

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 02744192 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1014270

Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022
for
Springboard Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Warren House Accountants Limited
4 The Courtyard
Holmsted Farm
Staplefield Road
Haywards Heath
RH17 5JF

Springboard Project

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Springboard Project

Chairman and CEO Reports for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Chair's Report

Covid 19 pandemic has continued its devastating impacts on all our lives during the last 12 months. Fortunately, throughout this period Springboard has been able to continue to provide support to children young people and their families. I am immensely proud to have witnessed how our teams and departments have responded and adjusted the way they work to deliver services and fundraise. They have worked so well together to ensure our service users are at the centre of everything they do. They have remained positive and enthusiastic despite the anxieties and nervousness they and many others have understandably experienced in this very different world in which they have operated.

Like many charities we are waiting to see if our income will return to its normal levels and from its normal sources but we have been cautious in our budgeting which we hope will provide greater ability to navigate any changes in our income makeup over the course of the next few years. We know that without the generosity of so many, including trusts and foundations, local government and the general public that the financial position of the charity would have been negatively affected. Exceptional management of the charity means we find ourselves in a relatively positive position considering the circumstances. However, it is with great sadness that we will be saying goodbye to Ben Burt, our CEO, who will be moving on at the end of this financial year. We will miss him greatly and his leadership during his time with Springboard which has helped us greatly. We know that Ben's energy, passion and hard work will continue through our staff and volunteers. This will no doubt ensure we support those we serve and balance the many layers of inequality that unfortunately exist in many of our communities.

All of the trustees are sincerely thankful to everyone who has supported Springboard, including staff, volunteers, donors, funders, and partner organisations. We are all humbled and proud of the work the organisation has undertaken during this year, and we have to give praise to all of our staff and volunteers who have been able to support so many in such creative and caring ways.

Alan Vallon

Chair of Trustees

CEO's Report

Another year on, and who would have thought the pandemic would still have been such a prominent aspect in our lives. It was tough going at times but we also celebrated returning to in person services, reopening our centre and seeing so many children and families. It felt good to welcome families back and return to some form of normality. The ever-changing public health circumstances were challenging to keep up to date with and staff did amazingly well at remaining positive during covid outbreaks, constant testing and anxieties around returning to what we could describe as normal activity.

Still, it was fantastic to see people again and hear staff describe how good it was to be running services face to face, and see how happy the children were. Seeing families come back into the centre again was a particular highlight. We saw families attend for the first time, new parents who had babies during lockdown and children who were attending a social play setting for the very first time as a result of many play facilities having to close for such a long time. It was at times emotional, as we heard stories from parents who felt isolated and overwhelmed but our support was constant. We did what we could to support those who needed it and ensure that children were able to play, develop and socialise in a positive way.

My huge praise and thanks must go to our staff and volunteers. They never fail to amaze me in how kind they are. Their approach and kindness to the children and young people we work with is so humbling, and I know how much it means to the families we work with.

We enter another challenging period, with rising inflation and the cost of living become much more pressing for all in society. We will have to work hard to continue to use our resources carefully, and maintain the budgets we have produced. However, we have overcome many challenges over the last few years and I know the team are mindful of future challenges and risks to the organisation.

We are always so touched by the positive responses, thanks and generosity from the general public, parent carers and the communities we work within. We love what we do, and we know the difference it makes to so many. It is hard to put into words how humbled we are by the many positive messages we receive from children, young people and parents. The support we receive from funders and businesses always gives us a boost and we really do value all the support we receive.

The next 12 months will have many challenges, recruitment in social care proving difficult nationally, cost of living rising and economic uncertainty. Still, we remain positive about the fantastic work we do in the communities we work within.

Beth Coley

Interim Chief Executive