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Charity No: 1076317 Company No: 03069213

Talbot House Children's Charity Limited
(a company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital)

Report of the Management Trustees and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

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25/11/2023 COMPANIES HOUSE #55

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Report of the Management Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2023

The Management Trustees, who act as directors for the purposes of company law, are pleased to present their annual report together with the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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) issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Practice.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

In setting our objectives and planning our activities we have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular to its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing education and care.

Principal objective

To provide an innovative approach to the needs of children with social, emotional and mental health considerations, in either daily education in school, our children's home or in both.

Charity Name Change

At a strategic away day which included the senior management team and the members of the board, it was determined that a change of name should occur. It was agreed there should be a whole staff conference focusing on wellbeing where the name change would be launched as well as a program of staff benefits and team building events. In January 2023 the trustees approved via a special resolution a change in the charity name. It was thought that the use of the word "Trust" in the previous name implied that the organisation was either part of an academic trust or was a grant making charitable trust, of which we are neither. The board and the senior management team wanted the new name to reflect the aims of the charity. It was important that the word "children's" was added into the new name and that our charitable status was clearly represented also. The new name is Talbot House Children's Charity and this was approved by the charities commission on 31st January 2023.

Mission statement

Talbot House Children's Charity is a children's charitable organisation with a non-maintained special school and a registered children's home. We exist to improve the lives of the children we work with.

Talbot House school provides education for children who have complex needs centred around their social, emotional, or mental health.

Our children's home provides a safe and secure environment where children who are unable to live within a family unit can achieve permanence, while they develop the skills and confidence they need to prepare for adulthood.

The Charity's core values are:

People – passionate people are at the heart of Talbot House.

Place - providing a safe, nurturing environment where we are all equally valued and encouraged.

Pride – we take pride in celebrating our achievements and inspire self-belief.

Report of the Management Trustees (Continued) for the year ended 31 March 2023

Overview

Our School was inspected by Ofsted in July 2023. We were very happy that our rating was changed to 'Good' in all four areas of effectiveness. This is recognition for the hard work by our staff to make sure that our children feel happy and safe when at school and that we provide an excellent quality of education.

Our Residential Home was inspected by Ofsted in May 2023 and our rating dropped from "good" to " requires improvement to be good". It has been a difficult year in our children's home for several reasons; the previous manager left in July 2022, this led to an increase in staff turnover, previously settled children moved on, some in an unplanned way. The Head of Development agreed to step in to manage the home while recruitment for a new registered manager began and this is ongoing. The senior management team became aware of some managerial shortfalls, which have taken some time to resolve, and has been impacted by the national recruitment crisis in this sector.

Key areas of operation

Talbot House Children's Charity has two key areas of operation, the school and residential children's home. Each delivers services for children with one common aim, to engage them in care or education which has positive outcomes.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Charity

First and foremost, we are a children's charitable trust and as such structured differently to other schools and residential homes. We have a Chief Executive Officer and a senior management team consisting of a Head of Development and Head Teacher. We are governed by a board of Trustees, although all of those trustees are also governors within our school.

School

The school now has several specific areas for the education of children and young people who have a range of requirements. The school is registered for children from age 5 to 18 years old and for up to 60 children and young people. Currently we have 40 children on roll, with two year 11 pupils leaving and agreed provision for a further 10 joining in the Autumn term. Referrals for younger children have rapidly increased over the last year, which promotes stability and a more settled educational journey, both academically and socially.

Green zone is predominantly for children of 11 years old or year 7 onwards, although younger children can access appropriate elements according to their need, and for the purposes of transition. We provide this according to the stage, rather than the age our children are at. Our classes are small with no more than six pupils and a high ratio of adult support. We offer the full curriculum as well as preparing children for adulthood and therapeutic wellbeing. Our children also have access to Duke of Edinburgh awards scheme. Four of our pupils have achieved a bronze award in our first year of taking part in the scheme.

Blue zone is across three classrooms where children between the ages of 5 and 8 years old are working below expected age ranges. They receive education which focuses on their needs.

Yellow zone is across three classrooms where children aged between 8 and 16 years old, are working below age related expectations. They receive education which focuses on their needs.

Report of the Management Trustees (Continued) for the year ended 31 March 2023

Orange zone is based in our bungalow with two classrooms where children between the ages of 8 and 11 years old, access education suitable for their age range, taking into consideration their needs.

Throughout the school we provide interwoven therapeutic intervention in the classroom. We offer one to one sessions on site with our Thrive practitioners and all classroom staff are trained to provide a Thrive approach. All zones within school have their own sensory rooms and quiet areas. The zones are all fluid allowing a smooth transition at any stage according to the children's need.

Residential Children's Home

Our children's home provides care and accommodation for up to 5 children and young people aged between 7 and 18. We plan to reduce the number of beds from 5 to 4 which will enable us to convert one bedroom into the manager's office. This will allow staff and children more access to the manager on a daily basis. The current trend for children's homes is for provisions with less beds, with many referrals stipulating a requirement for smaller homes. We currently have two children in our home and are actively pursuing referrals for the remaining beds while paying particular attention to matching considerations with both the current residents and the expertise of the staff team. The home has been through a difficult year this year which has meant there is a relatively new staff team in place. Staff turnover has impacted the stability of the home, with the registered manager leaving us in July 2022, following extended periods of sickness along with other staff also moving on. Five children who lived with us left during the year too. The Head of Development has agreed to step into the managers role, while a new manager was sought. Several managerial and operational shortfalls were uncovered in the time after the registered manager left which has led to a revision of working practices. The Chief Executive and the Head of Development took the decision not to admit any new residents for a short period of time in December and January, to allow the new staff team to consolidate and develop relevant expertise. There is a national shortage of social care staff which continues to impact our recruitment. Our priorities are to continue to equip current staff with a broader range of skills and improve the management structure within the home through the addition of a Deputy Manager and senior residential care workers.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The financial position remains stable. The building refurbishment program continues to progress with more areas of modernisation planned. School roll has remained static compared this position last year, with 26 on roll. The results by activity are detailed below;

	Income	Expenditure	2023	2022	
	£	£	£	£	
School	1,847,700	1,799,549	48,151	106,652	
Residential care home	679,557	750,770	(71,213)	204,463	
	2,527,257	2,550,319	(23,062)	311,115	

An operating deficit of £2,430 (2022 surplus - £535,340) is shown on the Statement of Financial Activities.

Report of the Management Trustees (Continued) for the year ended 31 March 2023

The fund balances carried forward at 31 March 2023 show a total of £2,298,206 (2022 - £2,300,636) of which £nil (2022: £nil) related to restricted funds.

Reserves policy

The charity is reliant for its operational costs on numbers of children attending our school or living in our children's home. All unrestricted income is received from government funding. Our policy is to hold reserves of six months operation expenses. At 31 March 2023 the free reserves held amounts to £275,374.

In the Trustees' view, these reserves should provide the charity with adequate financial stability and the means for it to meet its charitable objectives for the foreseeable future. We are currently working towards increasing our level of reserves in order to meet to policy. Trustees will review the amount of reserves on a quarterly basis at their board meetings to ensure that the charity is able to fulfil its continuing obligations.

Going Concern

The charity reported a deficit of £2,430 for the year ended 31 March 2022 (2022 – surplus of £535,340) and has net assets of £2,298,206 (2021: £2,300,636).

The trust has been able to sustain a healthy cash position despite having less residential income to report. During the year we have completed projects such as a new science lab, Green zone and Blue zone playgrounds and outdoor gym. We continue to support families during school holiday periods by providing Aldi vouchers to assist with increases in the cost of living.

Referrals to the school have increased significantly with the majority of them now for children of primary school age. Many of them are now instigated by parents and their current provision. We are able to match the children referred to us more rigorously as a result, gathering information from numerous sources. As the children's needs are identified and met when they are younger, they are more likely to achieve good outcomes at the end of their school life. We are looking forward to our celebration of success day at the end of the summer term.

We have two residents currently who may remain with us until adulthood or may be rehabilitated back home to live with parents. Recruitment of staff remains challenging although we have successfully appointed into key roles and the calibre of candidates is improving. With the appointment of the Deputy Manager, senior staff and a restructure of the home environment we will be equipped to admit two further residents soon.

Report of the Management Trustees (Continued) for the year ended 31 March 2023

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

Aims

Our aims for 2023/2024 are:

- · Bring the residential managers office into the home
- · Reduce the number of bedrooms from 5 to 4
- Increase the number of children on roll in school
- Additional teaching space for Blue zone
- Nature garden development
- Invention station development
- Sports skills centre development
- IT network renewal
- · Determine the new use for the detached house on site and refurbish it
- Replacement Minibuses

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity Number

1076317

Company Number

03069213

Registered office

Hexham Road, Walbottle, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE15 8HW

Our advisors

Bankers

National Westminster Bank, 149 High Street, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne,

NE3 1HA

Solicitors/Legal issues

Ward Hadaway Law Firm, Sandgate House, 102 Quayside, Newcastle upon Tyne,

NE1 3DX

Auditors

Haines Watts North East Audit LLP, 17 Queens Lane, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1

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Report of the Management Trustees (Continued) for the year ended 31 March 2023

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 Management Trustees.

The members of the Management Trustees during and after the year were as follows:-

Rev A Harding

(Chair)

L Cannell-Mirza

L Wright

L Alcorn N Ramsey

V Mears

The Trustees are also members of the Board of Governors, in addition to the following:

D Pearson

Chief Executive Governor

J Reiling

Head of Development Governor

C Smiles

Head Teacher Governor

Karen Cowan

Staff Governor

Steve Hughes

Staff Governor Parent Governor

Damian Giaouris Rachael Gosling

Parent Governor

Key management

D Pearson

Chief Executive

J Reiling

Head of Development

C Smiles

Head Teacher

Report of the Management Trustees (Continued) for the year ended 31 March 2023

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

Talbot House Children's Charity is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

A Trust Deed established Talbot House 'The Charity' on 12 December 1973. On 31 March 2000 all assets and liabilities were transferred to Talbot House Independent Special School Limited ('a company limited by guarantee').

In July 2002 an application to the DfES, by the Trustees, to become a Non-Maintained Special School was approved by the Secretary of State for Education. New Articles and Memorandum of Association were duly implemented and subsequently, as a condition, a Governing Body was formulated.

On 29 January 2015 an Extraordinary General Meeting passed a Special Resolution to ratify a further change of name to that of 'Talbot House Trust'. Further to this another Extraordinary General Meeting passed a Special Resolution to ratify a further change of name to that of Talbot House Trust North East on the 20 May 2015.

On the 18th January 2023 within a scheduled general meeting a special resolution was passed to ratify a change of name to that of Talbot House Children's Charity Limited.

Talbot House Children's Charity is a Registered Charity (Charity No 1076317). It is also a Company Limited by Guarantee (Company No 03069213) and a Non-Maintained Special School (DfES No 3917038).

Method of Election of Trustees and Governors

Approval for the appointment of new Trustees/Members is made at Trustees Meetings. New members are recruited proactively through various networks available to the trust. Rotation of Members/Trustees is in accordance with the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Governors are appointed in accordance with the Instrument and Articles of Government documents.

Report of the Management Trustees (Continued) for the year ended 31 March 2023

Trustee induction and training

All the trustees are familiar with the practical work of the charity and are kept up to date with their legal responsibilities through the circularisation of Charity Commission newsletters, correspondence and updates. Governor training is undertaken with a subscription to an e-learning tool along with face to face training as appropriate.

Organisational structure

The organisation structure adopted in March 2001 consists of the Management Trustees and the Senior Management Team. The Management Trustees are responsible for governance, strategy and mission and advises, directs and supports the Senior Management Team. The Senior Management Team comprises Ms D Pearson, Chief Executive, Ms J Reiling, Head of Development and Deputy Chief Executive and Mrs C Smiles, Head Teacher. Collectively they are responsible for the day to day running of the trust. The school and residential home are subject to rigorous Ofsted and independent inspections, as well as local authority monitoring visits.

The charity has excellent external links and relationships with LA Commissioning Officers. There is also support from agencies such as Social Services, Careers Connexions Services and representatives from various health agencies NHS and LEA advisory services. Relationships continue to be developed between other charities, focus groups such as provider forums, special heads groups, ICHA (Independent Children's Homes Association), NASS (National Association of Special Schools) and NE12.

Related parties and co-operation with other organisations

We maintain links with other schools in the area via special heads groups, safeguarding forums and networking. Our residential manager also maintains membership of local providers groups and other residential settings.

Pay policy for senior staff

Our Trustees delegate responsibility to the payroll committee which is made up of up to three trustees annually. Pay increases are awarded in April each year.

Union Recognition

In December 2021, the trust management were approached by a representative of the NEU who represented the teaching staff. An agreement was made that the NEU would be the recognised union for the bargaining unit who requested input on decisions over teachers pay, holidays and hours.

Risk assessment

The Management Trustees recognise that the main risk to the Charity would result from a fall in pupil numbers. A development plan is drawn up each year and submitted to the trustees. At their quarterly meetings the Chief Executive and senior team report on all aspects of the charity's business, including pupil numbers, staffing levels and financial matters.

Auditors

A resolution proposing that Haines Watts North East Audit LLP be reappointed as auditors of the company will be put to the Annual General Meeting.

Report of the Management Trustees (Continued) for the year ended 31 March 2023

STATEMENT OF MANAGEMENT TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Management Trustees (who are also directors of Talbot House Children's Charity for the purpose of company law) are responsible for preparing the Management 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 charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company 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 2015 (FRS 102);
- 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 charitable company 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 charitable company 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 charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware, and
- the trustees have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

This report was approved by the Management Trustees on 24. Northwww...... 2023.

Signed on behalf of the Board

Lisa Alcorn Vice Chair

Independent auditor's report to the members of Talbot House Children's Charity Limited

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Talbot House Children's Charity (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and 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 2023, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, 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 charitable company 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

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Independent auditor's report to the members of Talbot House Children's Charity Limited (Continued)

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' 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, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, 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 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.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report (incorporating the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- · the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the directors' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Independent auditor's report to the members of Talbot House Children's Charity Limited (Continued)

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 9, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes 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 charitable company'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 auditor under the companies Act 2006 and we report in accordance with this Act.

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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework applicable to both the company itself and the industry in which it operates. We identified areas of laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements from our sector experience and through discussion with the directors and other management. The most significant were identified as the Charities Act 2011, Companies Act 2006, UK GAAP (FRS102) and relevant tax legislation. We considered the extent of compliance with those laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statements. Our audit procedures included:

- · confirming with the trustees and management whether they have any knowledge or suspicion of fraud;
- obtaining an understanding of the internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or noncompliance with laws and regulations;
- · assessing the risk of management override including identifying and testing a sample of journal entries;
- confirmation received from the banks to verify the balance as on the last day of the accounting year;
- reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.

Independent auditor's report to the members of Talbot House Children's Charity Limited (Continued)

Our audit did not identify any key audit matters relating to the detection of irregularities including fraud. However, despite the audit being planned and conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) there remains an unavoidable risk that material misstatements in the financial statements may not be detected owing to inherent limitations of the audit, and that by their very nature, any such instances of fraud or irregularity likely involve collusion, forgery, intentional misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls.

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

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's 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 charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

C. Hendene

Craig Henderson (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Haines Watts North East Audit LLP

24 Novembes 2023

17 Queens Lane Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 1RN

Statement of Financial Activities (including the income and expenditure account) for the year ended 31 March 2023

		Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	Notes	£	£	£	£	£
Income from:			•			
Donations	4	54,004	-	41,455	95,459	74,429
Charitable activities	5	2,432,167	-	-	2,432,167	2,778,266
Investment income		975	-	-	975	27
Total income	• •	2,487,146	-	41,455	2,528,601	2,852,722
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities	6	2,454,440	35,136	41,455	2,531,031	2,317,382
Total expenditure		2,454,440	35,136	41,455	2,531,031	2,317,382
Net movement before transfers		32,706	(35,136)	-	(2,430)	535,340
Transfers between funds	18	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		32,706	(35,136)	-	(2,430)	535,340
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		435,426	1,865,210	-	2,300,636	1,765,296
Total funds carried forward		468,132	1,830,074		2,298,206	2,300,636

There have been no recognised gains or losses other than the above surplus. All income and expenditure derives from continuing activities.

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2023

	Notes	£	2023 £	2022 £ £
Fixed assets		٤.	~	
Tangible assets	12	2,073	,674	1,968,367
Current assets				
Debtors	13	732,303	541,214	
Cash at bank and in hand		335,270	505,009)
·		1,067,573	1,046,223	•
Liabilities:		,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,		
Creditors: amounts falling due				
within one year	14	(806,769)	(657,059))
Net current assets		260	,804	389,164
Total assets less current liabilities		2,334	,478	2,357,531
Provisions for Liabilities				
Pension Liability	16	(36	,272)	(56,895)
Total net assets		2,298	,206	2,300,636
The funds of the charity				
Restricted funds	18		-	-
Unrestricted funds	18	468	,132	435,426
Designated	18	1,830	,074	1,865,210
		2,298	,206	2,300,636

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

Approved by the Management Trustees on 24 Normbes 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Lisa Alcorn Vice Chair

Company Number 03069213

Cash Flow Statement for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flow from operating activities			
Net cash flow from operating activities	21	78,120	340,682
Cash flow from investing activities			
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets		(247,859)	(418,655)
Net cash flow from investing activities		(247,859)	(418,655)
Cash flow from financing activities Repayment of borrowings		-	(52,526)
Net cash flow from financing activities			(52,526)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equ	ivalents	(169,739)	(130,499)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of th	e year	505,009	635,508
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the y	ear	335,270	505,009
Cash and cash equivalents consist of: Cash at bank and in hand		335,270	505,009

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

1. Accounting Policies

1.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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) issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Practice.

Talbot House Children's Charity North East meets the definition of a public benefit under FRS 102. The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s). The financial statements are prepared in Sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest \mathfrak{L} .

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

1.2 Going concern

The charity reported a deficit of £2,430 for the year ended 31 March 2023 (2022 surplus: £535,340) and has net assets of £2,298,206 (2022: £2,300,636).

Referrals to the school remain stable. The quality of the information at the referral stage has improved as local authorities have become more experienced in the EHCP process and this in turn has meant we are able to match more appropriately. Of the children we now have, many of them have complex learning needs are successful within our therapeutic provisions. After a long period of restrictions, we were able to enjoy a Celebration of Success day at the end of the summer term which was attended by our children, staff and parents.

Recruitment of staff remains difficult within the care sector nationally and our home has experienced this. We are currently reviewing the staffing structure to determine the best way forward. Our children all attend college or school placements.

1.3 Funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charitable company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes.

Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued) for the year ended 31 March 2023

1.3 Funds (Continued)

Restricted funds are funds which are set to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors which have been raised by the company for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably and it is possible that the income will be received.

Income from charitable activities includes income received under contract or where entitlement to grant funding is subject to specific performance conditions and is recognised as earned. Grant income included in this category provides funding to support performance activities and is recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with reasonable certainty. Income received to deliver services over a specific period covering more than one financial year is accounted for over the specific period; related expenditure is accounted when incurred.

Investment income relates to interest earned through holding assets on deposit.

1.5 Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the cost which the expenditure was incurred.

1.6 Support cost allocation

Support costs are those that assist the work of the charity but do not directly represent charitable activities and include office costs, governance costs and administrative payroll costs. They are incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity.

1.7 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost including any incidental expenses of acquisition.

Depreciation of tangible fixed assets is provided by equal annual instalments so as to write off the cost of the assets over their estimated useful economic lives as follows:

Freehold buildings - 50 years
Fixtures, fittings & equipment - 3 - 10 years
Motor vehicles - 3 years

Land is not depreciated.

Fixed assets below a value of £100 are not capitalised.

Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued) for the year ended 31 March 2023

1.8 Debtors

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

1.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1.10 Creditors and provisions

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 fund 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 after allowing for any trade discounts due.

1.11 Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

1.12 Leases

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged against income on a straight line basis over the lease term.

1.13 Post retirement benefits

The charitable company contributes to a defined contribution pension scheme for employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company. The annual contributions payable are charged to the SoFA.

The charity also contributes to a defined benefit pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund. It is not possible for the charitable company to obtain sufficient information to enable it to account for the scheme as a defined benefit scheme and therefore accounts for it as a defined contribution scheme. In addition to the above accounting the scheme has agreed a schedule of contributions with participating employers that will eliminate the plan over 12 years. The charity has recognised a liability for the contributions adjusted for the time value of money and an equal expense in the SoFA.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the academy trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. As stated in note 18, the TPS is a multi-employer scheme and there is insufficient information available to use defined benefit accounting. The TPS is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued) for the year ended 31 March 2023

1.14 Tax

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.

2. Legal status

Talbot House Children's Charity is a company limited by guarantee (No 03069213) and not having a share capital. In the event of the company being wound up, members may be required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 each.

3. Comparative Statement of Financial Activities

		Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	Notes	£	£	£	£	£
Income from:						
Donations	4	44,288	-	30,141	74,429	41,967
Charitable activities	5	2,778,266	-	-	2,778,266	2,687,488
Investment income		27	, -	-	27	-
Other income		-	-	-	-	8,509
Total income		2,822,581	-	30,141	2,852,722	2,737,964
Evanditura and						
Expenditure on: Charitable activities	6	2,287,241		30,141	2,317,382	2,303,727
Chainable activities	U	2,207,241	-	50,141	2,517,502	2,303,727
Total expenditure		2,287,241		30,141	2,317,382	2,303,727
Net movement before transfers		535,340	-	-	535,340	434,237
Transfers between funds	18	(1,865,210)	1,865,210	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(1,329,870)	1,865,210	-	535,340	434,237
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		1,765,296	-	-	1,765,296	1,331,059
Total funds carried forward		435,426	1,865,210	-	2,300,636	1,765,296

Notes to the Financial Statements *(Continued)* for the year ended 31 March 2023

4.	Income from donations				
				2023	2022
				£	£
	Grants			95,459	72,524
	Donations			-	1,905
				95,459	74,429
·	•				
5.	Income from charitable activities				
				2023	2022
				£	£
	School			1,754,255	1,739,777
	Residential children's home			677,912	1,034,396
	Other			-	4,093
				2,432,167	2,778,266
6.	Expenditure on charitable activities				
٠.		Activities			
		undertaken	Support		
		directly	costs	2023	2022
		£	£	£	£
	School	1,529,483	250,051	1,779,534	1,513,051
	Residential care home	657,316	94,181	751,497	804,331
		2,186,799	344,232	2,531,031	2,317,382

Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued) for the year ended 31 March 2023

7.	Support costs		
		2023	2022
		£	£
	Salary costs	333,433	165,662
	Governance costs (note 8)	10,799	10,821
		344,232	176,483
8.	Governance costs		
		2023	2022
		£	£
	Payroll costs	4,139	4,161
	Audit fee	6,240	6,240
	Non audit fee	420	420
		10,799	10,821
9.	Net movement for the year		
	This is stated after charging:	•	
		2023	2022
		£	£
	Depreciation	142,553	112,605
	Audit remuneration	6,240	6,240
10.	Analysis of staff costs and trustee remuneration and expenses		
	Staff costs were as follows:		
	Stail Costs were as follows.	2023	2022
		£	3
	Wages and salaries	1,440,886	1,499,166
	Social security costs	139,440	135,931
	Pension costs	140,409	147,629
		1,720,735	1,782,726

Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued) for the year ended 31 March 2023

11. Analysis of staff costs and trustee remuneration and expenses (Continued)

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2023 Number	2022 Number
Charitable activities	58	62
The number of employees who received total employee benefits (excluding employees than £60,000 is as follows:	oyer pension co	sts) of more

	2023 Number	2022 Number
£60,000 - £70,000	1	1
£80,000 - £90,000	1	1

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment in the year (2022 - £nil) neither were they reimbursed expenses during the year (2022 - £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2022 - £nil).

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the trustees, the Chief Executive Officer, the Head of Development, Head Teacher and Residential Manager. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £262,334 (2022 - £312,390).

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land &	Motor	Fixtures, fittings &	
	buildings	Vehicles	equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost	•			
At 1 April 2022	2,332,757	58,869	667,386	3,059,012
Additions	9,428	15,354	223,078	247,860
At 31 March 2023	2,342,185	74,223	890,464	3,306,872
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2022	467,547	55,105	567,993	1,090,645
Charge for the year	35,136	3,763	103,654	142,553
At 31 March 2023	502,683	58,868	671,647	1,233,198
Net book value			<u></u>	
At 31 March 2023	1,839,502	15,355	218,817	2,073,674
At 31 March 2022	1,865,210	3,764	99,393	1,968,367

Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued) for the year ended 31 March 2023

13.	Debtors		
		2023	2022
		£	£
	Trade debtors	693,900	526,306
	Prepayments and accrued income	38,403	14,908
		732,303	541,214
14.	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
		2023	2022
		£	£
	Trade creditors	66,865	36,633
	Taxes and social security	26,915	31,039
	Accruals and deferred income	699,034	577,666
	Other creditors	13,955	11,721
		806,769	657,059
15.	Deferred income		
	Deferred income comprises fee income relating to future periods:		
			£
	Balance at 1 April 2022		568,130
	Amounts released to income earned from charitable activities		(568,130)
	Amounts deferred in the year		682,778
	Balance at 31 March 2023		682,778

Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued) for the year ended 31 March 2023

16.	Provisions for Liabilities		
		2023	2022
		£	£
	Pension liability (note 17)	36,272	56,895
		36,272	56,895

17. Pension scheme

Talbot House School's employees belong to two principal pension schemes; the Teachers' Pension Scheme England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff and The Pension Trust for non-teaching staff. Both are defined benefit schemes. The charity also operates a defined contribution scheme run by Royal London (previously Scottish Equitable). The percentage contributions paid in to this scheme vary depending on employment contract.

Defined contribution scheme

Pension contributions payable for the year ended 31 March 2023 amounted to £140,409 (2022 - £143,942).

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS or scheme) is a statutory, unfunded, defined benefit occupational scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pensions Regulations 2010 (as amended), and the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014 (as amended). These regulations apply to teachers in schools and other educational establishments, including academies, in England and Wales that are maintained by local authorities. In addition, teachers in many independent and voluntary-aided schools and teachers and lecturers in some establishments of further and higher education may be eligible for membership. Membership is automatic for full-time teachers and lecturers and, from 1 January 2007, automatic too for teachers and lecturers in part-time employment following appointment or a change of contract. Teachers and lecturers are able to opt out of the TPS.

Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued) for the year ended 31 March 2023

17. Pension scheme (Continued)

The Teachers' Pension Budgeting and Valuation Account

Although members may be employed by various bodies, their retirement and other pension benefits are set out in regulations made under the Superannuation Act (1972) and Public Service Pensions Act (2013) and are paid by public funds provided by Parliament. The TPS is an unfunded scheme and members contribute on a 'pay as you go 'basis – contributions from members, along with those made by employers, are credited to the Exchequer under arrangements governed by the above Acts.

The Teachers' Pensions Regulations 2010 require an annual account, the Teachers' Pension Budgeting and Valuation Account, to be kept of receipts and expenditure (including the cost of pension increases). From 1 April 2001, the Account has been credited with a real rate of return, which is equivalent to assuming that the balance in the Account is invested in notional investments that produce that real rate of return.

Valuation of The Teachers' Pension Scheme

The latest valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme has now taken place, in line with directions issued by HM Treasury and using membership data as at 31 March 2016. As a result of this valuation TPS employers will pay an increased contribution rate of 23.68% from September 2019 (this includes the administration levy of 0.8%). The timing of the implementation is to align its introduction with employers' budget planning cycles. Until then, employers will pay the current rate of 16.48%.

A copy of the latest valuation report can be found by following this link to the Teachers' Pension Scheme website

Scheme Changes

The arrangements for a reformed Teachers' Pension Scheme, in line with the recommendations made by Lord Hutton, in particular the introduction of a Career Average Revalued Earnings (CARE) scheme, were implemented from 1 April 2015.

In December 2018, the Court of Appeal held that transitional protection provisions contained in the reformed judicial and firefighter pension schemes, introduced as part of public service pension reforms in 2015, gave rise to direct age discrimination and were therefore unlawful. The Supreme Court, in a decision made in June 2019, have rejected the Government's application for permission to appeal the Court of Appeal's ruling. The case will now be referred to an Employment Tribunal for a decision regarding the remedy which will need to be offered to those members of the two schemes who were subject of the age discrimination.

HM Treasury are clear that the ruling has implications for the other public service schemes, including the Teachers' Pension Scheme. Those implications are currently being considered and any impact on scheme costs is expected to be looked at within the next scheme valuation, which is currently scheduled to be based on April 2020 data and implemented in April 2023.

Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued) for the year ended 31 March 2023

17. Pension scheme (Continued)

The Pensions Trust

The company participates in the scheme, a multi-employer scheme which provides benefits to some 638 non-associated participating employers. The scheme is a defined benefit scheme in the UK. It is not possible for the company to obtain sufficient information to enable it to account for the scheme as a defined benefit scheme. Therefore it accounts for the scheme as a defined contribution scheme.

The scheme is subject to the funding legislation outlined in the Pensions Act 2004 which came into force on 30 December 2005. This, together with documents issued by the Pensions Regulator and Technical Actuarial Standards by the Financial Reporting Council, set out in the framework for funding defined benefit occupational pension schemes in the UK.

The scheme is classified as a 'last-man standing arrangement'. Therefore the company is potentially liable for other participating employers' obligations if those employers are unable to meet their share of the scheme deficit following withdrawal from the scheme. Participating employers are legally required to meet their share of the scheme deficit on an annuity purchase basis on withdrawal from the scheme.

A full actuarial valuation for the scheme was carried out at 30 September 2020. This valuation showed assets of £800.3m, liabilities of £831.9m and a deficit of £31.6m.To eliminate this funding shortfall, the Trustee has asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme as follows:

Deficit contributions

From 1 April 2022 to 31 January 2025:

£3,312,000 per annum (payable monthly)

Unless a concession has been agreed with the Trustee the term to 31 January 2025 applies.

Note that the scheme's previous valuation was carried out with an effective date of 30 September 2017. This valuation showed assets of £794.9m, liabilities of £926.4m and a deficit of £131.5m. To eliminate this funding shortfall, the Trustee asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme as follows:

Deficit contributions

From 1 April 2019 to 30 September 2025: 3% on 1st April)

£11,243,000 per annum (payable monthly and increasing by

The recovery plan contributions are allocated to each participating employer in line with their estimated share of the Series 1 and Series 2 scheme liabilities.

Where the scheme is in deficit and where the company has agreed to a deficit funding arrangement the company recognises a liability for this obligation. The amount recognised is the net present value of the deficit reduction contributions payable under the agreement that relates to the deficit. The present value is calculated using the discount rate detailed in these disclosures. The unwinding of the discount rate is recognised as a finance cost.

Present values of provisions

·	31 March 2023	31 March 2022	31 March 2021
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Present value of provision	36	57	282

Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued) for the year ended 31 March 2023

17. Pension scheme (Continued)

Perio	od Ending	Period	Ending
31 M	arch 2023	31 Mai	rch 2022
	£'000		£'000
Provision at start of period	57		282
Unwinding of the discount factor (interest expense)	1		2
Deficit contribution paid	(21)	(71)
Remeasurements – impact of any change in assumptions	(1)	(1)
Remeasurements – amendments to the contribution schedule	-		(155)
Provision at end of period	36	_	57
		_	

Income and expenditure impact

	Perioa Enaing i	Perioa Enaing
•	31 March 2023	31 March 2022
	£'000	£'000
Interest expense	1	1
Remeasurements – impact of any change in assumptions	(1)	(1)
Remeasurements – amendments to the contribution schedule	-	(154)
Contributions paid in respect of future service*	•	-
Costs recognised in income and expenditure account	-	-

^{*} Includes defined contribution schemes and future service contributions (i.e. excluding any deficit reduction payments) to defined benefit schemes which are treated as defined contribution schemes.

Assumptions	31 March 2023	31 March 2022	31 March 2021
	% per annum	% per annum	% per annum
Rate of discount	5.52	2.35	0.66

The discount rates shown above are the equivalent single discount rates which, when used to discount the future recovery plan contributions due, would give the same results as using a full AA corporate bond yield curve to discount the same recovery plan contributions.

Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued) for the year ended 31 March 2023

18. Funds

Year ended 31 March 2023		٠			
	At 1 April				At 31 March
	2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds	435,426	2,487,146	(2,454,440) -	468,132
Designated funds					
Property fund	1,865,210	-	(35,136) -	1,830,074
Restricted funds					
Devolved Formula Capital	-	41,455	(41,455	-	-
Total	2,300,636	2,528,601	(2,531,031) -	2,298,206
Year ended 31 March 2022					
	At 1 April				At 31 March
	2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds	1,765,296	2,822,581	(2,287,241)	(1,865,210) 435,426
Designated funds					
Property fund	-	-	-	1,865,210	1,865,210
Restricted funds					
Devolved Formula Capital	-	30,141	(30,141)	-	-
Total	1,765,296	2,852,722	(2,317,382)		2,300,636

Designated funds

Property fund – During the year the Trustees elected to designate a property fund, with a value equivalent to the carrying value of the freehold land and buildings held by the charity.

Restricted funds

Devolved Formula Capital – This income is received for improvements to the building and other facilities or capital repairs/refurbishment and minor work.

Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued) for the year ended 31 March 2023

19. Analysis of net assets between funds

Year ended 31 March 2023	Unrestricted	Restricted	
	Funds	Funds	Total
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	2,073,674	-	2,073,674
Net current assets	260,804	-	260,804
Provisions for liabilities	(36,272)	-	(36,272)
	2,298,206		2,298,206

19. Analysis of net assets between funds (Continued)

Year ended 31 March 2022	Unrestricted Ro Funds	Funds	Total
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,968,367	-	1,968,367
Net current assets	389,165	-	389,165
Provisions for liabilities	(56,896)	-	(56,896)
	2,300,636	•	2,300,636

Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued) for the year ended 31 March 2023

20. Related party transactions

There have been no transactions incurred with related parties during the period (2022 – none).

21. Reconciliation of net (deficit)/surplus to net cash flow from operating activities

	2023 2022
	££
Net (deficit)/surplus for the year	(2,430) 535,340
Depreciation	142,553 112,605
Increase in debtors	(191,089)(216,350)
Increase in creditors: due within one year	149,710 134,564
Decrease creditors: due after more than one year	(20,624)(225,477)
	78,120 340,682

22. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 April 2022 £	Cash flows £	At 31 March 2023 £
Cash and cash equivalents Cash at bank and in hand	505,009	(169,739) 335,270
Total	505,009	(169,739)	335,270