

Company Registration No. 3261608 (England and Wales)

VOICES FROM CARE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

CHARITY COMMISSION FIRST CONTACT

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ACCOUNTS RECEIVED

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees report	1 - 10
Statement of trustees responsibilities	11
Independent auditor's report	12 - 14
Statement of financial activities	15
Balance sheet	16
Statement of cash flows	17
Notes to the financial statements 30 En	18 - 33

TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

Co-Chairs Forward

We have been pleased to Co-Chair another year of the Board of Trustees of Voices From Care which continues to expand and develop its work. The active participation of care experienced young people throughout the organisation, including a Co-Chair and Members of the Board of Trustees and its Finance and HR Sub Committee has continued to reflect the core values of the organisation where the strategic direction has been inspired and influenced by the young people who have lived experience.

The tireless work of staff and young volunteers has resulted not only in an extension of the reach of the organisation through local and national activity, but also with other nations. Activities continue to widen beyond those directly related to social care into those that have effectively increased the self-esteem of care experienced young people through the arts, sport and music. We have learned a great deal about the value of these activities to young people.

However, the challenge continues to be great. The increasing numbers of care experienced children and young people, and the issues that care leavers have faced during the year, continues to be a major cause for concern and we have listened not only to their real concerns but also to the ideas they have for improvements which may be based on good care experiences they have had. We have endeavoured to be as influential as possible with politicians and other policy makers, and promoting corporate parenting has been central to our work. Our thanks go to everyone involved, including our funders as we cannot carry out this important work without you.

Catriona Williams OBE

Co-Chair

Dan Pitt Co-Chair

TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

Directors Forward

I would like to begin with a very sad announcement regarding the loss of one our young people and to extend our sincere sympathy for all involved. He was a great young man who was so committed to the work VFCC and in improving the lives of care experienced children and young people across Wales. His determination has guided VFCC to be even more determined to continue his vision in improving outcomes of care experienced children and young people. You will be forever missed but never forgotten!

The annual activities have provided an exciting but equally challenging year as evidence suggests more and more children and young people are entering into the care system in Wales. The Welsh Government (WG) have presented their intention in improving the outcomes and reducing safely, the numbers of children and young people being admitted into care system. The direction set by WG has impacted on VFCCs understanding of our responsibilities of ensuring that children and young people whom are currently in care and care leavers are connected to the overall care experienced community. This_has included work throughout the UK, Europe and internationally leading to events and engagement with #Careday, the Love Rally and Scottish Summer Camp where young people from Wales advised the First Minister of Scotland (Nicola Sturgeon) on her root and branch review of care services in Scotland.

VFCC has also engaged and represented the views of care experienced children and young people on a number of the WG operational groups that includes the Ministerial Advisory Group of which a number of issues are being considered. VFCC currently chairs the task and finish group that is addressing the strengthening of corporate parenting in order to provide and improve the accountability to ensure care experienced children and young people achieve the best possible outcomes.

Through our participation and representation activities, the organisation has significantly increased our reach across Wales, crucially involving more children and young people in developing the overall strategic direction of VFCC. This has involved introducing an advisory group, regional groups, three local groups with current negotiation to set up a local group in Anglesey.

The organisation has also led and collaborated with Cascade to review a number of areas that VFCC had identified through our wellbeing project, namely young parents experiencing a high level of removal of their children. Through this research we will attempt to identify and provide real solutions to this current study and its consequent findings in the coming years.

Looking forward, we aim to continue to build and reach out to as many care experienced young people across Wales to further strengthen their views and opinions but also to influence decision makers on their aspirations and rights.

To conclude I would like to thank all of the individuals, agencies and funders that continue to support the work and vision of VFCC and a great big thank you to all the children and young people whom offer their time and commitment in directing VFCC.

Deborah Jones Chief Executive Officer

The trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2019.

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)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016).

TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

Objectives and activities

The objects of the charity are to advance the spiritual, educational and physical welfare of young people in Wales who are or have been looked after by a local authority or a voluntary organisation by any charitable means, involving young people in the decision making process and improving the effectiveness of services to young people in Wales. To achieve this Voices From Care will:

- · carry out research;
- canvas the views and opinions of young people who are looked after by local authorities and voluntary organisations and ensure that such views are taken into account at all levels of authority in Wales:
- encourage, support and develop county groups of young people to enable them to meet together to discuss common interests and identify and agree common goals;
- increase the profile and participation of young people who are looked after at all levels of decision-making in Wales;
- provide advice, assistance and advocacy for young people who are looked after to ensure their legal, human and civil rights are upheld;
- provide or assist in providing opportunities for young people who are looked after to reach their full potential.

Development Of Aims

Objectives

- Continue to monitor and identify policy and practice issues of common concern by gathering and distributing information to appropriate bodies and organisations throughout Wales.
- Represent the views of children and young people and to actively campaign to improve the conditions for children and young people.
- Act as an interface on behalf of children and young people to encourage relevant bodies and organisations to take appropriate action.
- Encourage and promote the participation of children and young people within Voices from Care's operational strategy and service provision.
- Assist in the development of participation frameworks within decision-making processes to further enable children and young people to have a voice.
- Promote training for the service provider and to encourage the strategic development to include children and young people within its delivery.
- Act as a safeguard within current legislation i.e. The Children's Act 1989, The Children and Adoption Act 2002, The Children's Act 2004 and The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- Provide an independent advice and support service on an on-going basis.
- Continue and build on the participation frameworks for degree in 'Social Work' with Cardiff Metropolitan and Cardiff University, as always.
- Continue and further develop the corporate parent frameworks with the Local Authorities in Wales.

TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

How our services deliver public benefit

The Trustees believe that they have complied with the duty in section 17 (5) of the 2011 Charities Act to have due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission. The aim of the core activities and main work of the organisation is to represent and promote the rights and welfare of looked after children and care leavers in an effort to improve outcomes. This ultimately furthers Voices from Care's charitable aims and furthers the public benefit.

Demonstrating public benefit

The funding and objectives are specific to 'looked after children' and 'care leavers' on a Wales wide basis which promotes the value of this minority group, in promoting further opportunities for:

- · Encouraging knowledge of their rights.
- · Providing information on issues affecting them.
- Facilitating access to practical and emotional support.
- Promoting access to onward opportunities, including volunteering, education and employment.
 - Aid in enhancing positive outcomes

These mechanisms allow Voices From Care to have significant impact on many specific policy areas of the Welsh Government.

Mission statement

Voices From Care is Wales' national independent agency for those dedicated to upholding the rights and welfare for children and young people who are or have been looked after. In this regard the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child is key to the organization's philosophy.

At Voices from Care we bring children and young people together throughout Wales, who are, or have been looked after by local authorities, voluntary and private organisations, in order to:

- · Provide opportunities
- · Improve the conditions of children and young people
- Promote the voice of children and young people
- · Protect the interests of children and young people
- · Promote the United Nations Convention on the rights of the child in Wales

Achievements and performance

Participation

Regional Groups

The April and June regional groups had a dual focus, co-designing VFCC's National Advisory Group; which launched in October and NYAS presenting their peer mentoring and peer advocacy opportunities.

August meetings also had a dual focus; supporting the Ministerial Advisory Group work stream on corporate Parenting and the Children's Commissioner for Wales office updating on their progress since they last attended in August 2017 and consulting on what the office should focus on for the next three years.

October & February Regional Group sessions focused on corporate parenting, specifically on developing the beginnings of a Corporate Parenting charter. These workshops involved young people identifying what makes a good leader and how good leaders demonstrate their qualities. These sessions finished with five promises we would like leaders to make to care experienced young people.

February's Regional Group in North Wales was expanded to become our first North Wales, Proud to Be Me event.

TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

Proud to be Me

This year, for the very first time, we had two Proud to be Me events; one in North Wales and one in South Wales. The North Wales event was held on the 26 February at the Glasdir Conference Centre in Llanrwst with the South Wales event being held at the Cardiff City Stadium in Leckwith on St David's Day (1 March).

British writer and journalist, Patrice Lawrence, gave a keynote speech at Proud and talked about her own experience of care.

The workshops at this years events included:

- Removing the label a question and answer session with young people. Challenging the stereotype
 of what it means to be care experienced.
- A voice and a choice a workshop from Gofal exploring emotional wellbeing and promoting self-care.
- Whistle Stop Tour Round table discussions between professionals and young people.
- Join the Movement a workshop exploring the care community in Wales.
- What makes a good leader- corporate parenting workshop
- · Exotic animal presentation
- · Poetry and lyric writing workshops

The Voices From Care choir

In June 2018 the Voices From Care choir took to the stage at the Wales Millennium Centre to open up the Festival of Voice. The choir, made up of children, young people, foster carers and support staff was first formed in 2017 with the intention of bringing together the care community to celebrate being united and being expressive through song. Supported by the Wales Millennium Centre and mentored by Only Men Aloud's Craig Yates, the choir sessions, held in Cardiff Bay introduced the group to new opportunities, new friendships and memorable experiences. Made up of ages 6-50+, the choir performed at the Proud to Be Me event which celebrates care identity and aspirations; having performed in front of a group of people to gain confidence and experience, the choir then rehearsed every month to put together their biggest performance for the Festival of Voice. Safe to say the crowd loved the choir and amazing feedback was given from those who watched and listened.

Influencing

Listen. Act. Thrive

In March, VFCC with NSPCC launched their briefing on the emotional and mental health of care experienced children; Listen. Act. Thrive.

The briefing looked into the effectiveness of assessment and support for mental health provided to care experienced children. Care experienced young people and key professionals participated in the event which was held at the Future Inn Cardiff Hotel and chaired by David Melding AM.

Ministerial Advisory Group (MAG) for Looked After Children

The MAG was established in 2016 and is chaired by David Melding AM and reports to the Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services, Julie Morgan AM. The Vice-Chair is Daniel Pitt who is one of VFCC's young Trustees.

The work of the Group focusses on:

- · identifying early and preventative action to help reduce the numbers of children taken into care
- · improving outcomes for children already in care
- · improving outcomes for care leavers.

TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

Cross Party Group (CPG) on Looked After Children

The CPG on Looked After Children aims to improve the standards of services provided to care experienced children and young people. The group meets to look at the different issues which affect looked after children in Wales and to consider the policy implications. The meetings also provides the opportunity for staff from different organisations to meet with Assembly Members to discuss issues of concern for looked after children.

VFCC continues to attend and provide the secretariat duties for the Welsh Government Cross Party Group on Looked After Children which is chaired by David Melding AM.

During 2018-19 the group looked at:

- · Public Accounts Committee inquiry into Looked After Children services
- · Ministerial Advisory Group
- Mind Over Matter report
- Teachers Who Care presentation by Voices From Care Cymru
- · County Lines presentation by St Giles Trust
- Adoption and the care experienced community

Welsh Youth Parliament

Wales has launched its first Youth Parliament and VFCC was able to nominate a young person to sit on the group. Chloe Giles from Torfaen was put forward by VFCC and accepted as a member.

The Welsh Youth Parliament consists of 60 young people aged 11 - 18. 40 young people were voted on in the election in November 2018. The remaining 20 were elected by young people from partner organisations such as VFCC.

Internal Influencing

AGM

This year our Annual General Meeting was held at Cardiff University.

Catriona Williams, Craig Mead and Louise Roberts were re-elected as existing board members and Jay Jeynes, Josh Escott and Tia Morgan were elected as care-experienced board members.

The board voted to officially change the organisations name to Voices From Care Cymru, to adopt a new constitution and to convert to Charitable Incorporated Organisation status.

Advisory Group

Because VFCC believes that it's important that everything we do is guided by young people, we have launched our new Advisory Group, which consists of care experienced representatives from all areas of Wales who bring together a wealth of knowledge and experience from each of the different regions.

The Advisory Group meets four times per year in different parts of Wales to discuss the future of our organisation and how we can better improve the lives of care experienced young people.

Information and views from the Advisory Group feed into the Board of Trustees meetings and the board also consults the Advisory Group on important matters.

The Advisory Group has evolved from the previous Membership Committee. With its relaunched approach it fits more with the overall governance of the organisation and is a good training ground for young people who wish to progress onto the Board of Trustees.

TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

Research

Voices From Care Cymru along with Become undertook research into the educational experiences of children in care.

The report, 'Teachers Who Care', reveals that 75 percent of teachers who qualified after 2010 had no prequalification training in how to support children in care.

The report surveyed 447 teachers across England and Wales to gather their experiences of training, working with children's services, and how often they hear negative stereotypes about children in care from colleagues.

Key findings from the report include:

- 87% of respondents received no training about looked after children before they qualified as a teacher.
- 75% of teachers who qualified post-2010 received no training pre-qualification.
- 26% of respondents received no training about looked after children before or after they qualified.
- 87% of respondents had heard at least one colleague express a negative generalisation about children in care, and 31% of respondents had heard such views often.

The report makes nine recommendations to schools, training providers, Government and local authorities, including calling for the introduction of mandatory training on working with children in care in all schools for all teachers, both before and after they qualify.

Financial review

In the year marked by strict controls whilst endeavouring to maintain service provision, an increase of unrestricted reserves has been achieved.

The total income for the year was £526,959 (2018: £505,968). Direct charitable expenditure including support costs amounted to £489,865 (2018: £476,072) and governance costs totalled £5,175 (2018: £4,111). This resulted in net incoming resources of £31,919 (2018: £25,785), of which was an unrestricted surplus of £59,460 and a restricted deficit of £27,541.

As disclosed in the accounts, the Welsh Government was the principal funder, with Comic Relief, NYAS, Esmee Fairbairn, Paul Hamlyn and Carmarthenshire Council providing additional funding.

Reserves Policy

The trustees monitor the progress towards achieving its three year strategic plan and have reviewed the charity's needs for reserves in line with guidance by the Charity Commission. The trustees review the levels of reserves (other than those funds tied up in fixed assets and future designated and restricted funds) needed by the charity to sustain operations in the event of a funding crisis and set a target equal to three to four months' running costs; to be achieved as work has continued in progressing relationships with Local Authorities and partner organizations and maintains this objective during the coming years.

The current level of free reserves is £186,207 (2018: £126,787) which equates to four months running costs for the charity.

Risk Management

The trustees confirm that systems have been identified and established to mitigate the major risks, to which the charity is exposed.

The following risk management procedure was carried out, identifying the following:

- · Annual review of risks which the charity may face;
- Establish action plan to counter or mitigate identified risks;

TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

- · Implementation of the action plan should risks arise;
- · Framework for resolution of external disputes.

The trustees confirm that the major risks, to which the charity is exposed, as identified by the Trustees, have been reviewed and systems established to mitigate those risks. The main risks identified by the trustees is loss of funding and reputation.

Appraisal of activities and future developments

Summarv

Voices From Care (VFC) promotes the interests of all young people who are or have been looked after in Wales. This requires a particular focus on those young people who are not engaged in mainstream provision or other services. It requires working in partnership with local authorities and all agencies working with children and young people looked after in Wales.

Voices From Care continued to give advice and support to young people and to lobby on issues raised by young people as well as supporting children and young people to be involved in Voices From Care's internal participation program. These activities aim to improve outcomes in local authority areas throughout Wales.

Future plans

VFCC has always had three strands to its work; participation, influencing and advice & support. As stated last year, the participation and influencing work has grown significantly. In the last year we have remodelled our vision for the advice & support work to form a Wellbeing service. We were successful with a small funding application to pilot this work with sessional staff which we have been doing since February and have since accessed funding from the Henry Smith Foundation to fund two part time posts for three years.

The purpose of the Wellbeing posts is to provide advocacy and support to the care experienced population across Wales. Members of the care-experienced community often require significant support, which they can struggle to access due to a lack of family/social networks. Each Wellbeing Officer will work collaboratively to assist in increasing support networks across the region and provide suitable advice and support to enable voices of care experienced children and young people to be heard.

Structure, governance and management

Organisation

A board of up to 12 members, who meet quarterly, administers the charity. There is a sub-committee covering finance and human resources. A Chief Executive is appointed by the trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the charity. All trustees, staff and volunteers must have an enhanced Disclosure Barring Service check before their appointments can be confirmed.

Following the annual general meeting, trustees are inducted during the course of a day's event during which their duties and responsibilities are explained. Member-trustees are encouraged to seek guidance from a professional trustee by whom they can also be mentored during the year ahead.

Investment powers

Under the memorandum and articles of association the charity has the power to make any investment that the trustees see fit. No investments have been made yet.

Constitution

Voices From Care Limited is a registered charity governed by its memorandum and articles of association. Charity number: 1108430. Company number: 3261608.

TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

Directors and trustees

The directors of the charitable company ("the charity") are its trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the trustees. As set out in the Articles of Association dated, 15 May 2010, the members of the company at the annual general meeting nominate six trustees from among the members and six trustees from professionals. The Members Committee also elects a Chair and 6 member trustees to the Management Committee. The Chair of the Members Committee is also Chair of the Board of Trustees in conjunction with the Professional Chair nominated by Trustees from the Professional Trustees elected. The trustees further nominate a Treasurer from among the professional trustees.

The Trustees serve for a period of three years with one third retiring at each annual general meeting. The trustees have the power to co-opt members to fill casual vacancies in their number.

Key management personnel

The key management personnel for the charity are the trustees, the Chief Executive Officer, the Business Support Manager and the Corporate Resources Manager. Trustees do not receive remuneration. The key management personnel's pay are set within the National Joint Council salary scale.

TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

Reference and administrative details

Company Registration Number:

3261608

Charity Number:

1108430

The Trustees serving during the year and since year-end were as follows:

Catriona Williams

Neil Edge Karl Davies **Graham Roddis** Craig Mead Roger Bishop **Daniel Pitt** Louise Roberts

James Dovey-Yorgensen - resigned 1 November 2018 Jeffery Champney-Smith - appointed 5 April 2018

Brittany Paige Davies

- appointed 5 April 2018 lan Harvey - resigned 3 September 2018 Tiffany Evans Tia Coombs - appointed 1 November 2018 - appointed 1 November 2018 Joshua Escott Jamie Andrew Jeynes - appointed 1 November 2018

Secretary D A Jones

Chief Executive

D A Jones

Registered Office

45 The Parade, Roath, Cardiff, CF24 3AB

Baldwins Audit Services, Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors, Waters Lane Chambers, 1-3 Waters Lane, Newport, NP20 1LA.

Barclays Bank PLC, 121 Queens Street, Cardiff, CF1 1SG CCLA Investment Management Limited, COIF Charities Deposit Fund CAF Account: Kings Hill Ave, Kings Hill, London

The trustees report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

SAWMiams

Dated: 1 St. Wowen by 2019

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

The trustees, who are also the directors of Voices From Care for the purpose of company law, 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).

Company Law 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 and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

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;
- make judgements and 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; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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 Companies Act 2006. 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.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF VOICES FROM CARE

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Voices From Care (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2019 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2019 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
 and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the trustees use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the charity's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED) TO THE TRUSTEES OF VOICES FROM CARE

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees responsibilities, the trustees, who are also the directors of the charity for the purpose of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED) TO THE TRUSTEES OF VOICES FROM CARE

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Baldwins Audit Services

Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditor

1-3 Waters Lane Chambers

Waters Lane

NEWPORT

UK

NP20 1LA

Baldwins Audit Services is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
		2019	2019	2019	2018
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	700	-	700	20
Charitable activities	4	134,431	387,067	521,498	502,547
Investments	5	124	-	124	107
Other income	6	4,637	-	4,637	3,294
Total income		139,892	387,067	526,959	505,968
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	7	80,544	414,496	495,040	480,183
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers		59,348	(27,429)	31,919	25,785
Gross transfers between funds		112	(112)	-	-
Net income/(expenditure) for the year/ Net movement in funds		59,460	(27,541)	31,919	25,785
Fund balances at 1 April 2018		134,286	50,390	184,676	158,891
Fund balances at 31 March 2019		193,746	22,849	216,595	184,676

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.

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2019

		2019		2018		
	Notes	£	£	£	£	
Fixed assets						
Tangible assets	12		7,539		7,499	
Current assets			•			
Stocks	13	918		1,456		
Debtors	14	17,067		19,090		
Cash at bank and in hand		232,568	1	175,569		
		250,553		196,115		
Creditors: amounts falling due within						
one year	15	(41,497)		(18,938)		
Net current assets			209,056		177,177	
Total assets less current liabilities			216,595		184,676	
Income funds						
Restricted funds	17		22,849		50,390	
Unrestricted funds			193,746		134,286	
			216,595		184,676	

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 2019, although an audit has been carried out under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements under the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, 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 ..

Mr G Roddis

Trustee

Ms C Williams

Trustee

Company Registration No. 3261608

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

		2019		2018	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	23		60,271		28,763
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(3,396)		(3,500)	
Interest received		124		107	
Net cash used in investing activities			(3,272)		(3,393)
Net cash used in financing activities		·	2		-
Net increase in cash and cash equival	ents		56,999		25,370
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning	of year		175,569		150,199
Cash and cash equivalents at end of y	ear		232,568		175,569
			===		

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

1 Accounting policies

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance 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)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have been prepared with early application of the FRS 102 Triennial Review 2017 amendments in full.

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, modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

The following accounting policies have been used consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the charity's financial statements.

1.2 Going concern

The charity reported an unrestricted inflow of £59,348 for the year to 31 March 2019. 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 unless the funds have been designated for other purposes.

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 Incoming resources

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.

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Voluntary income is received by way of grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the organisation, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.

Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included in these accounts.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.5 Resources expended

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance

These costs include such items as audit, legal advice for trustees and costs associated with constitutional and statutory requirements.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Fixtures and fittings

25% on reducing balance

Computers equipment

33% on cost

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

1.7 Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price less all estimated costs of completion and costs to be incurred in marketing, selling and distribution.

1.8 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.

1.9 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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

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.

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

Financial liabilities classified as other financial liabilities are stated at fair value with any gains or losses arising on remeasurement recognised in profit or loss.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

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

1.10 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.11 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

Redundancy cost

The charity recognises termination benefits as a liability and an expense only when the entity is demonstrably committed either to terminate the employment of an employee of group of employees before the normal retirement date or to provide termination benefits as a result of an offer made in order to encourage voluntary redundancy.

1.12 Leases

Rentals payable under operating leases, including any lease incentives received, are charged as an expense on a straight line basis over the term of the relevant lease.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

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	Total
	2019 £	2018 £
Donations and gifts	700	20

Charitable activities		
	2019	2018
	£	£
Advice, Support, Participation & Collaboration	73,570	83,174
Awareness & Training	2,627	2,666
Grants	445,301	416,707
	521,498	502,547
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	134,431	
Restricted funds	387,067	
	<u> </u>	
For the year ended 31 March 2018		
		134,424
Restricted funds		368,123
		502,547
	•	**************************************
Performance related grants		
	265,767	279,755
	-	40,318
	45,800	23,050
	-	8,900
		39,684
		25,000
		-
	445,301 ————	416,707
Investments		
my councils		
	Unrestricted funds	Total
	2019	2018
	£	£
Interest receivable	124	107
	Advice, Support, Participation & Collaboration Awareness & Training Grants Analysis by fund Unrestricted funds Restricted funds For the year ended 31 March 2018 Unrestricted funds Restricted funds Restricted funds	Advice, Support, Participation & Collaboration 73,570 Awareness & Training 2,627 Grants 445,301 Analysis by fund Unrestricted funds 134,431 Restricted funds 337,067 For the year ended 31 March 2018 Unrestricted funds Restricted funds Restricted funds Restricted funds Restricted funds Performance related grants S.S.S.G. (Welsh Government) 265,767 Children in Need 5,800 Anational Lottery Awards for All 1,810 NYAS 42,234 Paul Hamlyn Fund 25,000 Camarthenshire Council 16,000 The Esmee Fairbaim Foundation 50,500 Investments

6 Other income		
	Unrestricted funds	Total
	2019	2018
	£	£
Other Income	4,637	3,294
	===	

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

7 Charitable activities

	Generated Income	Comic Relief	S.S.S.G.	Paul Hamlyn	The Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	Total 2019	Total 2018
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	41,100	25,483	106,612	17,830	16,764	207,789	188,939
Depreciation and impairment	985	411	1,690	-	271	3,357	3,219
Travel	3,201	1,335	5,489	-	880	10,905	11,168
Volunteer expenses	2,179	909	3,737	-	599	7,424	7,375
NYAS re-imbursement	•	-	48,920	-	-	48,920	49,916
Consultancy	3,659	1,526	6,274	-	1,006	12,465	24,876
Payroll/Pension preparation	122	51	208	-	33	414	941
Occupancy	6,052	2,524	10,379	-	1,664	20,619	19,407
HR, legal & professional	646	270	1,109	-	178	2,203	2,478
Office running costs	3,076	1,283	5,275	-	846	10,480	11,354
Communications / Facilitation	3,564	1,486	6,112	-	980	12,142	9,124
Bank Charges	142	•	244	_	39	425	515
Grant reimbursement	4,817	-	-	-	-	4,817	4,732
Training & meeting costs	11,008	4,590	18,878	-	3,026	37,502	40,278
	80,551	39,868	214,927	17,830	26,286	379,462	374,322
Share of support costs (see note 8)	3,709	25,720	55,884	7,820	17,270	110,403	101,750
Share of governance costs (see note 8)	1,101	633	2,605	418	418	5,175	4,111
	85,361	66,221	273,416	26,068	43,974	495,040	480,183
Analysis by fund							
Unrestricted funds	80,544	-	-	-	-	80,544	
Restricted funds	4,817	66,221	273,416	26,068	43,974	414,496	

7	Charitable activities (Continued)							
		85,361	66,221	273,416	26,068	43,974	495,040	
	For the year ended 31 March 2018 Unrestricted funds Restricted funds				===		====	143,996 336,187
								480,183

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

	Support costs				
		Support Go		2019	2018
		costs	costs		_
		£	£	£	£
	Staff costs	89,027	-	89,027	80,975
	Occupancy costs	12,638	-	12,638	11,894
	HR costs	1,349	-	1,349	1,519
	Office running costs	6,423	-	6,423	6,959
	Payroll	966	-	966	403
	Audit fees	-	5,175	5,175	4,111
		110,403	5,175	115,578	105,861
	Analysed between		i 		
	Charitable activities	110,403	5,175 ———	115,578	105,861
	Governance costs includes payments to the auditors	s of £5,175 (2018-	£4,111) for a	audit fees.	
9	Net movement in funds		:	2019 £	2018 £
	Net movement in funds is stated after charging/(cred	diting)		_	_
	Fees payable to the company's auditor for the audit	of the company's			
		p, -			
	financial statements Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	or and dompany d		5,175 3,356	4,111 3,219

10 Trustees

5 trustees (2018: 5) received £1,197 (2018: £741) in relation to travel and training expenses during the year.

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration during the year.

11	Employees		
	Number of employees The average monthly number of employees during the year was:		
	The decrease mentally named or employees caring the year mas.	2019 Number	2018 Number
	Direct Charitable expenditure	7	7
	Management and administration	3	3
		10	10
	Employment costs	2019 £	2018 £
	Wages and salaries	265,510	240,971
	Social security costs	22,349	19,779
	Other pension costs	8,957	9,164
		296,816	269,914
			
	The number of employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or		
	more were:	2019	2018
		Number	Number
	£60,000 - £69,999	1	-
		=====	

12	Tangible fixed assets	Fixtures and fittings	Computers equipment	Total
		£	£	£
	Cost	-	_	_
	At 1 April 2018	16,370	53,300	69,670
	Additions		3,396	3,396
	At 31 March 2019	16,370	56,696	73,066
	Depreciation and impairment			
	At 1 April 2018	13,386	48,785	62,171
	Depreciation charged in the year	746	2,610	3,356
	At 31 March 2019	14,132	51,395	65,527
	Carrying amount			
	At 31 March 2019	2,238	5,301	7,539
	At 31 March 2018	2,984	4,515	7,499
13	Stocks			
			2019	2018
			£	£
	Finished goods and goods for resale		918	1,456
				
14	Debtors			
	Amounta falling due within any years		2019	2018
	Amounts falling due within one year:		£	£
	Trade debtors		8,906	10,885
	Other debtors		30	60
	Prepayments and accrued income		8,131 	8,145 ———
			17,067	19,090
				

15	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	2019	2018
		£	£
	Trade creditors	6,036	12,179
	Other creditors	1,749	2,259
	Accruals and deferred income	33,712	4,500
		41,497	18,938
			
16	Deferred income		
		2019	2018
		£	£
	Arising from grants	28,837	-
	Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:		
		2019	2018
		£	£
	Balance brought forward	•	-
	Income received	474,138	416,707
	Income released	(445,301)	(416,707)
	Balance carried forward	28,837	-
			

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

17 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

		Movement	in funds		Move	ement in fund:	S	
	Balance at 1 April 2017	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Balance at 1 April 2018	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers 3	Balance at 1 March 2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
BBC Children In Need	4,540	40,318	(37,892)	6,966	-	(4,817)	-	2,149
Lloyds Foundation	3,333	-	•	3,333	-	-	-	3,333
WG Structural Review	112	-	-	112	-	-	(112)	-
Sustainable Social Services Grant	1,728	279,755	(273,681)	7,802	265,767	(273,416)	-	153
European Fund (Erasmus+)	8,741	-	(5,864)	2,877	-	-	-	2,877
Comic Relief	-	23,050	-	23,050	45,800	(66,221)	-	2,629
Paul Hamlyn	-	25,000	(18,750)	6,250	25,000	(26,068)	-	5,182
The Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	-	-	•	-	50,500	(43,974)	-	6,526
	18,454	368,123	(336,187)	50,390	387,067	(414,496)	(112)	22,849
								

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

17 Restricted funds (Continued)

BBC Children in Need grant relates to advice and support for children and young people.

Lloyds Foundation grant is to provide further training to the Trustees' and improving of the risk register.

Sustainable Social Services Third Sector Grant has replaced the Welsh Government core grant.

Erasmus+ is funding provided for National Youth meetings.

Comic Relief grant is to support staff costs.

Paul Hamlyn grant is to support staff costs.

The Esmee Fairbairn Foundation grant was awarded to fund the salary of a co-ordinator, evaluation and other project costs to increase young people's access to a service that enables them to stay with foster carers longer.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

•	Unrestricted 2019	Restricted 2019	Total		Restricted 2018	Tota 2018
	2019 £	2019 £	2019 £	2018 £	2016 £	2016 £
Fund balances at 31 March 2019 are represented by:	_	-	_		~	_
Tangible assets	7,539	-	7,539	7,499	-	7,499
Current assets/ (liabilities)	186,207	22,849	209,056	126,787	50,390	177,177
	193,746	22,849	216,595	134,286	50,390	184,676
	=======================================			·		

19 Liability of members and reserves

Every member of the Company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Company in the event of it being wound up while he or she is a member, or within one year afterwards, such amount as may be required not exceeding £1. The Company has no issued share capital as at 31 March 2019, the Company being limited by guarantee and not having a share capital.

20 Events after the reporting date

The charity are in the process of applying for the charitable company to be converted to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

21 Related party transactions

Remuneration of key management personnel

Key management personnel consist of 3 members of staff (2018: 2).

The remuneration of key management personnel is as follows.

	2019 £	2018 £
Aggregate compensation	131,765	87,891
	,	

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2018 - none).

22 Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2019	2018
	£	£
Within one year	10,760	33,194
Between two and five years	1,007	11,767
	11,767	44,961

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

Operating lease commitments (Continued) 22 23 Cash generated from operations 2019 2018 £ £ Surplus for the year 31,919 25,785 Adjustments for: Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities (107)(124)Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets 3,357 3,219 Movements in working capital: Decrease in stocks 538 Decrease in debtors 2,023 9,965 Increase/(decrease) in creditors 22,558 (10,099)Cash generated from operations 60,271 28,763

24 Analysis of changes in net funds

The charity had no debt during the year.