

THE FREE HOSPITAL FUND FOR CHILDREN

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 205115

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

MARCH 31ST 2023

THE FREE HOSPITAL FUND FOR CHILDREN

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR

THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31ST 2023

LEGAL STATUS:

Registered Charity Number: 205115

REGISTERED OFFICE:

The registered office of the charity is:

Gloucestershire County Council
Shire Hall
Westgate Street
Gloucester
GL1 2TG

ADVISERS:

Bankers:

Lloyds Bank PLC
Eastgate Street
Gloucester
GL1 1NU

INVESTMENTS:

CCLA Fund Managers Ltd
One Angel Lane
London
EC4R 3AB

THE FREE HOSPITAL FUND FOR CHILDREN

TRUSTEES REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31ST 2023

CHARITY OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES:

In line with the Charity's governing document, The Free Hospital Fund for Children provides grants for the benefit of sick and suffering children who reside in Gloucestershire. The grants include:

1. Clothing and shoes and if applicable, bedding grants for individual children and their siblings (who are aged 18 years and under at the time of the funding allocation); and
2. Block grants to other organisations/charities for relevant projects.

Any of the following criteria must be met to be eligible:

1. Families where children have significant health problems;
2. Families where the parents have significant health problems;
3. Families who live in poor housing and/or domestic violence issues are present; or
4. Families where the children have physical, emotional, or social problems.

CHARITY TRUSTEES:

Trustees who served during the year were as follows:

Mr R Stanley - Chairman
Mrs D Fenton – Life Trustee
Dr G Cole – Retired GP
Heather Sutcliffe
Ruth Woodliffe
James D Fenton – appointed 30th June 2023

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE:

The Free Hospital Fund for Children is a registered charity and the Trustees are responsible for its overall management and administration. The investments are held by the Official Custodian of Charities.

Clerk:	Oliver Brown – Gloucester City Council
Treasurer:	Mrs K Chisholm – Gloucestershire County Council
Administration:	Admin Gloucester Families First Team – Gloucestershire County Council

RELATED PARTIES:

Gloucestershire County Council
Gloucester City Council

THE FREE HOSPITAL FUND FOR CHILDREN

REPORTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR

THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31ST 2023

ANNUAL REPORT

The Trustees present their report for the year ended March 31st 2023 together with the financial statements.

Achievements and performance

The charity works with Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) to process the Fund grant applications. GCC administration verify all the Early Help Assessments (EHA) and non-Early Help Assessments (non-EHA) for GCC to ensure all the criteria has been met, the correct amount of funding has been applied for, and that the family has not received any funding during the last year. GCC maintain audit trail of all grant applications and award payments. This work is carried out at no charge to the Fund.

The Charity funds are invested with CCLA Fund Managers Ltd - COIF Charities Investments Fund. Interest from this account is paid quarterly to the Fund's nominated bank account.

The funding available for the year is based on the interest received from CCLA in the previous year. The figure is divided by 4 to work out the amount available for the May Trustee meeting, if the amount is under/over spent this is reflected in the next Trustee meeting. Application approval and funding allocation is completed by the Fund Trustees. GCC facilitate the payment of grants. Priority payments are given to non-EHA (both GCC and NHS) then GCC EHA.

Grant Funding Available from 1st April 2019: up to 4 years old £60.00; aged 5-10 £75.00; and aged 11-18 £110.00. During January 2023 it was agreed to increase the 11-18 grant funding to £150.00. The Charity will only pay the maximum grant available to a child/young person in any 12 month period following the date of the first claim.

Bedding grant was introduced from 1st April 2018, for a child who has incontinence problems (only for that child and not the siblings) £40.00 (towards the purchase of mattress protectors).

During 2022/23, 38 grant applications were approved which included 95 children, compared to 13 applications and 49 children in 2021/22. This was accessed by 4 different settings.

Summary			
2022/23	GCC non-EHA	GCC EHA	Total
Applications	18	20	38
No of Children:			
Up to 4 Years	11	6	17
5-10 Years	22	18	40
11- 18 Years	17	21	38
Total	50	45	95

All grant payments were made within 2022/23.

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Applications awarded

All 38 grant applications in 2022/23 were approved by the Charity. Of this:

13 applications were queried and further information was required before the grant was awarded.

5 applications were partly or fully refunded in year, reasons being not all the funding was required or no longer needed. Four applications were EHA and the other one non-EHA, which were all refunded back to the Charity.

Block Commissioning

During the year ended 31st March 2021, the funding grant available was not all dispersed, leaving a surplus of funds. The same trend had occurred in the previous 5 financial years. Rather than reinvesting these surplus funds, the Trustees, after seeking guidance from the Charity Commission, now offer block commissioning grants of up to £3,500.00 per grant application.

Flexibility on the block commissioning grant threshold was discussed and agreed at the 13th January 2023 Trust Board, which confirmed that the £3,500 was a guideline and not a cap.

A breadth of projects have been supported within Gloucestershire to date, all with deliverables aligned to the Free Hospital Fund for Children's objectives.

During this financial year, block commissioning grants of £13,236.31 were made compared with £19,245.08 made during the previous financial year 2021/22.

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Financial Statements

The revenue account shows a surplus of income against expenditure for the year amounting to £2,752.21 (£15,988.52 less £13,236.31 for block commissioning), compared to a deficit of £157.01 (£19,088.07 less £19,245.08 for block commissioning) in 2021/22 and a surplus of £7,203.81 (£14,203.81 less £7,000.00 for block commissioning) in 2020/21.

Income receivable at £25,301.23 has increased by £343.68 in comparison with £24,957.55 in 2021/22. Grants payable and expenses at £22,549.02 (include £13,236.31 for block commissioning projects and Treasurer Honoraria £1,265.00) have decreased by £2,565.54 in comparison with £25,114.56 (include £19,245.08 for block commissioning projects and Treasurer Honoraria £1,150.00) in 2021/22.

The market value of the investments, managed by the Official Custodian for Charities, is valued at £870,152.62 and has decreased by £34,222.62 by way of comparison in 2021/22 the investments increased by £71,849.38.

Reserve Account

The Charity operate one unrestricted fund only, due to the current operations and needs of the Charity. The operational approach of the Charity is to use the interest from investments (plus the available cash surplus) only on annual grants activities. Investment balances are maintained.

The Trust has agreed that a reserve account will be introduced where funds available in the bank (excluding investment balances) reduce to £20,000. This position has not occurred to date and hence has not been actioned.

THE FREE HOSPITAL FUND FOR CHILDREN

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA)
For The Year Ended 31st March 2023

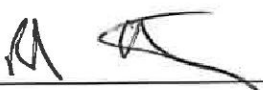
	<u>Notes</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
		£	£
<u>Income</u>			
Dividends on Investments		25,301.23	24,957.55
Donations		0.00	0.00
		<u>25,301.23</u>	<u>24,957.55</u>
 <u>Expenditure</u>			
Grants Payable		8,537.73	4,736.50
Returned Grants		-490.02	-17.02
Honoraria	6	1,265.00	1,150.00
Block Commissioning		<u>13,236.31</u>	<u>19,245.08</u>
		<u>22,549.02</u>	<u>25,114.56</u>
 Excess of Income Over Expenditure		<u><u>2,752.21</u></u>	<u><u>-157.01</u></u>

The notes on pages 8 and 9 form an integral part of these accounts.

The statements on pages 6 to 9 inclusive were approved by the Trustees

on 19 JANUARY 2024

and signed on their behalf by:


R. B. STANLEY.

THE FREE HOSPITAL FUND FOR CHILDREN

Balance Sheet

For The Year Ended 31st March 2023

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
		£	£
Investments	1	870,152.62	904,375.24
<u>Current Assets</u>			
Debtors	2	6,278.86	6,278.86
Cash at Bank		80,144.13	77,391.92
		<u>86,422.99</u>	<u>83,670.78</u>
<u>Current Liabilities</u>			
Sundry Creditors	3	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
		0.00	0.00
Total Net Assets		<u><u>956,575.61</u></u>	<u><u>988,046.02</u></u>
<u>Accumulated Unrestricted Reserves</u>			
Balance brought forward		988,046.02	916,353.65
Excess of Expenditure Over Income For the Year		2,752.21	(157.01)
Unrealised (losses)/gains	1	<u>(34,222.62)</u>	<u>71,849.38</u>
		<u><u>956,575.61</u></u>	<u><u>988,046.02</u></u>

THE FREE HOSPITAL FUND FOR CHILDREN

Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31st March 2023

	<u>2023</u> £	<u>2022</u> £
1 Investments		
<u>Historical Cost</u>		
Charities Official Investment Fund:		
<u>Original Purchases:</u>		
Capital Account (24,343.89 units @ £1 each)	24,343.89	24,343.89
* Income Account (19,531.6 units @ £1 each)	19,531.60	19,531.60
	<u>43,875.49</u>	<u>43,875.49</u>
<u>Additional Purchases:</u>		
* Income Account (2,565.84 units @ 1,169.21p)	30,000.00	30,000.00
	<u>73,875.49</u>	<u>73,875.49</u>
 <u>Market Value at Balance Sheet Date</u>		
Capital Account (24,343.89 units @ 1,873.66p)	456,121.73	474,060.74
Income Account (22,097.44 units @ 1,873.66p)	414,030.89	430,314.50
	<u>870,152.62</u>	<u>904,375.24</u>
 <u>Unrealised (Losses)/Gains</u>		
Market value at the end of the year	870,152.62	904,375.24
* 27 March 2014 investment purchase	0.00	0.00
Market value at the beginning of the year	904,375.24	832,525.86
	<u>(34,222.62)</u>	<u>71,849.38</u>
 * £30,000 was invested as at 27 March 2014. This was agreed and recorded by the Trustees. This purchased an additional 2,565.84 units in the Income Account COIF Charities Investment Fund on 27 March 2014. As at 31 March 2014 a total of 22,097.44 units were held by the fund compared to 19,531.60 units as of 31 March 2013.		
No additional purchases have been completed since 2013/14.		
 2 Sundry Debtors		
a) Dividends on investments due at March 31st received after balance sheet date	6,278.86	6,278.86
 3 Sundry Creditors		
a) Grants authorised by the Trustees during the year but unpaid at balance sheet date	0.00	0.00
b) Honoraria	0.00	0.00
c) Invoices received but not paid before the balance sheet date - Grants payable	0.00	0.00
d) Cheque not presented	0.00	0.00
	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>

THE FREE HOSPITAL FUND FOR CHILDREN

Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31st March 2023

4 Related Party Transactions

No related party transactions have occurred with Trustees in 2022/23 or prior year.

No related party transactions have occurred with Gloucester City Council in 2022/23 or prior year. Gloucester City Council Trust Clerk support is provided free of charge to the charity.

Related party transactions occur annually with Gloucestershire County Council who:

- ☐ Act as a conduit for distribution and payment of EHA and non EHA grants to applicants, based on the application and assessment process in place;
- ☐ Can be a route for block commissioning payments, where the approved applicant is a Local Authority Maintained School: and
- ☐ Act as the route for payment of the Charity Treasurer (see note 6).

Gloucestershire County Council do not charge the Trust for completing the above payment processes

Payments made to Gloucestershire County Council for the above transaction types for both 2022/23 and 2021/22 had no net financial gain for the Council. All relevant amounts were distributed to end recipients (the approved applicants) in line with Trust request on approved activities.

5 Disclosure of Trustee Remuneration, Benefits and Expenses

Trustees do not receive Remuneration, Benefits or Expenses. No payments of this nature were made in either 2022/23 or 2021/22.

The Trust do not have staff costs. No payments of this nature were made in either 2022/23 or 2021/22.

6 Disclosure of Independent Examination and Other Financial Services Fees

The Trustee Treasurer received an annual honorarium of £1,265.00 in 2022/23 and in comparison £1,150 during 2021/22. The annual charge is agreed by the Trustees and the agreement minuted.

2022/23 was the first year where the Trust required an Independent Examination due to the level of income exceeding the Charity Commission £25,000 threshold. The 2022/23 Independent Examination was provided gratis through Gloucester City Council and the Audit Risk Assurance Shared Service.

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STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES FOR

THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31ST 2023

The Trustees have adopted the following policies in order to determine the value of material items included in the balance sheet and also to establish the excess of income over expenditure for the year:

a) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared on the accruals basis under the historical cost convention, in accordance with accounting standards and the Charity Commission Statement Of Recommended Practice (SORP).

The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis. At the point of accounts preparation and sign off, there are no material uncertainties regards the charity's ability to continue.

b) Investments

Investments have been valued at market value on the balance sheet date and the unrealised gain/loss has been set against the accumulated unrestricted funds.

c) Taxation

As a charity, registered under the Charities Act, The Free Hospital Fund for Children is exempt from taxation on its income and capital gains.

THE FREE HOSPITAL FUND FOR CHILDREN
THE TRUSTEES ACCOUNTING RESPONSIBILITIES FOR
THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31ST 2023

The Trustees are required to prepare the accounting statements for each financial year, in compliance with the Charities Act 2011 and Charity Commission SORP, which provides a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity.

In preparing the financial statements, they must consider accounting concepts, as follows:

- a) Adoption of suitable accounting policies and their consistent application;
- b) Making judgements and estimates which are reasonable and prudent; and
- c) Producing accounts on a going concern basis unless it is known that the Charity's activities are to be discontinued.

The Trustees are also responsible for the keeping of proper accounting records, which will readily disclose the financial position of the Charity at any given time. Further, they are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and should therefore take all reasonable steps to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

Independent Examiner's ReportReport to the trustees/
members of

The Free Hospital Fund for Children

On accounts for the year
ended31st March 2023Charity no
(if any)

205115

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis
of report

As the charity Trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust'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

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

- i. The accounting records were not kept in accordance with Section 130 of the Act; or
- ii. The accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- iii. The accounts did 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.

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.

Name:



Stephanie Payne

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body:

Fellow member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW)

Address:

Audit Risk Assurance Shared Service (ARA),

Gloucestershire County Council, Shire Hall, Westgate Street,

Gloucester, GL1 2TG

Date:

19th January 2024

Independent Examiner Report – Improvement Opportunities

This section of the report is designed to offer the examiner opportunity to highlight matters identified during the course of the examination. For example, where improvement to systems, process or controls could be considered by the Trustees.

Give here details of any items that the examiner wishes to raise for the Trustees consideration.

2022-23 is the first financial year where the Charity have commissioned a formal independent examination of the accounts.

Independent examination review of the draft 2022-23 Annual Report and Accounts identified adjustments to be made to the document, including Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) compliance points. For example, the inclusion of notes to the accounts on Related Party Transactions; Disclosure of Trustee Remuneration, Benefits and Expenses; Disclosure of Independent Examination and Other Financial Services Fees; and Grant making Activity Disclosure.

The above points were resolved through the final set of Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2023.

The Trust have the opportunity to build on this disclosure base in future years, through expanding the information contained within the notes in line with SORP template examples. This action would further improve reader understanding of the accounts and reflect the public benefit of the Charity's activities.