

Registered Company number: 05329004
Registered Charity number: 1110204

ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

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ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE COMPANY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

Trustees

Ms P A Laughlin
Mr S Griffiths
Cllr J Harris
Cllr S Lees
Mr D Murphy
Mr R Watson
Cllr S Bull (resigned 31/1/22)
Mr R Roebuck (resigned 26/4/23)

Company Secretary

Ms P A Laughlin

Registered Company number
05329004 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number
1110204

Registered Office
Blenheim Road
Airfield Industrial Estate
Ashbourne
Derbyshire
DE6 1HA

Independent Auditors
Paterson Brodie Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Cliveden Chambers
Cliveden Place
Longton
Stoke-on-Trent
ST3 4JB

ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

The Trustees (who are also directors of the Charity for the purposes of the Companies Act) present their annual report, incorporating the trustees' report, together with the financial statements of the group and company Ashbourne Community Transport (the company) for the year ended 31st December 2022.

The group consists of Ashbourne Community Transport (the company) and its wholly-owned subsidiary The Ashbourne Little Bus Company.

The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

Since the group and company qualifies as small under section 383, the strategic report required of medium and large companies under The Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Director's Report) Regulations 2013 is not required.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Charitable Objectives

Ashbourne Community Transport (ACT) is a non-profit making charitable organisation servicing the residents of Ashbourne and villages in Derbyshire Dales, the villages of Staffordshire Moorlands, Burton and Uttoxeter and their surrounding villages in East Staffordshire and the villages and towns of the High Peak administrative area including Buxton and Glossop.

The key objectives remain to:

- provide safe, affordable, accessible door-to-door transport for residents of all ages who have difficulty in using standard public bus or transport services because of disability or age-related mobility issues, or in rural areas because no such services exist
- improve social integration and widen personal choice for those who may otherwise suffer from social isolation, especially in rural areas because they do not have access to a private car or cannot drive
- maintain independent living for many residents by enabling them to visit supermarkets, shops or other public services, including healthcare, without reliance on family, friends or neighbours.

In addition, the Charity provides non-emergency passenger transport for hospital and specialist medical appointments, as fewer people become eligible for NHS commissioned services, and affordable, accessible transport for health, social and community organisations registered within our areas of operation. The social and community groups serve all ages and include sports groups, national bodies such as the scout association, church groups, women's institutes and independent luncheon clubs.

To deliver this transport and provide confidence to a range of customers, all ACT Drivers and Passenger Assistants are trained to the national MIDAS standard and hold enhanced DBS and certificates from accredited training in safeguarding, first aid and wheelchair management. Training represents a significant cost to the company.

The Trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Significant Activities

As recorded in previous Annual Reports, ACT's Community Transport services have not been directly supported by local public funds since 2017. This remained the case in 2022.

Therefore funds required to support the delivery of the services described above and to meet the charitable objectives were derived from:

- operating Local Authority contracts (particularly those requiring accessible vehicles and specialist support - some of which can still be operated under S19 of the Road Traffic Act)
- fares for customised services, community and social group use
- monies donated from the activity of its trading arm - The Ashbourne Little Bus Company - a wholly owned subsidiary of the Charity.

The Ashbourne Little Bus Company

ACT holds its Operating Licence as Ashbourne Community Transport t/a The Ashbourne Little Bus Company (LBC).

LBC is a limited company guaranteed by share (all owned by ACT) with its own Board of Directors. It can bid for and undertake all forms of commercial contract. LBC operates as a commercial bus company, meeting all statutory and legislative requirements of the sector, including employing drivers holding PSV licences and up to date Certificates of Professional Competency. To retain traction in a very competitive market the Company has to finance the appropriate training which has become a major operational cost.

While LBC can bid for and undertake all forms of commercial work, from standard private hire for the public to providing major local authority services under contract, it continues to be run as a social enterprise which returns any surplus from its operations to ACT.

As reported in 2021, LBC has continued to experience difficulty with establishing some direct supplier agreements given its lack of assets and trading history but with the continued support of ACT, has been able to maintain the supply of lease vehicles and other direct supplies to ensure its competitiveness. Equally, this arrangement has offered ACT greater flexibility and access to resources to fulfil its operations during periods of high demand.

In 2022 the Charity continued to rely heavily on the availability of surpluses from the work of the trading arm. Fortunately the LBC business was successful in maintaining a major contract following a competitive tendering process. However the trading year proved to be more difficult for both businesses which were hit with additional costs from higher wages following the increase in the National Minimum Wage (NMW) in April 2022, a shortage of PSV drivers across the sector as a whole leading to further wage escalation, the unexpected spike in fuel prices as a result of the war in Ukraine, and a substantial increase in the cost of vehicles and maintenance as a result of the combination of the after effects of COVID, the Ukraine war and supply chain issues arising from the challenging trading conditions with Europe following BREXIT. Vehicle hire costs rose by 16% during the year and despite longstanding fuel agreements, fuel costs saw increases of approximately 20% over the period April to December 2022.

Equally, as a number of long term contracts were running in their final year, and despite relatively generous inflationary uplifts from clients (Local Authorities), returns were reduced by the increasing cost burden. The prevailing cost of living crisis also affected growth and returns from private hire.

ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable Activities

While requests for non-emergency patient transport continued to grow, the general demand for journeys connected with health and wellbeing reduced as other charities and support organisations also cut back because of financial concerns and constraints. Passengers were also affected by the cost of living crisis. For these reasons a decision was taken to hold fares for the charitable work, that is not to pass on the higher costs to users.

Partnerships with Connex and South Derbyshire CVS continued with a one year extension to the Active Travel contract sponsored by Derbyshire County Council (DCC). Under the contract ACT provides wheelchair transport for South Derbyshire and Derbyshire Dales, with a similar service available from ACT in Amber Valley.

The following services have also continued:

- at least once a week shopping trips into Uttoxeter, Burton and Ashbourne from villages across East Staffordshire for those with no other means of accessing services
- subsidised travel in Ashbourne and surrounding villages for both health and wellbeing journeys where residents are unable to use other forms of public transport for health reasons or because no services exist.

Even with fares static many residents complained about the cost of travel including to local politicians. ACT therefore investigated other sources of funding such as sponsorship and grants in a reduced and competitive provider base. This approach had some limited success but enabled the Charity to continue to support a wide range of users and to assist the local 'welcome' campaign for Ukrainian refugees.

During the year the Charity received some welcome sponsorship in both cash and kind from suppliers and local businesses and donations from the families of passengers who had used the service over many years.

Contracts

National Bus Strategy

In 2022 the ACT Board agreed to continue to support and promote the BSIP (Bus Services Improvement Plan) in both Derbyshire and Staffordshire. ACT's Chairman was nominated by external partners to join the Derbyshire Enhanced Partnership Board which was instrumental in securing £47m over three years from the Government's Department for Transport national fund. This enabled a case to be made for the allocation of funding to services in Ashbourne which hopefully can be used to match Levelling up funding secured by Ashbourne Reborn.

New Contracts

ACT, through LBC, was successful in winning a new three year contract for the local Derbyshire Connect service but bids for other new services were constrained by the driver shortage, the availability of accessible vehicles and the increasing cost base.

Closure of the Ashbourne Day Centre was confirmed during the year and prevented any reopening following the Covid pandemic. Therefore, the transport provided for DCC Adult Social Care to the Ashbourne Centre was no longer required. Following a negotiation with DCC ACT took on the provision of transport to other Day Centres including Ambervale in Heanor, Newhall and St Mary's Mount in Uttoxeter as substitute arrangements until the end of the contract period in 2023. These contracts continued to run under the S19 rule.

ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Operational Matters

Vehicles

New vehicle acquisition was significantly impacted during the year by availability. However, the majority of the fleet remained 5 years old or less. The decision taken in 2021 to focus on 16-seater vehicles was also confirmed by the Board.

The contracted liveried vehicles for the Moorlands Connect LBC contract were delivered in the first quarter of 2022. Because of new vehicle shortages, other vehicle hire contracts were therefore extended leading to increased down time and associated maintenance charges. Vehicle availability was also impacted by a large number of safety recalls from Mercedes (the main supplier), and repairs for accidental damage including a vehicle write-off in December 2022.

The majority of vehicles are based on van conversions from the Mercedes Sprinter chassis, but the number of Treka coach builds from the Mercedes Sprinter has also been increased. These vehicles enable the carriage of a higher number of clamped wheelchairs, luggage and shopping.

Drivers

The national shortage of qualified drivers has led to wage escalation and an increase in the cost of training provided to PSV standard. The immediate driver shortage was exacerbated by shortages in other sectors with better employment packages and hours of working. The 24 x7 requirement of the transport sector is no longer attractive especially to younger workers and this has led to the Board considering its succession planning strategy because of the average age of drivers across the transport sector, and especially in community transport.

Backroom functions

During the year the business was forced by unforeseen circumstances to consider the structure of its administrative and support team. This led to increases in the cost of HR support and the dedication of Director/management time creating significant impact on other aspects of the business. Uncertainty in the market also made determining a revised structure difficult but in order to provide the necessary business cover:

- A new General Operations Manager was appointed
- Administrative hours and cost (including the need for ongoing and additional administrative support to the new Moorlands Contract while the development of the booking App technology was completed) also increased.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial Position

The Group's incoming resources totalled £1,349,923 in the year which compares to £1,019,966 for 2021.

Group resources expended totalled £1,336,893 as compared to £943,148 for 2021.

Further information is shown in notes 3 to 12 of the notes to the financial statements.

The attached financial statements show the current state of the finances which the trustees consider to be sound.

ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Reserves Policy

Under the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the company has the power to invest in any way the trustees see fit. The trustees, having regard to the liquidity requirements and to the reserves policy, have operated a policy of keeping surplus funds in fixed term bonds and interest bearing deposit accounts, seeking to obtain the best available interest rates and minimal risk.

This policy relates to the unrestricted funds held by the Charity and is formulated on the following basis;

- ACT currently holds no Restricted Funding and therefore all funds shown on the Balance Sheet are identified as Unrestricted
- ACT has no Permanent Endowment Funds
- ACT has received Expendable Endowments in the form of donations. In this case the policy is to direct these monies to support charitable activity and to inform those donating accordingly
- ACT has ongoing liabilities in relation to the following as identified in the Annual Report and Accounts:
 - Ongoing rents relating to the HQ depot and offices and other operating centres (12 months)
 - Ongoing vehicle hire charges in relation to agreed hire periods
 - Legal requirements to meet salaries/wages and any potential redundancies

ACTs general policy is therefore to build up a level of reserve (over and above its operational liabilities) to mitigate risk, build resilience against short term or unexpected impact on its operations and/or disruption to the agreed business plan.

Minimum Target Level of Reserve

The minimum target level of growth and development reserves is £100,000 over and above the current reserves for possible liabilities, equating to approximately £90,000. The Board will add to the minimum reserve as circumstances permit in order to respond to changing circumstances and to minimise risk.

Reserves will be maintained for the following purposes:

- Providing security against the risk of short term shock, for example, underwriting for a fixed period of time against the loss of contracts identified as 'at risk' in the budget and business plan whilst remedial action and/or restructuring takes place
- Investment in new projects which are aligned with the charitable objectives or which fall within the commercial business plan – the reserve being to support the activity and cover costs ahead of income earned
- Providing seed corn investment or underwriting the development of new ventures which support the delivery of the charitable objectives and/or arise as a result of the identification of new opportunities.

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Other Policy Review

Vehicle Replacement Policy

Traditionally Ashbourne Community Transport had purchased its own minibuses and has made provision in the annual accounts for their replacement after 7 years service. When vehicles were replaced after this amortisation period then the vehicle replacement provision was adjusted accordingly.

Given the financial position of the Charity, the Board adopted a policy of leasing vehicles and this has continued. As at 31st December 2022 Ashbourne Community Transport now owns only 3 vehicles out of a fleet of 25 vehicles.

Investment Policy

A percentage of the reserve (85%) will be invested,

A decision was taken that the investment would be in limited risk activity such as a building society with market research undertaken to find the best rate of return during a period of very low return rates.

Investments will continue to be reviewed on an annual basis with the Reserves Policy reviewed annually at the AGM.

Future plans

The policy of providing income for the Charity from the activity of a trading arm was ratified during the year but this model was impacted in Q3 and 4 by the changing market circumstances.

Nevertheless the Board has reaffirmed the following strategies/aims:

- ACT charitable services will continue to be provided under the Department for Transport's revised guidance/agreed exemptions for S19/S22 rules with commercial work undertaken with the PSV licence by ACT T/A The Ashbourne Little Bus Company
- the funding model would remain that LBC would grow its commercial activity to provide continued support to ACT. However private hire activity would be reviewed
- ACT would supply drivers, occasional vehicle hire and a serviced office, including administration and backroom support services to LBC for a fixed monthly fee. LBC would acquire its own contract hire vehicles but would not directly employ staff
- to retain key contracts as they come up for renewal
- forming partnerships and collaborations with other complementary organisations, particularly those aligned to out-stationed vehicles and services
- improving the overall passenger experience, to include a vehicle review to identify the most suitable vehicles for passengers, the environment and the terrain in which ACT operates.

ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The Charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law and who served during the year, are as provided on the Reference and Administrative Details page.

Organisational structure

The ACT Board of Trustees comprises up to twelve members of the public including a nominated representative from local councils – for many years Derbyshire County Council, Derbyshire Dales District Council and Ashbourne Town Council.

The nominated representatives have always been full members of the Board and are registered with the Charities Commission and Companies House and have the same rights and obligations as the other Board members.

The full Board is reappointed by the Charity's members at the Annual General Meeting which is held in September each year. All Trustees have to be paid-up members of the organisation.

The ACT Board is represented on the Board of Directors of The Ashbourne Little Bus Company. In 2022 the representatives were the ACT Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Treasurer. LBC also has a Worker Director.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the Charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

Regular meetings are held to review operations, to make executive decisions and to discuss future activities.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

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

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law, the Trustees 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 Group and the company and of their incoming resources and application of resources, including their income and expenditure, 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 of the Charities SORP (FRS102);
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Group will continue in business.

ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities (continued)

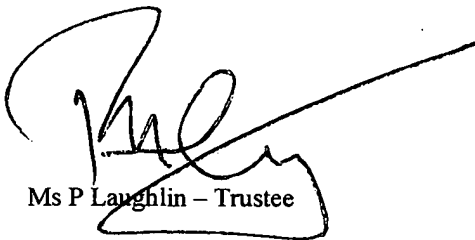
The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Group and the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Group and the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Group and the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Disclosure of information to the Independent Examiner

Each of the persons who are Trustees at the time when this Trustees' Report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that Trustee is aware, there is no relevant information of which the charitable group's independent examiner is unaware, and
- that Trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Trustee, in order to be aware of any relevant information and to establish that the charitable group's independent examiner is aware of that information.

Approved by the trustees on the Board of Trustees, authorised for issue on 26th September 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Ms P Laughlin – Trustee

ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Ashbourne Community Transport (the 'parent charitable company') and its subsidiaries (the group) for the year ended 31 December 2022 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, the Consolidated Balance Sheet, the Company Balance Sheet, the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group and the parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2022 and of the groups incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our Auditor's Report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual Report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT (CONTINUED)

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the group and parent charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustee's Report.

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

- the group and parent charitable company has not kept adequate and sufficient accounting records,
- the group and parent charitable company's financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of Trustee's remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the Trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the Trustee's Report and from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report.

Responsibilities of Trustees

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

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

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks applicable to the company and the sector in which they operate. We determined that the following laws and regulations were most significant: the companies act 2006, and the charities act 2011.
- We obtained an understanding of how the company are complying with those legal and regulatory frameworks by making enquiries to the managing director and the management team of the company.
- We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur. Audit procedures performed by the audit team included:
 - identifying and assessing the design effectiveness of controls management has in place to prevent and detect fraud;
 - understanding how those charged with governance considered and addressed the potential override of controls or other inappropriate influence over the financial reporting process;
 - challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in its significant accounting estimates;

ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT (CONTINUED)

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements (continued)

- identifying and testing journal entries, in particular any journal entries posted with unusual account combinations;
- assessing the extent of compliance with the relevant laws and regulations.
- We communicated relevant laws and regulations identified to the management team and our audit team performed the audit procedures as detailed above.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with section 391 of the Companies Act 2014. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditor's Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Paul Robert Scriven FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Paterson Brodie Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Statutory Auditor
Cliveden Chambers
Cliveden Place
Longton
Stoke-on-Trent
Staffordshire
ST3 4JB

25th September 2023

ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND
EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

	Note	Restricted funds 2022 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	-	2,087	2,087	6,608
Charitable activities	4	-	547,916	547,916	535,128
Other trading activities	5	-	799,314	799,314	477,829
Other income	6	-	606	606	401
Total Income		-	1,349,923	1,349,923	1,019,966
Expenditure on:					
Subsidiary expenses	7	-	375,610	375,610	204,152
Charitable activities	8	-	961,283	961,283	738,996
Total expenditure		-	1,336,893	1,336,893	943,148
Net income		-	13,030	13,030	76,818
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		-	13,030	13,030	76,818
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		-	470,105	470,105	393,287
Net movement in funds		-	13,030	13,030	76,818
Total funds carried forward		-	483,135	483,135	470,105

ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
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CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	14	4,666	4,039
Investments	15	-	-
		<u>4,666</u>	<u>4,039</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	16	221,457	147,159
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>433,339</u>	<u>461,866</u>
		654,796	609,025
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	<u>(176,327)</u>	<u>(142,959)</u>
Net current assets		<u>478,469</u>	<u>466,066</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>483,135</u>	<u>470,105</u>
Net assets		<u><u>483,135</u></u>	<u><u>470,105</u></u>
Charity funds			
Unrestricted funds	18	483,135	470,105
Total funds		<u><u>483,135</u></u>	<u><u>470,105</u></u>

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

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

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 26th September 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:



Mr R Watson - Trustee

ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

COMPANY BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	14	4,272	3,421
Investments	15	100	100
		<u>4,372</u>	<u>3,521</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	16	355,927	212,773
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>237,414</u>	<u>329,057</u>
		593,341	541,830
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	<u>(129,578)</u>	<u>(90,246)</u>
Net current assets		<u>463,763</u>	<u>451,584</u>
Debtors: amounts falling due between one and two years	16	15,000	15,000
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>483,135</u>	<u>470,105</u>
Net assets		<u>483,135</u>	<u>470,105</u>
Charity funds			
Unrestricted funds	18	483,135	470,105
Total funds		<u>483,135</u>	<u>470,105</u>

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

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

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 28th September 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:



Mr R Watson - Trustee

ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2022	2021
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net cash used in operating activities	(26,352)	97,933
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(2,782)	(5,234)
Interest received	606	401
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities	(2,175)	(4,833)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	(28,527)	93,100
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	461,866	368,766
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	<u>433,339</u>	<u>461,866</u>

The notes on pages 17 to 30 form part of these financial statements.

ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
Registered Company number: 05329004

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1. General information

Ashbourne Community Transport is a private company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England. The registered office address is Blenheim Road, Airfield Industrial Estate, Ashbourne, Derbyshire DE6 1HA. The registered company number is 05329004.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) and Consolidated Balance Sheet consolidate the financial statements of the company and its subsidiary undertaking. The results of the subsidiary are consolidated on a line by line basis.

2.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

2.3 Income

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

2.4 Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the Charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

2.5 Tangible fixed assets

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

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

Motor vehicles	Straight line over 7 years
Computer Equipment	Straight line over 3 years

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

Tangible fixed assets costing more than £500 are capitalised and included at cost including any incidental expenses of acquisition.

ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.6 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees unless the funds have been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

2.7 Group VAT registration

The Charity is part of a group VAT registration with The Ashbourne Little Bus Company Ltd. Ashbourne Community Transport is the nominated company, responsible for submitting the returns and for making the payments/receiving the repayments, on behalf of the companies in the group VAT registration.

2.8 Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Restricted funds 2022 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Donations	-	2,087	2,087
Total 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>2,087</u>	<u>2,087</u>

	<i>Restricted funds 2021 £</i>	<i>Unrestricted funds 2021 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2021 £</i>
Donations	-	6,608	6,608
<i>Total 2021</i>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,608</u>	<u>6,608</u>

ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

4. Income from charitable activities

	Restricted funds 2022 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Contracts	-	493,080	493,080
Fares and contracts	-	54,560	54,560
Other income	-	275	275
Grants	-	-	-
Total 2022	-	547,915	547,915

	<i>Restricted funds 2021 £</i>	<i>Unrestricted funds 2021 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2021 £</i>
Contracts	-	475,831	475,831
Fares and contracts	-	38,060	38,060
Other income	-	411	411
Grants	-	20,826	20,826
<i>Total 2021</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>535,128</i>	<i>535,128</i>

5. Income from other trading activities

Income from subsidiary company

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Subsidiary company income	799,314	799,314

ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

5. Income from other trading activities (continued)

Income from subsidiary company

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2021</i>	<i>Total funds 2021</i>
	£	£
Subsidiary company income	477,829	477,829

6. Income from investments

	Restricted funds 2022 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Interest receivable	-	606	606
Total 2022	-	606	606

	<i>Restricted funds 2021 £</i>	<i>Unrestricted funds 2021 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2021 £</i>
Interest receivable	-	401	401
<i>Total 2021</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>401</i>	<i>401</i>

ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

7. Subsidiary expenses

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Subsidiary company expenses	375,610	375,610
	<i>Unrestricted funds 2021 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2021 £</i>
Subsidiary company expenses	204,152	204,152

8. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Restricted funds 2022 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Total expenditure	-	961,283	961,283
	<i>Restricted funds 2021 £</i>	<i>Unrestricted funds 2021 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2021 £</i>
Total expenditure	-	738,996	738,996

ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Direct costs 2022 £	Support costs 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Transport services	780,390	180,894	961,283
	<i>Direct costs 2021 £</i>	<i>Support costs 2021 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2021 £</i>
Transport services	595,700	143,296	738,996
Analysis of direct costs			
		Transport services 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Vehicle costs		195,145	195,145
Staff costs		585,245	585,245
Depreciation on vehicles		-	-
Total 2022		780,390	780,390
		<i>Transport services 2021 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2021 £</i>
Vehicle costs		161,158	161,158
Staff costs		434,542	434,542
Depreciation on vehicles		-	-
Total 2021		595,700	595,700

ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Support costs 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Office staff costs	96,287	96,287
Depreciation on computer & other equipment	1,931	1,931
Office equipment and consumables	15,552	15,552
Professional fees	27,050	27,050
Premises costs	35,900	35,900
Other costs	3,542	3,542
Bank charges	632	632
Total 2022	180,894	180,894

	<i>Support costs 2021 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2021 £</i>
Office staff costs	72,274	72,274
Depreciation on computer & other equipment	1,138	1,138
Office equipment and consumables	16,286	16,286
Professional fees	19,072	19,072
Premises costs	30,860	30,860
Other costs	3,648	3,648
Bank charges	18	18
<i>Total 2021</i>	<i>143,296</i>	<i>143,296</i>

10. Independent Examiners' remuneration

	2022 £	2021 £
Fees payable to the company's independent examiner for the examination of the company's annual accounts	-	600

ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

11. Independent Auditors' remuneration

	2022	2021
	£	£
Fees payable to the company's independent auditor for the examination of the company's annual accounts	4,500	-

12. Staff costs

	Group 2022	Group 2021	Company 2022	Company 2021
	£	£	£	£
Wages and salaries	641,645	468,905	623,613	468,905
Social security costs	35,264	18,221	35,264	18,221
Pension contributions	9,166	5,577	9,166	5,577
	<u>686,075</u>	<u>492,703</u>	<u>668,043</u>	<u>492,703</u>

The average number of persons employed by the company during the year was as follows:

	Group 2022	Group 2021	Company 2022	Company 2021
	No.	No.	No.	No.
Office and administration	5	5	5	5
Vehicle operatives	42	44	42	44
	<u>47</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>49</u>

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

13. Trustee's remuneration and benefits

There were no trustee's remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2022 (2021 – £NIL).

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2022 (2021 - £NIL).

ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

14. Tangible fixed assets

Group

	Motor vehicles £	Computer & other equipment £	Total £
Cost or valuation			
At 1 January 2022	172,797	5,234	178,031
Additions	-	2,782	2,782
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	<u>172,797</u>	<u>8,016</u>	<u>180,813</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2022	172,797	1,195	173,992
Charge for the year	-	2,155	2,155
On disposals	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	<u>172,797</u>	<u>3,350</u>	<u>176,147</u>
Net book value			
At 31 December 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>4,666</u>	<u>4,666</u>
At 31 December 2021	<u>-</u>	<u>4,039</u>	<u>4,039</u>

ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

14. Tangible fixed assets (continued)

Company

	Motor vehicles £	Computer & other equipment £	Total £
Cost or valuation			
At 1 January 2022	172,797	4,559	177,356
Additions	-	2,782	2,782
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	172,797	7,341	180,138
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2022	172,797	1,138	173,935
Charge for the year	-	1,931	1,931
On disposals	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	172,797	3,069	175,866
Net book value			
At 31 December 2022	-	4,272	4,272
At 31 December 2021	-	3,421	3,421

15. Fixed asset investments

Company

	Investments in subsidiary companies £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 January 2022	100
At 31 December 2022	100
Net book value	
At 31 December 2022	100
At 31 December 2021	100

ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

15. Fixed asset investments (continued)

Principal subsidiaries

The following was a subsidiary undertaking of the company:

Name	Company number	Holding	Included in consolidation
The Ashbourne Little Bus Company Ltd	09364642	100%	Yes

Nature of business: Operations of contracts, excursions and revenue earning bus services in the local area, where Department for Transport commercial bus operators licence is required.

The financial results of the subsidiary for the year were:

Name	Income £	Expenditure £	Profit/(Loss) for the period £	Net assets £
The Ashbourne Little Bus Company Ltd	799,314	647,346	151,968	100

16. Debtors

	Group 2022 £	Group 2021 £	Company 2022 £	Company 2021 £
Due within one year				
Trade debtors	176,481	104,075	197,096	80,990
Amounts owed by group undertakings	-	-	134,613	104,137
Other debtors	2,021	7,722	2,021	7,722
VAT	30,758	23,620	13,003	10,384
Prepayments and accrued income	12,197	11,742	9,194	9,540
	<u>221,457</u>	<u>147,159</u>	<u>355,927</u>	<u>212,773</u>

	Group 2022 £	Group 2021 £	Company 2022 £	Company 2021 £
Due between one and two years				
Amounts owed by group undertakings	-	-	15,000	15,000
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,000</u>	<u>15,000</u>

ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

17. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	Group 2022	<i>Group 2021</i>	Company 2022	<i>Company 2021</i>
	£	£	£	£
Trade creditors	47,397	59,648	24,034	19,593
Other taxation and social security	19,830	8,325	19,830	8,325
Amounts owed to group undertakings	-	-	-	-
Other creditors	50,343	40,686	50,344	40,686
Accruals and deferred income	58,757	34,300	35,370	21,642
	<u>176,327</u>	<u>142,959</u>	<u>129,578</u>	<u>90,246</u>

18. Statement of funds

Statement of funds – current year

	Balance at 1 January 2022	Income	Expenditure	Balance at 31 December 2022
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	280,105	974,313	(961,283)	293,135
Vehicle Contract Liability fund	20,000			20,000
Redundancy Liability fund	35,000			35,000
Premises Liability fund	35,000			35,000
Bus Services Improvement fund	25,000			25,000
Smaller Buses fund	25,000			25,000
Unexpected Events fund	50,000			50,000
Total funds	<u>470,105</u>	<u>1,019,966</u>	<u>(943,148)</u>	<u>483,135</u>

ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

18. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds – prior year

	<i>Balance at 1 January 2021</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Transfers between funds</i>	<i>Balance at 31 December 2021</i>
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	203,287	1,019,966	(943,148)	-	280,105
Vehicle Contract Liability	20,000	-	-	-	20,000
Redundancy Liability	35,000	-	-	-	35,000
Premises Liability Town	35,000	-	-	-	35,000
Regeneration Bus Service	25,000	-	-	-	25,000
Smaller Buses	25,000	-	-	-	25,000
Unexpected Events	50,000	-	-	-	50,000
Total funds	393,287	1,019,966	(943,148)	-	470,105

19. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	Group 2022 £	Group 2021 £
Net income/expenditure for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	13,030	76,818
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charge	2,155	1,195
Interest received	(606)	(401)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	(74,299)	(40,921)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	33,368	61,242
Net cash provided by operating activities	(26,352)	97,933

ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

20. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	At 1 January 2022 £	Cashflows £	At 31 December 2022 £
Cash at bank and in hand	461,866	(28,526)	433,339
	<u>461,866</u>	<u>(28,527)</u>	<u>433,339</u>

21. Related party disclosures

The Ashbourne Little Bus Company Ltd is a wholly owned subsidiary of Ashbourne Community Transport.

Included in company Debtors falling due within one year is £134,612 owed from The Ashbourne Little Bus Company Ltd.

Included in debtors falling due after one year is £15,000 owed from The Ashbourne Little Bus Company Ltd. The sum of £30,000 was advanced in 2019 as an interest-free loan. There are no definite dates set for repayment. The arrangement is regularly reviewed by the Trustees.