		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

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



# AUTISM ALLIANCE UK LIMITED

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	2021 £	£	2020 £	£
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	9	6,260		256	
Cash at bank and in hand		181,715		132,114	
		<u>187,975</u>		<u>132,370</u>	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	10	(900)		(1,204)	
Net current assets			187,075		131,166
<b>Income funds</b>					
Unrestricted funds			187,075		131,166
			<u>187,075</u>		<u>131,166</u>

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The director acknowledges her responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

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.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 11 November 2021

*Andrew Grainger*

Mr A Grainger  
Trustee

Company Registration No. 03629625

# **AUTISM ALLIANCE UK LIMITED**

## **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

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#### **1 Accounting policies**

##### **Charity information**

Autism Alliance UK Limited is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Sefton House, Bridle Road, Petersfield House, Bootle, L30 4XR.

##### **1.1 Accounting convention**

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

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

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

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

##### **1.2 Going concern**

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

##### **1.3 Charitable funds**

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

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

##### **1.4 Income**

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

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

##### **1.5 Expenditure**

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis.

##### **1.6 Cash and cash equivalents**

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

# AUTISM ALLIANCE UK LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### 1.7 Financial instruments

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

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

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

##### **Basic financial assets**

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

##### **Impairment of financial assets**

Financial assets, other than those held at fair value through income and expenditure, are assessed for indicators of impairment at each reporting date. Financial assets are impaired where there is objective evidence that, as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the financial asset, the estimated future cash flows have been affected.

If an asset is impaired, the impairment loss is the difference between the carrying amount and the present value of the estimated cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. The impairment loss is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

If there is a decrease in the impairment loss arising from an event occurring after the impairment was recognised, the impairment is reversed. The reversal is such that the current carrying amount does not exceed what the carrying amount would have been, had the impairment not previously been recognised. The impairment reversal is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

##### **Derecognition of financial assets**

Financial assets are derecognised only when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire or are settled, or when the charity transfers the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to another entity, or if some significant risks and rewards of ownership are retained but control of the asset has transferred to another party that is able to sell the asset in its entirety to an unrelated third party.

##### **Basic financial liabilities**

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

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

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

# AUTISM ALLIANCE UK LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

### 1 Accounting policies (Continued)

#### ***Derecognition of financial liabilities***

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

### 2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

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

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

### 3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2021 £	2020 £
Donations and gifts	-	2,764
Membership fees	58,500	89,750
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

### 4 Charitable activities

	Membership 2021 £	Membership 2020 £
Website maintenance and development	-	16,500
Travel and subsistence	-	3,362
Bank charges	53	57
Consultancy	-	20,371
Marketing and publicity	-	3,837
Insurance	620	922
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
	673	45,049
Grant funding of activities (see note 5)	-	25,100
Share of governance costs (see note 6)	1,918	14,143
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
	2,591	84,292
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

# AUTISM ALLIANCE UK LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

### 5 Grants payable

2020  
£

Grants to institutions:  
Autisca

25,100

During the previous period a grant was paid to Autisca as a contribution towards research. Autisca are the UK's national autism research charity.

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### 6 Support costs

	Support costs £	Governance costs £	2021 £	Support costs £	Governance costs £	2020 £
Examination fees	-	918	918	-	1,100	1,100
Legal and professional	-	1,000	1,000	-	2,159	2,159
Meeting expenses	-	-	-	-	10,884	10,884
	-	1,918	1,918	-	14,143	14,143
Analysed between						
Charitable activities	-	1,918	1,918	-	14,143	14,143

Governance costs includes payments to the independent examiners of £918 (2020- £1,100) for independent examination fees.

### 7 Trustees

None of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

### 8 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2021 Number	2020 Number
Total	-	-

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

# AUTISM ALLIANCE UK LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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### 9 Debtors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	6,000	-
Prepayments and accrued income	260	256
	<u>6,260</u>	<u>256</u>

### 10 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	900	1,204
	<u>900</u>	<u>1,204</u>

### 11 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2020 - none).