

Company registration number: 05174065

Charity registration number: 1107539

Charity number (Scotland): SC049810

# The Aplastic Anaemia Trust

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2023



KM  
Chartered Accountants  
1st Floor, Block C  
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# **The Aplastic Anaemia Trust**

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## **The Aplastic Anaemia Trust**

### **Reference and Administrative Details**

<b>Chair</b>	A Conquy
<b>Trustees</b>	J Beart A Conquy J L Cozens S Gilbert S Oliver T Stephenson C Tempest J Williamson
<b>Secretary</b>	S L Tyler
<b>Principal Office</b>	1st Floor, Block C The Wharf Manchester Road Burnley Lancashire BB11 1JG
<b>Company Registration Number</b>	05174065
<b>Charity Registration Number</b>	1107539
<b>Charity Registration Number Scotland</b>	SC049810
<b>Bankers</b>	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 5JQ
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	KM Chartered Accountants 1st Floor, Block C The Wharf Manchester Road Burnley Lancashire BB11 1JG

## **The Aplastic Anaemia Trust**

### **Trustees' Report**

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2023.

#### **Trustees**

J Beart (appointed 31 August 2022)

A Conquy

P M Cossell (resigned 6 December 2022)

J L Cozens

S Gilbert (appointed 31 August 2022)

S Moos (resigned 6 December 2022)

S Oliver (appointed 30 November 2022)

T Stephenson

C Tempest (appointed 31 August 2022)

J Williamson (appointed 16 February 2023)

#### **Introduction**

This year The Aplastic Anaemia Trust has shown that growing our team over the previous two years has enhanced our ability to understand and to react quickly to the evolving needs of people affected by aplastic anaemia (patients and the people close to them) in a rapidly changing world. It has been a year of iterative improvements in both our support and fundraising offerings, thanks to investment in a project manager role in the Support and Outreach team. A fresh look at our online support groups and psychological support in a post-lockdown environment has led to significant improvements to the ways we support our community.

The cost of living crisis and the current strain on health services has exacerbated many of the difficulties of living with an ultra-rare condition. We are very grateful for the efforts of our community in continuing to fundraise and support us during these difficult times.

As a small charity who strive always to punch above our weight, strong partnerships are key to our organisational strategy. This approach is enabling us to deliver both support and research more effectively and at a higher quality than we could achieve alone. With the launch of the Better Together for Healthy Marrow Project this year, leveraging partnerships means we're also delivering considerable societal benefit across other related or similar rare bone marrow related conditions.

Underpinning the core aims in our strategy is the aim to better understand the needs of aplastic anaemia patients. We took great strides this year, with the launch of our National Community Survey of people living with a rare condition related to bone marrow, and put a real focus on improving the monitoring and evaluation of the work that we deliver. Through the Better Together for Healthy Bone Marrow project, funded by The National Lottery, we are now working with Consultant Emma Insley to track the impact of our work in the lives of people affected by aplastic anaemia.

# **The Aplastic Anaemia Trust**

## **Trustees' Report**

### **Objectives and Activities**

#### **What is Aplastic Anaemia?**

Aplastic anaemia is a rare and life-threatening form of bone marrow failure. It can affect people of any age, but it is most common in children and older people.

The majority of cases are acquired, but many of our community are also diagnosed with inherited types of aplastic anaemia. The Aplastic Anaemia Trust is the only UK charity working at grassroots to support every person diagnosed with aplastic anaemia and their loved ones, to help relieve the immense disease burden.

#### **Our Mission, Vision and Objectives**

The objects of the charity as defined in its Articles of Association are to relieve the sickness of those people suffering from bone marrow disease and immune defects.

##### **Vision**

Everyone affected by aplastic anaemia in the UK should feel empowered, and have access to the best possible treatment, care and support. And one day, everyone with rare bone marrow failure will be able to lead a full and healthy life.

##### **Mission**

We deliver our vision through two key strategies:

- Enabling research into aplastic anaemia and other rare bone marrow failures to understand the cause, improve treatments and eventually eradicate it altogether.
- Empowering people affected by aplastic anaemia to lead healthy and fulfilling lives through support, advocacy and improvements to health and social care systems.

Our strategic objectives

- A. Ensure everyone affected by aplastic anaemia has the informational, practical, and emotional support they need to lead healthy and fulfilling lives.
- B. Improve the knowledge and understanding of aplastic anaemia through education, campaigning, community outreach, leveraging partnerships, advocacy, and system change.
- C. Enable ground-breaking research partnerships which lead to improved treatments and better outcomes.
- D. Underpinning the above, build and hold an evidence base on our community, their experiences and the needs they have.

Our fundraising acts as an enabler in our strategy, ensuring we have the resources to deliver these objectives.

#### **Challenges of 22/23**

This year we have put a focus on identifying and adapting to the evolving needs of people affected by rare bone marrow failure. Aplastic anaemia is an ultra-rare condition, and as the UK health system faced a turbulent year, with services overstretched, our work to support patients and their families has never been more important.

#### **An overstretched NHS**

A recent report by the British Medical Association outlines some of the pressures in the NHS as we emerge from the Covid-19 pandemic:

**“The NHS is experiencing some of the most severe pressures in its 75-year history. The COVID-19 pandemic is just the tip of the iceberg - the health service has been facing years of inadequate planning and chronic under-resourcing.” - An NHS under pressure, The British Medical Association**

## **The Aplastic Anaemia Trust**

### **Trustees' Report**

Pressures of particular concern for aplastic anaemia patients include a reported rise in the length of time that patients have been waiting for emergency, routine and cancer treatment. For example, while we do not have access to data for aplastic anaemia specifically, we know that the proportion of patients seen by a specialist consultant within two weeks of an urgent GP referral for suspected cancer remains well below target. The 93% performance target for patients to be seen within that time frame has not been met since May 2020. In May 2023, this stood at 80.8%.

Delayed patient presentation during the pandemic and ongoing strain on GPs (the average number of patients per full-time equivalent GP has increased by 15% since 2015, according to data provided by the BMA), which could further contribute to delays to diagnosis, as patients struggle to get a GP appointment, or decide to put off seeing a doctor when showing early symptoms.

The awareness of ongoing issues in the NHS is high among the general public, which contributes to increased anxiety among our community, particularly with planned strikes over the next year.

#### **Beyond Lockdown - the evolving needs of aplastic anaemia patients**

Covid-19 continued to cast a shadow for some members of our community. At the start of the year, we received reports of aplastic anaemia patients struggling to get access to antiviral and monoclonal antibody treatment for Covid-19. Our support team ensured that these issues were raised with our strategic partners such as the Blood Cancer UK Vaccine Taskforce, and the Specialised Health Care Alliance, and provided tailored advice to help individuals gain access to this treatment.

The removal of all Covid-19 restrictions in Spring 2022 caused significant worries for vulnerable members of our community, and we were there to support them through this particularly stressful time. The results of the research we funded in 21/22, which revealed the efficacy of the Covid-19 vaccine for aplastic anaemia patients, provided reassurance for many.

Over the year, however, Covid-19- related queries made up just 6% of support enquiries, compared with 21% in the previous year. As many people in our community returned to some sense of normal life, enquiries related to what we call 'lifestyle'- related topics increased by 8% - including concerns about travel, social life, education and work.

The total number of people supported directly via one-to-one conversations remained steady - 268 individuals reached out to us for direct support in 2022-23, compared to 266 in 2021-22. However, people were turning to us more frequently - the total number of support 'interactions' increased by 10%.

A diagnosis of aplastic anaemia can hit families hard financially, and as the UK's cost of living crisis started to bite, this left many people struggling to make ends meet during treatment. We saw a significant increase in people reaching out for referrals to benefits advisors as energy bills rose ahead of winter. At our busiest time, we were often referring two or three people each week for expert benefits advice via our partnership with Maggie's Cancer Care charity, more than double our usual numbers. We saw an increase in demand for benefits referrals of 42%.

#### **Difficult times for fundraising**

The cost of living crisis has potential to significantly impact on the quality of life and mental wellbeing of members of our community, and also poses a risk to our organisation's income – as we are proud to receive over a third of our funding from community fundraising.

Our Trustees and CEO are introducing measures to monitor and mitigate this risk as we head into the new financial year. It is a particularly difficult environment for events, with regular weekend train strikes and venues facing staff shortages and financial uncertainty. Successful regular community events including Trucking for Dad and Joy Ride helped us reach our community income target this year, but both have confirmed that they will not take place next year, leaving our community fundraising team to seek new sources of income in 23/24.

# **The Aplastic Anaemia Trust**

## **Trustees' Report**

### **Achievements and performance highlights**

#### **How The AAT delivered public benefit in 2022/2023**

The Board of Trustees confirm they have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and have complied with their duty under section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in implementing current and planning future activities.

In line with the governing document, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, our performance highlights for the last year in relation to the Charity's aims are set out below.

#### **Delivering support**

Our small and agile Support and Outreach team are swift to adapt to the evolving needs of aplastic anaemia patients in a rapidly changing world. Investment in the project management of this team has seen these abilities strengthened, as the online services we developed during lockdown are iterated and expanded into in-person support.

This year our support team and small group of dedicated volunteers:

- Delivered six webinars, connecting people affected by aplastic anaemia with global experts speaking about specific aspects of living with the condition
- Designed new support packs for children in hospitals and their siblings left at home, in collaboration with our Youth Board. These include a bespoke activity book designed to support a child's mental wellbeing.
- Developed a bespoke support service to provide expert support to the whole family, including parents, children, siblings, grandparents and wider family networks
- Launched a new online Managing Stress Course, designed by Lesley Howells, lead psychologist from Maggie's and led by psychologists to deliver expert mental health and resilience support to small groups.
- Delivered our Winter Wellness programme offering our community various support options to help them through the challenges of the winter season
- Continued to facilitate and moderate daily discussion in our active Patient Support Facebook Group.
- Transformed our regional "AAT Chats" into seven monthly online meet-ups, designed to connect patients who are at the same stage of their journey with aplastic anaemia.
- Created an online book club, to help bring our community together.
- Continued to offer one to one support via messenger, email, support line calls and WhatsApp as preferred by the individual community member.
- Our Youth Board have continued to offer their voice to ensure that the Support & Outreach team are considering the needs of young people with aplastic anaemia.

#### **Building partnerships**

Building successful partnerships is the heart of our organisational strategy, and this year has seen fantastic results from this approach. The National Lottery Community Fund approved our ambitious three-year Better Together for Healthy Bone Marrow project, with work commencing in September 2022. This work will significantly improve our organisational resilience and capacity, and that of six other smaller charities, all of which are currently volunteer-led and support communities with similar or related conditions:

- Congenital Anaemia Network (Congenital Anaemia)
- DBA UK (Diamond Blackfan Anaemia)

## **The Aplastic Anaemia Trust**

### **Trustees' Report**

- DC Action (Dyskeratosis Congenita)
- PNH Support (Paroxysmal Nocturnal Haemoglobinuria)
- Fanconi Hope (Fanconi Anaemia)
- SDS UK (Shwachman Diamond Syndrome)

We were delighted to deliver our first National Community Survey, in collaboration with the same partner charities. The survey was conducted in November 2022, with follow-up qualitative interviews taking place in early 2023. This was the ideal project to collaborate on with support from pharmaceutical partners, and this first stage was sponsored by Alexion, Roche, and Sobi. In total, the quantitative survey received 434 responses – a high representative sample size for these ultra rare conditions. This was followed up by further qualitative research. The results will form the backbone of our strategy and work plan for the next few years and provide a real clarity of vision. Phase two of this project will take place in 2023/24, with a joint campaign and full report published to communicate findings and recommendations.

Our partnership with Maggie's has gone from strength to strength this year. At Leeds Hospital, a key hub of expertise for aplastic anaemia, we have now established weekly face-to-face aplastic anaemia coffee mornings at the Maggie's centre there. Zoe from our team is working with Maggie's to provide joined up support that ensures people diagnosed with aplastic anaemia in Leeds have the same access to the warm, expert Maggie's support provided to cancer patients – plus the connection to other aplastic anaemia patients and rare disease understanding, direct from The AAT. We hope to scale and replicate this successful model in other areas. We were delighted to welcome Lesley Howells, Lead Psychologist from Maggie's to work with us (and the other partner charities) on the Better Together project one day a week to establish a mental wellbeing framework that will enhance and professionalise our offering to members of our community who struggle with the impact of aplastic anaemia on their mental health.

We are working with Contact, a charity for families with disabled children, to use funding from The Pears Foundation to establish a specific support programme for families affected by aplastic anaemia. We are proud to report that 49 people (including children, siblings, cousins, grandparent, carers and parents) have benefitted this year from this Family Support Project, which began in September 2022.

#### **Research Highlights**

##### **Covid Vaccine Research Published**

In December 2021, Professor Pete Hillmen and Alexandra Pike from the Leeds research team announced to our community that the research we funded revealed that aplastic anaemia and PNH patients do mount an immune response to the Covid-19 vaccine, although it is particularly important for the patients to receive a second dose. In June this year, this research was published in [The Lancet Haematology](#).

##### **Trialling new treatment**

The TIARA Trial at King's, which The Aplastic Anaemia Trust is co-funding with LifeArc, experienced delays during the pandemic, so it was fantastic news this year to see the first aplastic anaemia patients in the world receive T regulatory cells as a potential new treatment for the condition. The trial is now on track and we look forward to sharing more news next year, once more patients have received the treatment.

##### **Funding new research**

This year The Aplastic Anaemia Trust convened a new panel of patients to assess the perceived benefit of two research proposals, received as a result of our call to apply for £20k in research funding. Both proposals received high scores and glowing comments from patients, but a clear favourite among patients and on peer review was a study into Mutation timing and clonal trajectories in aplastic anaemia. This research project brings together researchers from Leeds, Cambridge and the Sangar Institute in partnership to investigate the genes of people with aplastic anaemia to take the first steps in finding ways to better predict treatment responses and later complications, such as cancer.



## **The Aplastic Anaemia Trust**

### **Trustees' Report**

#### **Building a registry for children with AA**

Recruitment for our paediatric UK bone marrow failure registry and biobank was completed in June. 45 children with idiopathic Severe Aplastic Anaemia have been recruited over a three year period, in a project led by Dr Sujith Samarasinghe, Great Ormond Street Hospital, London.

Peripheral blood and bone marrow has been stored on all patients, and follow up has been received. The last set of follow up is due next year in June and the final payment will be due then. The AAT are waiting on an updated invoicing schedule and report from GOSH in order to release the second instalment of funds which is overdue to be invoiced, and reserved in our accounts.

#### **Fundraising Highlights**

We relaunched our annual Super Rare campaign to allow the six other small organisations in the Better Together partnership to fundraise alongside us. Despite the challenging fundraising environment, our community stepped up - and Super Rare hit target for The Aplastic Anaemia Trust, raising £21,189 against a target of £20,000 for our charity, and a total of £32,851 across all the charity partners.

A turbulent summer for events meant key fundraisers were repeatedly impacted by train strikes, and disruption resulting from the Queen's death and mourning period. Despite these challenges, our fundraising team rose to the challenge supporting a full Great North Run team and delivering a new cycling event, Joy Ride, through Kent vineyards, which raised £18,000. 145 people took part in our flagship walking events in Windsor Great Park and the Peak District and, later in the year, we expanded our popular Santa Splash event to Edinburgh, providing a meet up point for people we had been supporting in Scotland throughout the year. In total, 110 people got in the chilly sea at a Santa Splash event this year.

We thank the National Lottery, the Pears Foundation and Contact, and the Meikle Foundation for their funding and support this year.

#### **Risk management**

The Trustees have a duty to identify, assess and regularly scrutinise the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. The Trustees have mapped significant risks that may have an adverse effect on the AAT's charitable activities.

A robust risk management framework is in place and remains effective in enabling the Trustees to oversee and monitor strategic risks, reviewing progress against specific action plans quarterly.

# **The Aplastic Anaemia Trust**

## **Trustees' Report**

### **Going Concern**

The Trustees consider there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. The review of the financial position and future plans gives Trustees confidence that the charity remains a going concern for the foreseeable future.

### **Financial Review**

#### **How our income and expenditure changed in 2022/23**

Unrestricted income for the year totalled £193,950 (21/22: £223,218) and expenditure amounted to £307,484 (21/22: £132,267) resulting in net expenditure on unrestricted funds for the year of £113,534 (21/22 net income : £90,951). Restricted income of £280,350 was received in the year. Expenditure incurred and charged against restricted income funds amounted to £173,921 (21/22: £108,068), leaving balances on restricted funds totalling £110,000 at 31 March 2023.

#### **Managing our income across a range of rare bone marrow failures**

Two large, complex partnership projects this year brought new challenges (and great rewards). It is useful to note with these accounts that the grant income from The National Lottery Community Fund, and the Survey Sponsorship income from pharmaceutical partners both represent budgets which are managed by The Aplastic Anaemia Trust to deliver work that is designed to benefit our Better Together partnership of seven small organisations (as above), and the communities of people that all seven organisations represent. Both projects fall within The Aplastic Anaemia Trust's charitable objectives of supporting people suffering from bone marrow disease and immune defects, and by working collaboratively with partnership organisations who are expert in their specific conditions, we are able to replicate benefits and learning across all of our organisations and speak with one voice.

#### **Our reserves position and policy update**

Over the last two years, in response to significantly increased community need during the pandemic, and thanks to the expert management of CEO Stevie Tyler, The Aplastic Anaemia Trust has significantly expanded our team and activities. This has been possible thanks to generous support and emergency funding made available during the pandemic.

The challenge we now face is how to be sure of sustainable funding for these essential support services, while also being able to invest in research.

In response, this year we have updated our reserves policy to ensure we hold 9 months core operating costs in unrestricted reserves, to ensure that the charity will be able to maintain vital services and re-establish our income, should one source of income drop unexpectedly. Our reasoning, method of calculating required funds, and the purpose for retaining these reserves is outlined in our updated reserves policy.

This nine months of core operating costs will be recalculated annually. In November 2022 we calculated that the target figure should be £196k. As of 31 March 2023, our unrestricted reserves stand at £330k.

Our budgeted plans for the year 23/24 are projected to spend down our reserves to the target level by the end of the next financial year. This budget does not include investment in new research projects. Our priority for the next financial year is to seek funding to cover the costs of work delivered by our support team, which will provide confidence that our current level of support is sustainable and enable us to invest future income raised by community fundraising in research partnership projects.

# **The Aplastic Anaemia Trust**

## **Trustees' Report**

### **Pharmaceutical Industry income in 22/23**

After relaxing the policy requirement during the pandemic, when community fundraising income was severely restricted, the trustees have reinstated our policy to strive to keep pharmaceutical funding levels under a third of our total income, which has been achieved this year.

As the total figure of allowed pharmaceutical fundraising is higher as a result of income from the National Lottery Better Together grant (a project to benefit six other charity partners) it was fitting to use this opportunity to fund a project that also benefits all seven communities, so we were very pleased to receive support from Sobi, Roche and Alexion to fund the National Community Survey.

Sobi also provided grant funding for our Winter Wellness programme this year, enabling us to deliver extra support to our communities over winter, a time when the isolation and anxiety experienced by many of our community are exacerbated by heightened worries about seasonal infections among those who are immunocompromised, and missing out on seasonal festivities.

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

#### **Expanding our Board**

In the previous financial year, The AAT updated our governance structure to create our Research and Clinical Advisory Panel, and conducted a skills audit of our Board of Trustees. By advertising and reaching out via personal networks, 2022-2023 saw five new appointments to our board.

New Trustees were interviewed by the Chair and CEO, attended a Board meeting as Guests and on appointment were provided with a pack of information including, inter alia, a copy of the most recent annual report and financial statements, a copy of the charitable company's Memorandum and Articles of Association and minutes of recent Trustee meetings. New Trustees formally accept the invitation to join the Board and were approved at a Board Meeting before being eligible to vote. The Trustees are also Members of the charitable company.

Our new board members bring significant professional charity experience and financial knowledge, skills that were identified as desirable in our skills audit. We also hoped to recruit new Board Members who have personal experience of the condition from a different perspective. As Chair of our Youth Board, Callum Tempest had been contributing significantly to the running of our organisation and ensuring the voices of young people affected by aplastic anaemia are heard at every level, so we were delighted when he decided to take the next step and join the board.

We also bid goodbye to two very long-serving trustees, - Sven Moos and Paul Cossell, both of whom remain in non-executive Ambassador roles, to provide insight and advice when called on. We are so grateful to Sven and Paul for their longinspiring years of service to the charity, steering us through difficult times and leaving us in good shape to meet the challenges ahead.

#### **Chief Executive**

Our Chief Executive, Stevie Tyler, went on Maternity Leave in November 2022. Our Head of Comms and Fundraising, Ellie Dawes, has been stepping up as Acting CEO while Stevie is away, with Stevie planning a phased return from October 2023.

The Trustees have delegated day-to-day management of the Trust's affairs to Stevie Tyler and Ellie Dawes during this financial period.

# **The Aplastic Anaemia Trust**

## **Trustees' Report**

### **Research and Clinical Advisory Panel and Youth Board**

We also bid goodbye to Professor Pete Hillmen from our Research and Clinical Advisory Panel, who stepped down as Vice-Chair due to his appointment to a new role within the pharmaceutical industry, which the RCAP agreed could represent a conflict of interest. We are deeply indebted to Pete for his fantastic contributions to further the interests of our patient community over the years through research and his clinical career.

There were also changes on our Youth Board. Harry Branthwaite, Ben Stephenson, Elin Davies, Alex Reid and Lily Pope left the board early this year, many having simply reached too great an age (i.e. over 25 years old) to sit on the panel. We were pleased to welcome a new member, Harry Clague, bringing Youth Board membership up to a total of six at the end of the year, with a new recruitment drive launching soon. We thank all Youth Board Members, retired and current, for their insight and ideas which have been extremely valuable.

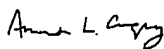
The RCAP members are:

- Dr Dominic Culligan
- Professor Josu de la Fuente
- Dr Morag Griffin
- Dr Austin Kulasekararaj
- Professor Ghulam Mufti (Chair)
- Dr Bethany Mitchell
- Dr Sujith Samarasinghe
- Professor John Snowden
- Professor Rod Skinner
- Dr Sanjay Tewari
- Professor Alan Warren
- Dr Keith Wilson

### **Small companies provision statement**

The accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 31 August 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



.....  
A Conquy  
Trustee

## **The Aplastic Anaemia Trust**

### **Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of The Aplastic Anaemia Trust**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023 which are set out on pages 13 to 21.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

As the company's trustees (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 Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 ('the 2005 Act'), the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act'). You are satisfied that the accounts of the company are not required by charity or company law to be audited and have chosen instead to have an independent examination.

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the company's accounts as carried out under section 44 (1) (c) of the 2005 Act and section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the '2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the requirements of Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

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

Since The Aplastic Anaemia Trust'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 , which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charitable company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records with the accounting requirements of Regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006; 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.

## **The Aplastic Anaemia Trust**

### **Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of The Aplastic Anaemia Trust**



.....  
Mark Heaton FCCA FCIE DChA  
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Burnley  
Lancashire  
BB11 1JG

31 August 2023

**The Aplastic Anaemia Trust**

**Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**  
(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £
<b>Income from:</b>							
Donations and legacies	3	147,763	70,000	217,763	185,533	-	185,533
Grants receivable	4	-	210,350	210,350	10,000	9,971	19,971
Fund-raising events	5	43,450	-	43,450	27,661	-	27,661
Investment income	6	2,737	-	2,737	24	-	24
Total income		<u>193,950</u>	<u>280,350</u>	<u>474,300</u>	<u>223,218</u>	<u>9,971</u>	<u>233,189</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>							
Raising funds	7	(26,047)	-	(26,047)	(23,345)	-	(23,345)
Charitable activities	8	(281,437)	(173,921)	(455,358)	(108,923)	(108,068)	(216,991)
Total expenditure		<u>(307,484)</u>	<u>(173,921)</u>	<u>(481,405)</u>	<u>(132,268)</u>	<u>(108,068)</u>	<u>(240,336)</u>
Net (expenditure)/income		<u>(113,534)</u>	<u>106,429</u>	<u>(7,105)</u>	<u>90,950</u>	<u>(98,097)</u>	<u>(7,147)</u>
Net movement in funds		(113,534)	106,429	(7,105)	90,950	(98,097)	(7,147)
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>							
Total funds brought forward		<u>443,652</u>	<u>3,571</u>	<u>447,223</u>	<u>352,702</u>	<u>101,668</u>	<u>454,370</u>
Total funds carried forward	18	<u>330,118</u>	<u>110,000</u>	<u>440,118</u>	<u>443,652</u>	<u>3,571</u>	<u>447,223</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2022 is shown in note 18.

**The Aplastic Anaemia Trust**  
**(Registration number: 05174065)**  
**Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2023**

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	14	19,122	131
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>614,950</u>	<u>607,334</u>
		634,072	607,465
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	15	<u>(145,709)</u>	<u>(77,536)</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		488,363	529,929
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year</b>	16	<u>(48,245)</u>	<u>(82,706)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u><u>440,118</u></u>	<u><u>447,223</u></u>
<b>Funds of the charity:</b>			
<b>Restricted income funds</b>			
Restricted funds		110,000	3,571
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds		<u>330,118</u>	<u>443,652</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	18	<u><u>440,118</u></u>	<u><u>447,223</u></u>

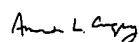
For the financial year ending 31 March 2023 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

**Directors' responsibilities:**

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476. However, in accordance with section 44 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the accounts have been examined by an independent examiner whose report appears on page 12; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

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

The financial statements on pages 13 to 21 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 31 August 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



.....  
A Conquy  
Trustee



## **The Aplastic Anaemia Trust**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

#### **1 Charity status**

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £100 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

1st Floor, Block C  
The Wharf  
Manchester Road  
Burnley  
Lancashire  
BB11 1JG

These financial statements were authorised for issue by the trustees on 31 August 2023.

#### **2 Accounting policies**

##### **Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates**

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

##### **Statement of compliance**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, on a going concern basis, in accordance with the Charity Commissioners' "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" (effective January 2019) ("the SORP (FRS 102)"), FRS 102, the Charities and Trustees Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

##### **Basis of preparation**

The Aplastic Anaemia Trust 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.

##### **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.

##### **Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement**

The charity is exempt from preparing a cash flow statement.

##### **Income**

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably.

# The Aplastic Anaemia Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

### Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

### Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

### Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

### Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees's discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

### Pensions and other post retirement obligations

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the charity has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions even if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when they are due. If contribution payments exceed the contribution due for service, the excess is recognised as a prepayment.

## 3 Income from donations

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	General £	£	£	£
Donations and legacies	147,763	70,000	217,763	185,533
	<u>147,763</u>	<u>70,000</u>	<u>217,763</u>	<u>185,533</u>

## 4 Income from charitable activities

	Restricted funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£
Grants receivable	210,350	210,350	19,971
	<u>210,350</u>	<u>210,350</u>	<u>19,971</u>

# **The Aplastic Anaemia Trust**

## **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

### **5 Income from fund-raising**

	Unrestricted funds		
	General	Total	Total
	£	2023	2022
	£	£	£
Fund-raising events	43,450	43,450	27,661
	<u>43,450</u>	<u>43,450</u>	<u>27,661</u>

### **6 Investment income**

	Unrestricted funds		
	General	Total	Total
	£	2023	2022
	£	£	£
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	2,737	2,737	24
	<u>2,737</u>	<u>2,737</u>	<u>24</u>

### **7 Expenditure on raising funds**

	Unrestricted funds		
	General	Total	Total
	£	2023	2022
	£	£	£
Fundraising staff costs	26,047	26,047	23,345
	<u>26,047</u>	<u>26,047</u>	<u>23,345</u>

# **The Aplastic Anaemia Trust**

## **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

### **8 Expenditure on charitable activities**

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	Note	General £	£	£	£
Patient Information, outreach & support		223,741	173,921	397,662	277,860
Research & grants		55,946	-	55,946	(63,576)
Governance costs	9	<u>1,750</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,750</u>	<u>2,707</u>
		<u>281,437</u>	<u>173,921</u>	<u>455,358</u>	<u>216,991</u>

### **9 Analysis of governance and support costs**

#### **Governance costs**

	Unrestricted funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	General £	£	£
Independent Examiner's remuneration	<u>1,750</u>	<u>1,750</u>	<u>2,707</u>
	<u>1,750</u>	<u>1,750</u>	<u>2,707</u>

### **10 Trustees remuneration and expenses**

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

## The Aplastic Anaemia Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

#### 11 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Staff costs during the year were:</b>		
Wages and salaries	207,524	165,430
Social security costs	19,037	9,642
Pension costs	4,816	3,524
	<u>231,377</u>	<u>178,596</u>

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2023 No	2022 No
Charitable activities	<u>9</u>	<u>6</u>

The number of employees whose emoluments fell within the following bands was:

	2023 No	2022 No
£60,001 - £70,000	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

#### 12 Independent examiner's remuneration

	2023 £	2022 £
Examination of the financial statements	<u>1,750</u>	<u>2,707</u>

#### 13 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

#### 14 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Accrued income	19,122	-
Other debtors	<u>-</u>	<u>131</u>
	<u>19,122</u>	<u>131</u>

## The Aplastic Anaemia Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

#### 15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Research grant commitments	135,198	68,096
Accruals	<u>10,511</u>	<u>9,440</u>
	<u>145,709</u>	<u>77,536</u>

#### 16 Creditors: amounts falling due after one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Research grant commitments	<u>48,245</u>	<u>82,706</u>

#### 17 Pension and other schemes

##### Defined contribution pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the charity to the scheme and amounted to £4,816 (2022 - £3,524).

Contributions totalling £Nil (2022 - £Nil) were payable to the scheme at the end of the year and are included in creditors.

#### 18 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General	<u>443,652</u>	<u>193,950</u>	<u>(307,484)</u>	<u>330,118</u>
	<u>443,652</u>	<u>193,950</u>	<u>(307,484)</u>	<u>330,118</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
National Lottery - Better Together	-	191,906	(86,232)	105,674
Contact a Family	-	8,500	(4,174)	4,326
Awards For All	3,571	-	(3,571)	-
Winter Wellness Project	-	19,944	(19,944)	-
National Community Survey	<u>-</u>	<u>60,000</u>	<u>(60,000)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>3,571</u>	<u>280,350</u>	<u>(173,921)</u>	<u>110,000</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>447,223</u>	<u>474,300</u>	<u>(481,405)</u>	<u>440,118</u>

# The Aplastic Anaemia Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General	352,702	223,218	(132,268)	443,652
	<u>352,702</u>	<u>223,218</u>	<u>(132,268)</u>	<u>443,652</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Marrowkidz Fund	101,668	-	(101,668)	-
Awards For All	-	9,971	(6,400)	3,571
	<u>101,668</u>	<u>9,971</u>	<u>(108,068)</u>	<u>3,571</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>454,370</u>	<u>233,189</u>	<u>(240,336)</u>	<u>447,223</u>

### 19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2023 Total funds
	General £	£	£
Current assets	524,073	110,000	634,073
Current liabilities	(145,709)	-	(145,709)
Creditors over 1 year	(48,245)	-	(48,245)
Total net assets	<u>330,119</u>	<u>110,000</u>	<u>440,119</u>
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2022 Total funds
	General £	£	£
Current assets	603,894	3,571	607,465
Current liabilities	(77,536)	-	(77,536)
Creditors over 1 year	(82,706)	-	(82,706)
Total net assets	<u>443,652</u>	<u>3,571</u>	<u>447,223</u>