



Home-Start London

(Charity number: 1161629)

Trustees' report and financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2023

Reference and administrative information

Charity number 1161629

Business and registered office Stephens House
17 East End Road
London
N3 3QE

Trustees

Julia Roberts – Chair
Christina Smyth
Helen Anastasi
Karen Robertson
Lydia Lezama
Margaret O'Connor
Karen Robertson
Ally Cross
Silva Hrabar
Farkhunda Jabeen Ali (resigned 1st September 2022)
Janet Mountford (resigned 7th September 2022)
Sarah Messenger (resigned 7th September 2022)
Simon Lloyd (resigned 23rd September 2022)
Fran Boto (appointed 9th November 2022)
Ian Jesnick (appointed 9th November 2022)
Alex Williams (appointed 9th November 2022)

Treasurer Raphael Harris

Accountant **Accountability Europe Limited**
Omnibus Workspace, 39-41 North Road
London
N7 9DP

Home-Start London

Report of the Trustees for year ended 31 March 2023

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

Objectives and Activities

The objectives of Home-Start London (HSL) are to promote and facilitate the provision of Home-Start services throughout London, and in particular:

- To research and provide funding opportunities for members that may not otherwise be accessible to them, enabling them, with support, to extend services in their area;
- To provide a voice for and promote the work of members collectively, in London;
- To apply for funds for projects to involve some or all members;
- To raise the profile and awareness of the collective work of members, the extent and breadth of volunteer support, families reached and successful outcomes in London;
- Using collective membership data to influence policy and strategic planning of children and health services in London;
- To identify efficiencies through savings on back-office functions, training, marketing, and fundraising; and
- To reach larger numbers of vulnerable families across London, in areas where a Home-Start service may not already exist.

Since HSL was established in 2015 with 14 London Home-Starts operating across 15 boroughs, our membership and operations have evolved, responding to new challenges and opportunities. At the start of this year, the HSL membership was 12 London Home-Starts covering 24 boroughs. During the year, efforts were made to engage and include the four other local Home-Starts in the capital. This has enabled us to extend the reach of our joint initiatives to five additional boroughs.

In shaping our objectives for the year, and planning our activities, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. The Trustees have agreed that activities in pursuit of the above objectives have fully met the public benefit test.

Achievements and Performance

This was a tough year for many families with young children across London. Still struggling with the impact of the pandemic, they were hit with spiralling food and energy prices. This deepened poverty and inequality, pushing more families to crisis point. Home-Starts across London reported a sharp rise in referrals and an increase in the complexity of the challenges families faced including high levels of mental and physical health difficulties and social isolation.

London Home-Starts faced increasingly difficult operating conditions with rising costs, falling volunteer numbers, and fierce competition for funding. While navigating this, Home-Starts continued to provide critical support for families: 16 London Home-Starts collectively supported 6,543 families and 9,592 children through 800 volunteers and 189 staff. Our community network of skilled staff and highly trained volunteers provided a combination of highly tailored home visiting, group support and specialist services such as counselling. This compassionate, relational support continued to deliver

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For the year ended 31 March 2023

impressive outcomes for families and communities across the capital: 74% of parents reported improved mental health and 70% reported improved child development after Home-Start support.

Throughout the year, HSL's small team worked hard to connect, strengthen, and champion local Home-Starts. As agreed with the network, we focused on: building new partnerships to sustain and extend services; shared learning and collaboration to ensure services best meet the evolving needs of London's diverse communities; and raising our collective voice to demand more and better support for vulnerable families with young children across the capital. We share highlights below.

Building partnerships to sustain and extend Home-Start services to more London families.

In our annual member survey, 80% of Home-Starts said HSL had supported them to develop new partnerships and/or secure new funding. We provided support through joint bids, brokering introductions, signposting opportunities, and providing 1:1 advice.

Through our long-standing partnership with Berkeley Homes (North East London), we worked with three Home-Starts to support 240 new parents/carers and children in disadvantaged communities in South Islington, Hackney, Tower Hamlets, and Enfield to access Home-Start support. Families struggled to manage spiralling living costs. Alongside home visiting and groups, staff and volunteers connected parents to food and baby banks, linked them to money and housing advice, distributed food vouchers, and hosted "warm spaces" offering a hot meal. Families told us that, particularly during the tough winter months, Home-Start support was "a lifeline".

We developed two new partnerships bringing additional resources into the network. We were Oxford Street's charity partner for their 2022 Christmas campaign 'It's the Love You Give'. Hampers were distributed to 100 families across London including both treats and practical items such as thermals, socks, and blankets to help keep families warm and bring some Christmas magic over the winter months. Our new partnership with ZSL London Zoo opens up access for 3,500 parents/carers and children supported by London Home-Starts through free tickets and opportunities to share their feedback to help develop ZSL's community engagement programme. Connecting families with opportunities like this is part of Home-Start's support to build confidence and tackle social isolation.

Sharing learning and supporting collaboration to ensure services best meet the evolving needs of London's diverse communities

HSL continued to connect London Home-Starts to share learning and support joint work. This included facilitating a regular peer learning group for Home-Start CEOs/Directors. This vibrant group provided a safe space for Managers during a very difficult year to share challenges and offer ideas and support on a range of issues from DEI to governance to service innovation and income diversification. As one Manager reflected, "Through Home-Start London I have built strong relationships with other Home-Starts and shared our learning and approaches. As a network, we problem solve together. Managing a Home-Start can be a really lonely job. This peer support is vital."

At the start of the year, we shared the learning from the external evaluation of our pilot with Central North West London (CNWL) NHS Foundation Trust in several London perinatal mental health networks. This pilot supported a home-visiting service targeting new mothers facing mild to moderate mental health difficulties, bringing together staff and volunteers from three Home-Starts with Community Perinatal Mental Health teams in five boroughs. We used the learning to strengthen our partnership model, with an increased focus on ensuring the diversity of our volunteers to reflect and best support all the communities in need of our service. We were delighted to secure a new, one-year

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For the year ended 31 March 2023

contract with CNWL NHS Foundation Trust to extend the service to 50 new mothers. During the year, we convened meetings with two other Trusts interested in replicating our service, these conversations are ongoing.

Raising our collective voice in support of London families during the cost-of-living crisis.

In the autumn, we worked with the network to conduct research and deliver a joint campaign profiling the experiences of London families in the midst of the cost-of-living crisis. We surveyed parents, exploring how they were coping and what support they needed. The results were shocking: three in four parents felt stressed and anxious due to financial pressures and one in two said they were unable to afford household bills. Parents spoke about the negative impact on their young children and their frustrations at gaps in services and support. We worked with London campaigning group 4in10 to share our research during London Challenge Poverty Week. Home-Starts also shared the research with commissioners, funders, and councillors through their local influencing efforts. Collectively, we called for more and better support for families with young children and highlighted the critical role of Home-Start and the wider voluntary sector.

Throughout the year, HSL worked closely with Communications Leads to build skills and support collaboration. This included hosting regular peer learning sessions covering topics such as storytelling and engaging parent advocates. We also supported local Home-Starts by providing assets and coordinating joint campaigns such as during Baby Loss Awareness Week. Finally, HSL's Director and Programme Manager regularly represented Home-Start externally, building our profile, sharing network insight and amplifying family voices in key forums and platforms including the Pan-London Perinatal Mental Health Network and the London Poverty Alliance.

Fundraising and Partnership Highlights

As part of Home-Start London's fantastic partnership with Berkeley Homes (North East London), we supported fundraising events this year engaging staff and contractors. This included the successful annual Question of Sport event raising over £100,000, as well as a golf day, wine tasting and dragon boat race. BHNEL staff generously gave their time to support Home-Start events including a gift drive for families at Christmas. We are very appreciative of the match funding provided by Berkeley Foundation for this partnership.

We were delighted to secure a new contract for £123,000 with CNWL NHS Foundation Trust enabling us to continue to support women experiencing perinatal mental difficulties in five boroughs. We were pleased to receive a small grant of £1,000 from Children England to support our annual family survey as part of our cost-of-living crisis campaign. We also secured new partnerships with London ZSL and Oxford Street providing valuable, in-kind support. We moved into the third year of our City Bridge Trust partnership, providing much valued support through an annual grant of £20,000 towards the Director's salary.

As ever, we would like to thank all of our funders and partners for their commitment and support for the work of Home-Start across London. We are incredibly grateful, particularly in the current context which is increasingly challenging for our network.

Structure, Governance and Management

Home-Start London became a CIO in May 2015. The governing documents are the Home-Start London Constitution and the Members Agreement. The trustee board comprises an appointed trustee from

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each of Home-Start London's member schemes. Trustees bring skills and expertise to ensure the sound governance of Home-Start London as well as representation of the member schemes.

During the year, the Director worked with the board to develop a new, three-year strategy for Home-Start London. This was co-developed with the Managers of Home-Starts from across the network, discussion with partners/funders, and included insight from the 2022 annual survey of families supported by London Home-Starts. The new strategy contributes to the federation wide Home-Start strategy. Progress towards the goals outlined in the strategy will be regularly reviewed by the board.

Financial Review

Income this year from all sources was £330,235 (2022 - £330,533) and expenditure £288,449 (2022 - £302,621). Total funds at the yearend were £89,076 (2022 - £47,290) of which £44,930 is unrestricted, £22,146 is restricted and £22,000 is designated by the trustees for the purpose of fundraising and business development to support the growth of new funding partnerships for HSL and our work to support the wider network of London Home-Starts. This reflects our recognition of the increasingly challenging funding context and the need to diversify HSL's funding base to ensure sustainability over the longer-term.

Reserves Policy

The trustees review the reserves policy on an annual basis. It was agreed that unrestricted funds, which are the free reserves of the charity, should be set at a level that equates to at least approximately six months unrestricted expenditure (£50,000). This provides sufficient funds for management and administration and support costs.

Statement of Trustees Responsibility

The Trustees 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).

The law applicable to charities requires in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity for that period and of 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 2019 (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 charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that 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 Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provision of the trust deed. 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.

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Independent Examiner's Report
For the year ended 31 March 2023

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Home-Start London for the year ended 31 March 2023.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

As the charity trustees of the CIO you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the CIO's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

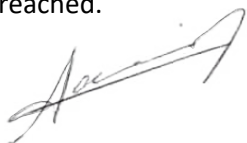
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

Since the CIO's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), which is one of the listed bodies.

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 CIO as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.



.....
Aamer Shehzad FCA

Accountability Europe Ltd
Omnibus Workspace
39-41 North Road
London N7 9DP
Date: **11th January 2024**

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Statement of financial activities

(including summary income and expenditure account)

For the year ended 31 March 2023

	Note	Unrestricted 2023 £	Restricted 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted 2022 £	Restricted 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Income from:							
Grants & donations		54,803	275,432	330,235	22,344	308,189	330,533
Total income	2	54,803	275,432	330,235	22,344	308,189	330,533
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	3	23,642	264,808	288,449	-	302,621	302,621
Total expenditure		23,642	264,808	288,449	-	302,621	302,621
Net income/ (expenditure)		31,162	10,624	41,786	22,344	5,568	27,912
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		31,162	10,624	41,786	22,344	5,568	27,912
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		35,768	11,522	47,290	13,424	5,954	19,378
Total funds carried forward	9	66,930	22,146	89,076	35,768	11,522	47,290

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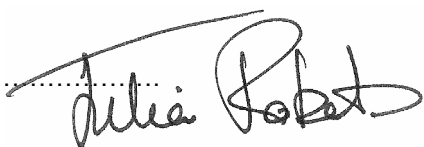
Balance sheet

As at 31 March 2023

	Note	£	2023 £	2022 £
Current assets:				
Debtors	10	3,938		-
Cash at bank and in hand		102,198		48,998
		<u>106,136</u>		<u>48,998</u>
Liabilities:				
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(17,060)		(1,708)
		<u>(17,060)</u>		<u>(1,708)</u>
Net current assets			<u>89,076</u>	<u>47,290</u>
Total net assets	12		<u>89,076</u>	<u>47,290</u>
Funds	12			
Restricted funds			22,146	35,768
Unrestricted funds:				
General funds		44,930		11,522
Designated funds		<u>22,000</u>		
			<u>66,930</u>	
Total charity funds			<u>89,076</u>	<u>47,290</u>

Approved by the trustees on **7th December 2023**
and signed on their behalf by:

.....
Julia Roberts
Chair of Trustees



The attached notes form part of the financial statements.

1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below, and have been consistently applied within the accounts.

a) Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102), the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), Accounting and Reporting by Charities published in 2019 SOBP (FRS102) and applicable charity and company law. The charity has taken advantage of the reduced disclosure framework and has not prepared a Cash Flow statement.

b) Incoming Resources/ Income

Incoming resources are recognised on an accruals basis, except that donations and legacies are recognised only upon receipt unless the donor advises otherwise. Grants and contracts are treated as income for the period to which the funder assigns the funds so matching the income for the period to which the funder assigns the funds with the associated costs of the services.

c) Charitable activities expenditure

Charitable activities consist of expenses incurred to further the company's aims and objectives of developing and maximising the effectiveness of the charity. Charitable expenditure includes the costs of training, sponsorship, grants and support to member organisations. The costs of liaising with member organisations, the preparation of directories, events and conference are included.

d) Stocks of materials and literature

Stocks of materials and literature are written off as incurred.

e) Going concern basis

The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis.

f) VAT

Where appropriate expenditure includes irrecoverable value added tax.

g) Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use in the furtherance of the charity's objectives. Restricted funds are subject to restrictions imposed by donors as set out in the notes to the accounts. Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

h) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid after taking account of any trade discounts due.

i) Creditors

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

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Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2023

2 ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES INCOME

	2023	2022
	£	£
Unrestricted		
General Fund	54,803	22,344
Total Unrestricted	54,803	22,344
Restricted		
Berkeley Homes (North East London) Ltd	140,142	92,381
Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust	114,290	127,707
City Bridge Foundation	20,000	20,000
Children England	1,000	-
Clarion Futures	-	10,000
HUSK ICAP	-	7,401
Kristian Gerhard Jebsen Foundation	-	8,000
London Community Response Fund Wave 5	-	31,600
Pears Foundation	-	10,000
The Invesco Cares Foundation	-	1,100
Total Restricted	275,432	308,189
Total Income	330,235	330,533

3 EXPENDITURE

	Charitable Activities	Support costs	Total 2023	Total 2022
Project costs	205,698	-	205,698	256,278
Staff costs	52,561	-	52,561	35,393
Office and admin	-	5,142	5,142	5,249
Legal and professional	-	24,449	24,449	4,800
Independent Examination	-	600	600	900
	258,258	30,190	288,449	302,621
Support costs	30,190	(30,190)	-	-
Total Expenditure	288,449	-	288,449	302,621

Of the total expenditure, £23,642 was unrestricted (2022: £nil) and £264,808 was restricted (2022: £302,621).

5 STAFF COSTS

Staff costs were as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Salaries & Social Security costs	50,358	32,643
Defined contribution pension costs	2,203	2,750
	52,561	35,393

The average number of persons employed by the charity in the year was 2 person (2022: 2)

The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel was £29,456 (2022: 35,393)

6 NET OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)

The net operating surplus/(deficit) of income over expenditure is stated after charging:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Independent examination	600	900

7 TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

No Trustees had expenses reimbursed or paid directly in the year (2022 - Nil)

HOME-START LONDON

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2023

8 TAXATION

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

9 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

Current year

	At the start of the year £	Income £	Expenditure & losses £	Transfers	At the end of the year £
Unrestricted Funds:					
General Fund	35,768	54,803	(23,642)	(22,000)	44,930
Designated Fund				22,000	22,000
Total Unrestricted Funds	35,768	54,803	(23,642)	-	66,930
Restricted Funds:					
Berkeley Homes (North East London)	1,868	140,142	(130,301)	-	11,709
Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust	-	114,290	(103,853)	-	10,437
City Bridge Foundation	-	20,000	(20,000)	-	-
HUSK ICAP	3,402	-	(3,402)	-	-
Kristian Gerhard Jebsen Foundation	2,552	-	(2,552)	-	-
London Community Response Fund Wave 5	2,600	-	(2,600)	-	-
The Invesco Cares Foundation	1,100	-	(1,100)	-	-
Children England		1,000	(1,000)	-	-
Total Restricted Funds	11,522	275,432	(264,808)	-	22,146
Total Funds	47,290	330,235	(288,449)	-	89,076

9a MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

prior year	At the start of the year £	Income £	Expenditure & losses £	Transfers	At the end of the year £
Unrestricted Funds:					
General Fund	13,424	22,344	-	-	35,768
Total Unrestricted Funds	13,424	22,344	-	-	35,768
Restricted Funds:					
Berkeley Homes (North East London) Ltd	-	92,381	(90,513)	-	1,868
Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust	-	127,707	(127,707)	-	-
City Bridge Foundation	-	20,000	(20,000)	-	-
Clarion Futures	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
HUSK ICAP	3,402	7,401	(7,401)	-	3,402
Kristian Gerhard Jebsen Foundation	2,552	8,000	(8,000)	-	2,552
London Community Response Fund Wave 5	-	31,600	(29,000)	-	2,600
Pears Foundation	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
The Invesco Cares Foundation	-	1,100	-	-	1,100
Total Restricted Funds	5,954	308,189	(302,621)	-	11,522
Total Funds	19,378	330,533	(302,621)	-	47,290

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Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2023

9b Purpose of restricted funds

Berkeley Homes (North East London): Development and delivery of Home-Start services in North East London.

Central North West London NHS Foundation Trust: Delivery of Perinatal Mental Health Peer Support Project.

City Bridge Foundation: Contribution to Home-Start London Director salary.

Children England: Communications campaign.

HSUK ICAP: Development of a training resource on domestic abuse.

LCRF Wave 5: Fundraising support to London Home-Starts.

Invesco Cares: Growth of Home-Start volunteer network.

KGJ Foundation: Promotion and development of Home-Start Perinatal Mental Health services.

9c Purpose of Designated funds

Funds have been designated by the Trustees for the purpose of fundraising and business development to support the development of new funding partnerships for Home-Start London.

10 Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other debtors	3,938	-
	<u>3,938</u>	<u>-</u>

11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accruals and Deferred Income	15,824	-
Taxation and Social Security	798	515
Other Creditors	438	1,193
	<u>17,060</u>	<u>1,708</u>

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Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2023

12 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

Current year	General Unrestricted	Designated £	Restricted £	Total funds £
Current Assets	44,930	22,000	39,206	106,136
Current Liabilities		-	(17,060)	(17,060)
Net assets at the end of the year	44,930	22,000	22,146	89,076

12a ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS prior year

	General Unrestricted	Designated £	Restricted £	Total funds £
Current Assets	11,522	-	37,476	48,998
Current Liabilities	-	-	(1,708)	(1,708)
Net assets at the end of the year	11,522	-	35,768	47,290

12 Related party transactions

There are no related party transactions to disclose for 2023 (2022: none).

There are no donations from related parties which are outside the normal course of business and no restricted