

Company number: 4164966  
Charity number: 1085761

**CARERS SUPPORT MERTON**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**



## CONTENTS

	<b>Pages</b>
<b>Legal and administrative details</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Trustees' annual report</b>	<b>2-13</b>
<b>Independent examiner's report</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Statement of financial activities</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Balance sheet</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Statement of Cash Flows</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Notes to the financial statements</b>	<b>18-25</b>

**LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Trustees**

R Kinsella (Chair)  
J F Davey (Treasurer)  
C Lumiste (Vice Chair)  
M Ribton  
J Tyson  
S Willabus  
S DeMorgan

**Principal/Registered Office**

The Vestry Hall  
336-338 London Road  
Mitcham  
Surrey  
CR4 3UD

**Independent examiner**

Jason Foxwell FCCA FCIE  
39 Enfield Road  
Poole  
BH15 3LJ

**Principal bankers**

CAF Bank  
25 Kings Hill Avenue  
Kings Hill  
West Malling  
Kent  
ME19 4JQ

**CARERS SUPPORT MERTON  
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

## **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

The Trustees (who are also directors for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006) present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, 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).

### **TRUSTEES**

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the Charity. The trustees serving during the year and to the date of this report were as follows:

R Kinsella (Chair)  
J F Davey (Treasurer)  
C Lumiste (Vice Chair)  
M Ribton  
J Tyson  
S Willabus  
S De Morgan

### **PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY**

The charitable company's principal activity during the year was to provide information and support to carers of persons resident in the London Borough of Merton, who are frail or ill or who have a disability or a mental health problem, or such Local Authority area as the trustees shall see fit.

A detailed review of the Charity's activities is set out further in this report.

### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

#### **Governing document**

Carers Support Merton is a company limited by guarantee, governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 8 February 2001 as amended at the Annual General Meeting on 18 October 2012. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission.

#### **Appointment of new trustees**

As set out in the Articles of Association, the Charity requires a minimum of three trustees (collectively referred to as 'the Board'), the Board endeavours to ensure that considerably more than this number are in office at all times. Trustees are chosen to give the Board a wide range of experiences and professional skills. The trustees may co-opt a person as a trustee, but that person must resign and offer him/herself for re-election at the next Annual General Meeting ('AGM'). One third of the Board members, in rotation, must resign each year and may offer themselves for re-election, and no trustee may serve for more than six years in succession unless the Board unanimously agrees an extension. All members are circulated with invitations to nominate trustees prior to the AGM.

#### **Trustee recruitment and induction**

New trustees undergo an orientation session to brief them on their legal obligation under the Charity and company law, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the committee and the decision-making processes, the business plan and recent financial performance of the Charity.

**CARERS SUPPORT MERTON  
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

**Governance and organisational structure**

The Board of Trustees administers the Charity and generally meets four times a year. A Finance Committee, chaired by the Treasurer, meets at least four times per year to review financial performance and other matters requiring detailed consideration before presentation to the Board. Other committees, which meet on a quarterly basis, are Staff and Volunteers and Communication and Fundraising.

**Management**

Day to day management and decision making of the Charity is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer who works closely with the senior management team and other staff to fulfil the Charity's objectives and ensure the smooth and effective running of the organisation. The Chief Executive Officer reports to the Chair and the Board. To facilitate effective operations, the Chief Executive Officer has delegated authority, within the terms of delegation approved by the Board, for operational matters including finance and employment.

**Senior Management Team**

Tracy Weight	Chief Executive Officer
Avril Doyle	Operations Manager
Bei Yang	Finance Manager

**Pay policy for senior management team**

The directors, who are the Charity's Trustees, and the senior management team, comprise the key management personnel of the Charity in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating the Charity on a day-to-day basis. All Trustees give of their time freely and no Trustee received remuneration in the year.

The pay of all staff, including the senior management team, is reviewed annually. The Trustees benchmark against pay levels in other local charities of a similar size and other charities of a similar nature. All staff are appraised annually with supervision being conducted throughout the year including reviewing responsibilities and development needs. Pay of any staff member, including any member of the senior management team, may be reviewed more frequently should there be any change in role and/or responsibility.

**Related parties and co-operation with other organisations**

None of our Trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work with the Charity.

The Charity works with other charitable and other not for profit organisations in the furtherance of its objectives. Any connection between a trustee or senior manager of the Charity with a service user, external contractor or supplier of services is disclosed to the full Board of Trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party. Furthermore, all Trustees complete an annual declaration of interests form.

All related party transactions are managed in accordance with the Charity's conflicts of interest policy. All transactions and activities involving organisations in which a trustee may have an interest are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the Charity's financial and procurement procedures.

In the current year no such related party transactions were reported.

## **CARERS SUPPORT MERTON YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

### **Use of volunteers**

Volunteers have continued to provide governance as trustees, and through our mentoring and digital skills projects. We have found the recruitment and retention of volunteers quite challenging, particularly given the commitment and rigorous recruitment process required to work with vulnerable people. We know that post-covid the trend is for more flexible volunteering opportunities and we will look to develop those further through our digital skills project. Volunteers provided a total number of 576.05 hours volunteering to Carers Support Merton in the period 01<sup>st</sup> April 2021 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022

### **AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

#### **Objective**

The objective of Carers Support Merton is to provide information and support to carers of persons who are frail or ill or who have a disability or who have a mental health problem and are resident in the London Borough of Merton or such Local Authority areas as the Trustees shall see fit.

#### **Public Benefit**

The Trustees have given due consideration to the Charity Commission's published guidance on the Public Benefit requirement under the Charities Act 2011. We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. We believe that we have complied with this; and seek to demonstrate this within this report. Our objects and funding limit the services we provide to those detailed in our charitable objectives.

The Carers Trust defines a carer as *"... someone of any age who provides unpaid support to family or friends who could not manage without this help. This could be caring for a relative, partner or friend who is ill, frail, disabled or has mental health or substance misuse problems"*.

We support Carers over the age of 5 years who need our help. We know that anyone can become a Carer; Carers come from all walks of life, all cultures and can be of any age. Many feel they are doing what anyone else would in the same situation; looking after their mother, son or best friend and just getting on with it.

### **AIMS**

**Our vision** is to achieve a society, which values its (unpaid) carers.

**Our mission** is to empower unpaid carers to live a fulfilling life. We do this by providing a range of services, such as advice and information, advocacy, benefit checks, workshops, peer support, counselling, and respite from their caring role.

#### **Our values are:**

- **Inclusive** – We embrace diversity and treat everyone as an individual
- **Caring and compassionate** – We show empathy and treat carers, their families and each other with kindness, going the 'extra mile' to make a difference
- **Honest, open and reliable** – We do what we say we will
- **Client focused** – We listen to carers' needs and views, and ensure they remain central to everything we do
- **Continuously improving** – We are inspirational and innovative about what we can achieve for carers and always strive to remain current, progressive and relevant
- **Collaborative** – We actively seek collaboration and partnership with other organisations to ensure that carers have access to the best expertise and are supported in the most efficient and effective ways.

## **CARERS SUPPORT MERTON YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

Caring can be a rewarding role, but equally a challenging one. Issues Carers presented with over the year included loneliness and isolation, financial problems, stress and the need for a break from caring. This year, more than ever, our telephone support line has been a lifeline. Early in the pandemic we began fielding calls from some very anxious and distressed people. It was a worrying time for everyone, but Carers, many of who are themselves elderly or suffering ill health, suddenly found themselves with additional worries: about how to shield their vulnerable loved ones; if they fall ill, what will happen to the person they look after and how to cope if the paid-for personal carer givers they depend on can no longer visit their home.

By providing a range of services and support such as Carers assessments, information, advice, guidance, training, benefit checks, respite activities and signposting to other specialist services we have made a real difference to carers of all ages. We've helped them to understand their rights, made them feel less isolated, better equipped to manage their caring role, as well as more aware of how to look after their own emotional and physical needs.

*Carers Support Merton* continues to be actively involved with delivery partners and commissioners. Over the past two years Carers Support Merton has been a key partner in the development and launch of the London Borough of Merton's five-year Carers Strategy setting out how it, along with its partners, plan to make life better for Carers in Merton. Over the past year we have taken an active part in the sub-groups and Implementation Board to help turn the ambitions into reality. This is a very welcome development and we are hugely optimistic about the change better integrated working could achieve for Carers. However, it does also contribute to creating a continually changing environment as new partnerships are established, and delivery models change. This year we refreshed our 2018 strategy in light of the changes brought about by the pandemic. We have not only experienced an increase in service demand, but also in the complexity of needs being presented by Carers. We expect this increase to continue given that Carers were disproportionately affected by the pandemic. In addition they continue to be disproportionately affected by the current cost of living crisis along with the nations health and social care recruitment and retention challenges.

We know that early identification, robust assessment of needs and access to specialist advice and information is key to ensuring Carers receive the support they deserve. Given the number of Carers in the community who need our help we have decided that moving forwards we will concentrate on increasing our reach, including being proactive in increasing the identification of 'hidden Carers' in the community. This year in order to achieve this we have made a conscious decision to deliver fewer services ourselves and focus our resources on signposting and referring Carers to those services delivered by our partners.

Our previous strategy did not include specific objectives for Parent Carers of children under 18 because we were not funded to provide support to them. However, we know this is a very under-recognised group of Carers, so moving forwards we want to champion for improvements in the recognition and support they receive.

This year we continued to progress the implementation of our plan to develop our use of digital in order to improve all aspects of our operations. We updated our data base, overcoming many challenges with data migration (funded by the Triangle Trust). We also launched an 18-month digital project to ensure Carers were not left behind by technological advancements, which was funded in part by reaching communities, and in part by London Borough of Merton.

### **ACTIVITIES, ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

#### **Charitable activities in 2021 - 2022**

##### **Adult Carers Service**

## **CARERS SUPPORT MERTON YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

The services to adult Carers this year have been predominately funded by the London Borough of Merton and the Big Lottery Reaching Communities fund, who contributed to our digital skills project. This funding, along with contributions from others such as the Wimbledon Nursing & Midwifery Benevolent Society, and activities provided by our partners, we have been able to continue to provide highly valued support to Carers in Merton.

In 2021 - 2022 we received **363** new referrals of Carers over the age of 18 (**compared to 288 2020/2021**), which is quite a considerable increase. They come from a range of agencies, for example, social workers, GP's, hospitals, other voluntary sector organisations and from Carers themselves.

**815** adult Carers have received some form of service over the year (**compared to 1,993 2020/2021**). This is less than last year, but the stark increase was largely due to increase in Care Calls and increased telephone support during lockdown. In 2019 - 2020 we worked with **848** Carers which is a better comparison.

We carried out **426** statutory Care Act Assessments/reviews (**compared to 377 2019/2020**) on behalf of the London of Merton over the year. Carers Assessments help to identify the needs of a Carer and a support plan is put in place, using community and other resources to help meet those needs. Our outcome monitoring has demonstrated we have made a real difference to Carers, making them feel less isolated, better equipped to manage their caring role, and more aware of how to look after their own emotional and physical needs.

We have continued to offer coffee and conversation peer support group and workshops on a variety of topics to support in the caring role, for example, Lasting Power of Attorney.

We continue to administer the Carers Discretionary Grant on behalf of London Borough of Merton. This was increased to £200 and allows Carers to buy something to support them in their caring role. Larger grants can be awarded when there is specific need identified. We have also gained grants from Wimbledon Nursing and Midwifery Benevolent fund to support Carers who have limited financial resources to pay for things they need to support their caring role. A total of £49,247 in individual grants was awarded which helped Carers in a variety of ways. Some examples include technological equipment, school uniform, and short breaks.

During the lockdown technology was a lifeline for many, but we are also acutely aware the rapid digital advancement has left many Carers behind due to lack of connectivity, devices and skills. We know that the use of digital can support Carers in their role, and so in November 2020 we launched a Digital Skills project to support adult Carers to get online, which increased capacity in March 2021 due to a grant from the London Borough of Merton.

### **Young Adult Carers Service (16 to 25 Years)**

The transition into adulthood can be challenging for any young person, but is especially challenging for Young Carers. This year was our first year without funding for a specific project to support this age group. However, we have still have accommodated support with our adult or children's services as appropriate.

### **Young Carers Service (5 to 18 Years)**

Many carers are just children themselves and care for a parent and/or sibling with disabilities, or mental or physical ill health. Their caring role is often unidentified, and It is well documented that young carers achieve less well academically, miss more school and suffer more ill health and bullying than their peers. Our aim is that Young Carers will have the same access and opportunities as their peers to education and positive activities, have their voices heard and do not undertake inappropriate levels of care. The pandemic



**CARERS SUPPORT MERTON  
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

has affected the outcomes of all young people, but there is local and national research which suggests Young Carers have been disproportionately affected.

We actively worked with a total of **185** young carers (compared 176 last year). 107 of these are new referrals (compared to 74 last year). There was a drop in new referrals last year due to services, especially schools being shut during lockdown.

This year we have refined our assessment process in order to target intervention to where it is needed most.

We've supported Young Carers to access outside activities and respite by obtaining individual grants. These have included swimming memberships and sports equipment. We continue to support vulnerable families with food vouchers and were able to successfully refer 18 Young Carers to access the Holiday Activity and Food programme for Easter 2022. We supported local theatres to deliver online workshops, which were well attended. This included two 10-week programmes facilitated by Attic Theatre.

We supported 12 Young Carers to access short breaks through Honeypot Children's Charity in Hampshire. A total of 40 Young Carers to receive Christmas gifts from the Wimbledon Elf Initiative and we also distributed twenty £25 Amazon vouchers to Young Carers using funding from the Jack Petchey Foundation.

Some quotes from Young Carers and their families that have accessed online activities and workshops:

"I would like to thank Carers Support Merton from the bottom of my heart for the amazing and generous gifts the Elves brought my two children over Christmas. They both loved the gifts and it really helped bring them some extra Christmas joy."

"Carly (name changed) is really enjoying the drama sessions with the Polka Theatre and she has grown in confidence, so much so that she has even been supporting another girl who was having difficulties at school. I can't thank you enough for all of the support you have given to Carly and myself. I have seen a positive change in my daughter".

We continued to run our Mentoring Project funded by the GLA Mayors Fund. This project aims to recruit & train volunteers from the local community to be matched with a Young Carer aged 10-17 for 6 - 12 months to help them to reach their personal, social and educational goals. The mentor meets with the Young Carer fortnightly, and engage them in fun activities in their community thus also building up community support links and enjoying activities. We set this up in response to Young Carers saying they needed a trusted person to talk to for a longer period of time than our current intervention offers, and also that they wanted respite from their caring responsibilities.

These are some quotes from mentors, mentees and parents of mentee about the Mentoring Project:

"Through baking with my mentor, I've found my happy place. I've found something that was therapeutic and makes me feel good about myself. I can make other people happy doing something I enjoy."

"I've gained a big sister figure who's helped me make sense of things in my own way."

**CARERS SUPPORT MERTON  
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

### **Financial Statements**

The financial statements, including the notes, have been prepared in compliance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" 2015 (FRS 102). The analysis of income and expenditure reflects the classification of activities, together with costs relating to administration.

### **Statement of Financial Activities**

The Statement of Financial Activities is shown on page 14, with a more detailed analysis of income and expenditure within the notes to the financial statements. The total income for the year slightly increased at £546,779 (2021: £541,844).

Restricted income has increased to £541,132 as compared to last year (2021: £507,302). Total expenditure for the year was £535,041 (2021: £482,208). The increase in expenditure was largely due to planned increase in staffing costs to meet demand in response to increased funding from the Local Authority. Unrestricted income has decreased due to being unable to sustain a specific fundraising post. Grants made to individuals during the current year, a total of £49,247 increased from the previous year (2021: £24,439). This was largely due to the Local Authority increasing the Carers Discretionary Grant from £100 to £200.

### **Principal funding sources**

The charity remains dependent on grants and contracts from both local government and charitable trust and foundation sources, whilst donations from individuals and institutions are playing an important role. A full list of grants and contracts is set out in Note 2 to the accounts.

### **Balance Sheet**

The net effect of the above has led to an operating surplus of **£11,738** before unrealised gains on investments of £7,264. Overall reserves are £324,590 (2021: £298,685) with unrestricted reserves being £105,430 (2021: £94,464).

### **Investment policy and objectives**

The investment policy is, in conjunction with the reserves policy requirements (below), to spread its financial assets so as to earn returns, which at least are higher than inflation while taking low risks of default. Accordingly, the policy is to spread the assets between bank deposits (which are government guaranteed as to repayment), which earn the highest rate of interest consistent with ease of access, and investment funds which are suitable for charities. The policy is to keep at least 50% of the assets as deposits, subject to working capital requirements, and to invest the remainder in long term funds. £30,000 of funds remain invested with the CCLA COIF Charities Investment Fund and COIF Charities Global Equity Income Fund, and are reviewed regularly.

### **Reserves policy**

Our policy is for unrestricted reserves to maintain a minimum of shut down cost, and aim to accumulate 3-6 months of operating costs. This will allow the Charity to have the option of developing new services or expanding current ones in line with the changing needs of the community. It will ensure that delays in receipt of expected income do not interrupt services or cause financial difficulty for the Charity. In

## **CARERS SUPPORT MERTON YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

addition, it enables the Charity to survive unexpected setbacks and problems arising from internal or external causes. The total of £105,430 (2021: £94,464) is sufficient to cover shut down costs, but is currently below the target of 3-6 months operating costs. The level of unrestricted reserves has improved in the current year. The Board consider the continuing rebuilding of unrestricted reserves to remain an objective in the coming years.

### **Risk management**

The Trustees have overall responsibility for ensuring the Charity has the most appropriate and effective control systems to safeguard the organisation and any of its assets. These controls protect the organisation against fraud and other irregularities. This role and the associated practices offer reassurance that:

- The charity's assets are safeguarded against unauthorised use or disposition;
- Proper and reliable financial controls are maintained; and
- The Charity complied with all relevant legislation and regulations.

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Charity is exposed, in particular those relating to the operation and finances of the Charity. Systems are in place to minimise exposure to the major risks, with a risk management register being in place and reviewed at least annually by the Trustees.

Due to the fact the majority of our funding currently comes from the Local Authority along with Trusts and Foundations our financial position was not materially affected during COVID crisis. Indeed increased need for services along with the implementation of the Carers Strategy brought an increase in Local Authority funding. However, the pandemic hit after years of public sector austerity, and we know this will affect public sector funding for years to come. Therefore, we will look to continually diversify our funding.

The Charity operates planning and budgeting systems with an annual budget approved by the Trustees. Any significant changes are subject to Trustees' approval. Comparison of actual performance to approved budgets is undertaken on a quarterly basis.

### **Future plans**

#### **Over the next year we will:**

- Continue to play a key role in working with the London Borough of Merton and other partners to implement the five-year Carers strategy
- Continue to develop our digital capacity to better raise public awareness of Carers and increase our own capacity by being able to deliver more information and services online
- Continue to improve Carers' access to use of digital technology to support their caring role
- Carry out a needs analysis of parent Carers (of children under 18 and Young Carers to establish how we can further develop services to meet their needs
- Develop our range of professionals training to improve how Carers are identified and supported across the education, health and social care systems
- Analyse data to more systematically identify groups of Carers who may be excluded from services & support
- Continue to build on our trustees, in particular those who can bring knowledge and skills in legal, marketing, communications, fundraising & impact measurement.

### **STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Trustees (who are also directors for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and UK Accounting Standards.

**CARERS SUPPORT MERTON  
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law, the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of 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;
- Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue to operate.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statement 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.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the Charity and financial information included on the Charity's website.

In preparing this report, the Trustees have taken advantage of the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

This report was approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Raymond Kinsella

**R Kinsella**

Trustee and Chair

Date: Nov 17, 2022

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF CARERS SUPPORT MERTON FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charitable Company for the year ended 31 March 2022.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees of the Charitable Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Charitable Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your Charitable Company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

Since the Charitable Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of both the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) and the Association of Charitable Independent Examiners (ACIE), both of which are listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charitable Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*Jason Foxwell*

**Jason Foxwell FCCA FCIE**  
independent-examiner.net  
39 Enfield Road, Poole, BH15 3LJ

Date: Nov 23, 2022

**CARERS SUPPORT MERTON  
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
(incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
		£	£	£	£
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and legacies		1,601	3,750	5,351	11,087
Income from charitable activities	2				
Adult Carers		-	419,507	419,507	389,591
Young Carers		-	117,875	117,875	117,711
Core Activities		3,751	-	3,751	22,708
Fundraising income		-	-	-	364
Investments		295	-	295	383
<b>Total income</b>		<b>5,647</b>	<b>541,132</b>	<b>546,779</b>	<b>541,844</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Raising funds	3	-	-	-	22,185
Charitable activities	4				
Adult Carers		-	397,550	397,550	340,498
Young Carers		-	128,643	128,643	106,440
Core Activities		8,848	-	8,848	13,085
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>8,848</b>	<b>526,193</b>	<b>535,041</b>	<b>482,208</b>
Net income/(expenditure) before other gains and losses		(3,201)	14,939	11,738	59,636
Gain on revaluation of pension liability		6,903	-	6,903	-
Net gains/(losses) on investments		7,264	-	7,264	14,593
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>10,966</b>	<b>14,939</b>	<b>25,905</b>	<b>74,229</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		94,464	204,221	298,685	224,456
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	16	<b>105,430</b>	<b>219,160</b>	<b>324,590</b>	<b>298,685</b>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations.

The notes on pages 18 to 25 form an integral part of these accounts.

**CARERS SUPPORT MERTON  
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2022**

		2022		2021	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>					
Investments	11		71,170		63,907
<b>Current Assets</b>					
Debtors	12	10,198		31,499	
Cash at bank		<u>387,975</u>		<u>226,935</u>	
		398,173		258,434	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	13	<u>(143,348)</u>		<u>(11,182)</u>	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>254,825</u>		<u>247,252</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			325,995		311,159
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year</b>	14		<u>(1,405)</u>		<u>(12,474)</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			<u>£324,590</u>		<u>£298,685</u>
<b>The funds of the charity:</b>					
Restricted funds	17		219,160		204,221
Unrestricted income funds			<u>105,430</u>		<u>94,464</u>
			<u>£324,590</u>		<u>£298,685</u>

The trustees consider that the charitable company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to have an audit under the provisions of section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 (the Act) and members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the year in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and for preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at 31 March 2022. These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act relating to small companies.

The accounts were approved by the trustees, authorised for issue and signed on their behalf by:

*Raymond Kinsella*

*John Davey*

**R Kinsella**  
Trustee and Chair

**J F Davey**  
Trustee and Treasurer

Date: Nov 17, 2022

The notes on pages 18 to 25 form an integral part of these accounts.

**CARERS SUPPORT MERTON  
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Net cash used in operating activities	161,040	49,179
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year</b>	<b>161,040</b>	<b>49,179</b>
<b>Reconciliation:</b>		
Cash and cash equivalent brought forward	226,935	177,756
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents carried forward</b>	<b>387,975</b>	<b>226,935</b>

**CASH FLOW NOTES**

*Reconciliation of net movement in funds to  
net cash used in operating activities*

Net movement in funds for the year	25,905	74,229
Adjustments for:		
(Gains) on investments	(7,264)	(14,593)
(Gains) on revaluation of pension liability	(6,903)	-
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	21,302	1,785
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors	128,000	(12,242)
<b>Net cash used in operating activities</b>	<b>161,040</b>	<b>49,179</b>

The notes on pages 18 to 25 form an integral part of these accounts.



## **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

#### **1.1. Basis of preparation of the accounts**

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) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), and the Companies Act 2006.

Carers Support Merton is a charitable company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales. The registered office and company registration number are detailed on page 1. The nature of the Charity's operations and its principal activities are set out in the Trustees' Report.

Carers Support Merton meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

#### **1.2. Going Concern**

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

#### **1.3. Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees. Unrestricted funds include designated funds where the Trustees, at their discretion, have created a fund for a specific purpose.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the Charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes. Where necessary, a quarterly report is sent to the donor detailing the expenditure.

#### **1.4. Income**

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charitable company has entitlement to the funds, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Donated services or facilities are recognised when the Charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use of the Charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. Some the management and activity of the Charity is carried out by volunteers. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102), the volunteer time is not given a monetary value for inclusion in the financial statements.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the Charity which the amount the Charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

## **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022 (continued)**

Income received in advance of a specific Adult or Young Carers' activity or provision of other specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

### **1.5. Expenditure**

Expenditure is charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. It is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

### **1.6. Grants paid to individuals**

Certain grants are applied for on behalf of clients and, where these applications are successful, the amounts received are expended in accordance with the terms and conditions of the grant application.

### **1.7. Tangible fixed assets**

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost or valuation less depreciation. Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of those assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Fixtures and fittings	-	20% straight line
Computer equipment	-	33% straight line

### **1.8. Investments**

Investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measures at their fair value as at the Balance Sheet date using the closing quoted market price. The income arising on the investments is shown under investment income in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Gains and losses on investment assets disposed of are shown as gains and losses in the Statement of Financial Activities.

### **1.9. Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits**

Pension benefits are provided through TPT Retirement Solutions – The Growth Plan.

The Charitable Company participates in a multi-employer scheme that provides benefits to some 1,300 non-associated participating employers. The scheme is a defined benefit scheme in the UK. It is not possible for the Charitable Company to obtain sufficient information 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 classified as a 'last man standing arrangement'. Therefore, the charitable 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.

**CARERS SUPPORT MERTON  
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022 (continued)**

A full actuarial valuation for the scheme was carried out to 30 September 2020. This valuation showed assets of £800.3m, liabilities of £831.9m and a deficit of £31.6m. 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.

The Charity has been asked to contribute towards the deficit recovery plan by paying additional contributions of £2,210 over a 3 year period.

Additionally the Charitable Company provides a two tier defined contribution scheme through TPT Retirement Solutions – the Growth Plan Series 4. Contributions are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

**2. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<i>Grants and contracts received are as follows:</i>		
London Borough of Merton	484,756	431,408
Lloyds Bank Foundation	-	1,909
The Greater London Authority	39,715	31,772
The Triangle Trust 1949 Fund	-	11,554
The Triangle Trust Emergency Fund	-	6,324
Wimbledon District Nursing & Midwifery Benevolent Society	1,000	940
South West London & St George's Mental Health NHS Trust	6,000	6,000
Wimbledon Foundation	-	5,000
Age UK (Carers Befriending)	-	4,905
Jack Petchey Foundation	2,100	2,500
London Community Fund	-	1,744
Carers Trust	-	568
Other grants	60	377
<i>Other income from charitable activities:</i>		
Cash contributions	-	696
Speaker fees	-	75
Young Carers' donations	-	1,530
Core Activities – UK Government furlough grant	3,751	12,708
Core Activities – Triangle Trust unrestricted grant	-	10,000
	<u>£537,382</u>	<u>£530,010</u>

All the above grants and contracts received are for restricted purposes except for the final two as noted.

**CARERS SUPPORT MERTON  
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022 (continued)**

**3. EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Staff employment costs	-	22,185
	<u>£nil</u>	<u>£22,185</u>

**4. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	<b>Direct costs</b>	<b>Governance (note 6)</b>	<b>2022 Totals</b>	<b>2021 Totals</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Core Activities	7,473	1,375	8,848	13,085
Adult Carers	397,550	-	397,550	340,498
Young Carers	128,643	-	128,643	106,440
	<u>£533,666</u>	<u>£1,375</u>	<u>£535,041</u>	<u>£460,023</u>

**5. GRANTS PAID TO INDIVIDUALS**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Adult Carers	£49,247	£24,439
	<u>£49,247</u>	<u>£24,439</u>

**6. GOVERNANCE COSTS**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Independent examiner	£1,375	£1,375
	<u>£1,375</u>	<u>£1,375</u>

**CARERS SUPPORT MERTON  
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022 (continued)**

**7. STAFF COSTS**

Staff costs were as follows:

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Wages and salaries	374,740	324,457
Social security costs	29,836	26,048
Other pension costs	10,413	9,398
	<u>£414,989</u>	<u>£359,903</u>

No employees had employee benefits in excess of £60,000 (2021: nil). Pension costs are allocated to activities in proportion to the related staffing costs incurred.

The key management personnel of the Charity comprise the Trustees (unpaid), the Chief Executive Officer, Operations and Finance Manager. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the Charity were £99,407 (2021: £101,050).

The average monthly number of full-time equivalent employees (including casual and part time staff) during the year was as follows:

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Average number of employees (FTE)	11.2	10.7

**8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

The Charity's Trustees were not paid and did not receive any other benefits, nor were reimbursed and expenses during the year (2021: £nil).

**9. TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PARTIES**

There were no related party transactions during the year.

**CARERS SUPPORT MERTON  
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022 (continued)**

**10. PENSION COSTS**

**TPT Retirement Solutions – The Growth Plan Series 4**

The Charity provides a two tier defined contribution scheme with TPT Retirement Solutions – The Growth Plan Series 4, which all employees are entitled to join and meets the charitable company's auto enrolment obligations.

**TPT Retirement Solutions – The Growth Plan Series 1 and 2**

Previously, the Charity operated a defined benefit scheme, which is now closed to new members. This is a multi-employer scheme operated by TPT Retirement Solutions and whilst it is not possible to estimate the share of the assets and liabilities of the scheme attributable to Carers Support Merton, TPT Retirement Solutions have estimated that the employers' debt on withdrawal liability and the most recent annual funding update as at 31 March 2022 would have been £2,210.

**11. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS**

	<b>Unlisted investments</b>	<b>Totals</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Market value brought forward	63,907	63,907
Revaluation	7,263	7,263
	<u>£71,170</u>	<u>£71,170</u>
<b>Unlisted investments</b>		
	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
COIF Charities Investment Fund Income Units	33,660	30,154
COIF Charities Global Equity Income Fund Income Units	37,510	33,753
	<u>£71,170</u>	<u>£63,907</u>

There were no investment assets outside the UK. The revaluation in the year for the unlisted investments is a result of an unrealised gain.

**CARERS SUPPORT MERTON  
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022 (continued)**

**12. DEBTORS**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade debtors	923	20,471
Other debtors and prepayments	9,275	11,028
	<u>£10,198</u>	<u>£31,499</u>

**13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade creditors	8,160	10,100
Deferred income	131,935	-
Pension liabilities	805	-
Other creditors and accruals	2,448	1,082
	<u>£143,348</u>	<u>£11,182</u>

**14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Pension liabilities	<u>£1,405</u>	<u>£12,474</u>

**15. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS**

Total future minimum lease payments for non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	Land and buildings		Other operating leases	
	2022	2021	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Expiring within 1 year	9,290	-	-	-
Expiring within 2-5 years	-	18,580	2,542	11,060
	<u>£9,290</u>	<u>£18,580</u>	<u>£2,542</u>	<u>£11,060</u>

**CARERS SUPPORT MERTON  
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022 (continued)**

**16. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS**

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Fixed asset investments	71,170	-	71,170	63,907
Current assets	47,078	351,095	398,173	258,434
Creditors due within one year	(11,413)	(131,935)	(143,348)	(11,182)
Creditors due in more than one year	(1,405)	-	(1,405)	(12,474)
	<u>£105,430</u>	<u>£219,160</u>	<u>£324,590</u>	<u>£298,685</u>

**17. RESTRICTED FUNDS**

	Opening balance £	Income £	Expenditure £	Closing balance £
Adult Carer Project	150,004	419,507	(397,550)	171,961
Young Carer Project	54,217	121,625	(128,643)	47,199
	<u>£204,221</u>	<u>£541,132</u>	<u>£(526,193)</u>	<u>£219,160</u>

The Adult Carer Project is the provision of Care Act assessments, information, advice and respite activities to adult carers.

The Young Carer Project is the provision of information, advice, advocacy, respite activities and mentoring to young carers aged 17 and under, and also to those in transition aged 16 to 24 years.

**18. LIABILITY**

The Charity is a private company limited by guarantee. The liability of the members is limited to one pound.

**19. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS**

None.