

Registered number: 04454103
Charity number: 1093975

GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)
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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

Trustees Jayne Harrill, Chair
Julian Young, Honorary Treasurer
James Baker
Natalie Baldry
Frances Boughton
Joseph Corry-Roake
Prof Elaine Farmer
Janet Kay
Dr Nicola Sharp-Jeffs
Yvette Stanley
Beverley Barnett-Jones (appointed 7th July 2023)

Company registered number 04454103

Charity registered number 1093975

Registered office The Foundry
17 Oval Way
London
England
SE11 5RR

Chief executive officer Dr Lucy Peake

Bankers Triodos Bank
Deanery Road
Bristol
BS1 5AS

Barclays Bank
Leicester
LE87 2BB

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

This has been a momentous year for kinship care. Looking back, I am incredibly proud that we have supported more kinship carers than ever before and campaigned hard to put kinship care firmly in the spotlight.

Kinship carers are the beating heart of our organisation and central to everything we do. They've been with us every step of the way to help make change happen, using their expert experience to co-design our pioneering support services, campaigns and research.

With their invaluable support, I'm delighted that kinship care has risen up the media and political agendas, and that's where we intend to keep it until we see a kinship care system designed for the unique needs of kinship families.

As our annual national surveys highlighted how the deepening cost-of-living crisis was hitting struggling kinship families, we upped the pressure on the UK Government to give kinship carers, who are raising more than 162,000 children in England and Wales, the urgent support they need.

We fought to ensure kinship carers featured heavily in the Independent Review of Children's Social Care report published in England in May 2022. Finally, carers' voices were listened to and many of the recommendations we had long campaigned for, such as financial allowances, paid leave, training and peer support, were included.

Next, we called for the Government to implement these recommendations by launching our first national campaign #ValueOurLove with funding from Comic Relief to build kinship carer participation in our campaigns. Kinship carers shared their lived experience and expertise to raise our media profile, influence local and national decision makers and increase public understanding, resulting in more than 12,000 people taking a campaign action to call for more support for kinship families.

Our #ValueOurLove campaign played a crucial role in informing the Government's response to the Independent Review of Children's Social Care when it published its children's social care implementation strategy – Stable Homes, Built on Love – in February 2023. This strategy marked the first ever major Government commitment to kinship families in England and promised to deliver a dedicated national kinship care strategy, due by the end of 2023. We continue to work with focus and determination to ensure the Government includes within this the changes kinship families most urgently need.

And while we wait for these vital reforms to improve the lives of all kinship carers, I'm delighted that Kinship is supporting more kinship carers than ever before. As the leading kinship care charity in England and Wales, we're scaling our innovative services at pace, enabling kinship families to access high quality information, advice and support where they live.

A particular highlight has been the rapid growth of our pioneering national peer support service in England, funded by the Department for Education. By the end of the year, we had 68 peer support groups with plans to set up 100 by June 2023.

With every group that's established, we can see the impact that being connected with others in similar circumstances is having and we're determined to ensure that even more carers can be part of this network with access to the support they desperately need.

In February 2023 we launched Kinship Compass, an online independent information, advice and support hub for kinship carers, funded by the National Lottery Digital Fund.

The digital hub also helps carers to access emotional support through peer support groups and connect with other kinship carers. In its first two months the hub averaged 6,000 visitors a month, demonstrating the need for this important resource.

We're also delighted to have developed our first commissioned service supporting special guardians in Wales, building on funding secured from the National Lottery Cymru during Covid.

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

Another priority this year was the launch of our equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) action plan. We are working to ensure EDI is firmly embedded in our policy, research and service design and delivery throughout our organisation and ingrained in all our work with kinship carers. In April 2023 we launched our ground-breaking research into the experiences of Black and Asian kinship carers, in partnership with the Rees Centre, at the University of Oxford, and supported by the KPMG Foundation.

Our bold, brave and committed staff, which includes kinship carers at every level, strive to do their best for kinship carers and continue to drive our ambitious plans forward. This year we have strengthened our operations. We expanded our workforce and invested in our people and their wellbeing as we worked to create a more diverse, inclusive and supportive workplace. We also supported staff to adapt to post-Covid working. This included rolling out an important new safeguarding structure for all frontline staff in February 2023, along with key internal processes.

Rooted in our own experience as an employer with many staff who are kinship carers, we developed a Kinship Friendly Employers campaign, working with pioneering employers to introduce policies to better support kinship carers in their family friendly working policies. We have been delighted at the response to this by organisations in a range of sectors and look forward to continuing to grow the support and awareness of this over the next year within both the media and Parliament.

It's my absolute privilege to work alongside our inspirational kinship families, dedicated staff, and wonderful volunteers who go above and beyond to realise our mission. I want to thank you all and our funders and charity and local authority partners for your incredible ongoing support.

Life is really tough for kinship families right now and we know from our direct work with kinship carers, and our surveys, that with the cost-of-living crisis, it's getting harder all the time. Promises of potential future reforms fail to alleviate this. There's still a long way to go until kinship families have a system of support that meets their needs. But we are as determined as ever and we will continue to put kinship carers first, strengthen the support we offer them, and be bold in our fight for what is right. Together we can and will make change happen.

Sincerest thanks,

.....
Lucy Peake
Date:

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TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

The Trustees present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of the Grandparents Plus for the year 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023. The Annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a directors' report under company law. The Trustees confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the charitable company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable 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) (effective 1 January 2019).

Since the Charity qualifies as small under section 382 of the Companies Act 2006, the Strategic report required of medium and large companies under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 has been omitted.

The Charity also trades under the name Kinship.

Introduction

About Kinship

Kinship is the national charity for kinship care in England and Wales. A kinship carer is someone who looks after a child of a relative of friend full-time. Kinship is here for all kinship carers – the grandparents and siblings, the aunts, uncles, and family friends who step up to raise children when their parents can't.

We know how hard life can be for kinship carers, but we've seen the amazing things they're capable of with someone by their side. With the right support, children raised in kinship families flourish.

That's why Kinship is here to support, connect and campaign. To keep kinship families stronger by keeping them together.

Our vision and mission

Vision statement

A society in which kinship carers and the children they care for are recognised, valued and supported.

Mission statement

To ensure that kinship carers and the children they care for get the support and recognition they need.

Charitable objects

The charitable objects are:

- Object 1 to support kinship carers who are grandparents, family members or friends who care for children when a parent calls for help or when there has been family breakdown or in other difficult circumstances promoting the best interests of the children they care for.
- Object 2 to work with local authorities, children's services, voluntary agencies, social workers and other professionals, and kinship carers to promote better support for all children in kinship care.
- Object 3 to ensure the role of kinship carers and the wider family in caring for children is fully incorporated within legislation, and national and local government policy and practice.
- Object 4 to raise awareness of the contribution kinship carers make to society so that kinship carers are recognised, valued and supported.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

Principal activities

Kinship is the only national charity dedicated solely to supporting kinship carers and their families, whatever their situation. Uniquely, we support all kinship carers, including grandparents and all other relatives and friends, and those with all legal orders or none. We want support for every kinship family when they need it, in the way they need it. We:

- Campaign with kinship carers for change so that their contribution to children's wellbeing and care is valued and understood.
- Provide evidence, policy solutions, programmes and training so that kinship families receive the services and support they need to help children to thrive.
- Advise and support kinship carers by ensuring that they have access to professional advice, information and peer support.
- Advise, inform and support professionals to develop good kinship care practice.

Our strategic objectives for 2022-2023 were:

- Changing Lives – developing support for kinship families so they can access high quality information, advice and support, wherever they live.
- Changing the system – building awareness, understanding and recognition about kinship carers' role in children's lives, and campaigning for change so kinship care is promoted and supported by legislation, policy and practice.
- Strengthening our culture – being a brave, inclusive and high performing team, striving to be better for each other and the people we serve.
- Strengthening our operations – capitalising on our leading position by being ambitious, smart and strategic.

Our aims and strategic priorities

Our ambitious growth and impact strategy for 2022-25 puts kinship families at the heart of everything we do. We are focused on achieving our goal that every kinship family is able to access the support they need.

Our strategic objectives for 2022-25 are:

- **Changing Lives** – developing support for kinship families so they can access high quality information, advice and support, wherever they live.
- **Changing the system** – building awareness, understanding and recognition about kinship carers' role in children's lives, and campaigning for change so kinship care is promoted and supported by legislation, policy and practice.
- **Strengthening our culture** – being a brave, inclusive and high performing team, striving to be better for each other and the people we serve.
- **Strengthening our operations** – capitalising on our leading position by being ambitious, smart and strategic.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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Achievements and Performance

Changing Lives - developing support for kinship families so they can access high quality information, advice and support, wherever they live.

Highlights summary: As the leading kinship care charity, we work with kinship carers to innovate and deliver pioneering high quality support services and resources to reach more kinship families than ever before. During 2022-23 we delivered:

- High quality evidence-based support programmes to kinship carers.
- Rapidly grew our peer support network creating 68 new carer groups in England.
- Launched Kinship Compass, an online information, advice and support hub for carers.
- Developed and expanded kinship carer support resources and workshops.
- Developed and built our first commissioned service in Wales.
- Ensured our support services and resources were inclusive, accessible and reflected our diverse kinship carers.
- Supported 2,374 kinship carers through our free, independent advice service.

We continued to lead the way in partnering with local authorities to increase support for kinship carers reaching even more families. A total of 40 local authorities commissioned our programmes across England and Wales, compared to 35 in 2021-22. This is despite some local authorities being unable to re-commission our services due to Government funding to support special guardians during the pandemic ending. We also developed our first Kinship Connected commissioned service in Wales in Rhondda Cynon Taf, building on funding secured from the National Lottery Cymru during the pandemic.

Kinship Connected

Kinship Connected which improves outcomes for special guardians and other kinship carers through intensive one-to-one support and peer support groups, was commissioned by:

- 19 local authorities compared to 17 in 2021-22.
- In England we provided one-to-one support to 423 special guardians compared to 346 in 2021-22.
- In Wales we supported a target number of 40 kinship families via a part time project worker, compared to 81 in 2021-22 with a full-time project worker.
- As we returned to face-to-face support groups, in England we supported 1,714 kinship carers, compared to 3,500 (not unique attendees) in 2021-22 and 123 in Wales compared to 675 (not unique attendees) in 2021-22. The decrease is due to the ending of Covid-19 funding via the Adoption Support Fund and Department for Education in England.
- We worked with Ecorys on a Kinship Connected scoping pilot for a randomised control trial.

"I can't say how invaluable your service has been and what a difference this will make to the children." (Kinship carer)

"The one-to-one support provides carers with a neutral person who doesn't work for the local authority to advocate for them and who they can share information with confidently which they may not feel able to share with their allocated workers or children's worker." (Social worker)

We also celebrated the carers and families we support through Kinship Connected with picnics, beach days, trips to London Zoo and Christmas celebrations. In Wales, we built a strong partnership with Buttle UK, securing over £11,590 in grants for essentials for Kinship Connected families in Rhondda Cynon Taf.

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Kinship Ready

Kinship Ready, which offers preparatory workshops for prospective or current special guardians, continued to grow. The workshops focused on support for legal orders, trauma and attachment, managing contact and other topics. One to one support is also offered to participants. We delivered Kinship Ready workshops in:

- 15 local authorities compared to nine in 2021-22
- 41 inclusive workshops for 456 carers compared to 23 workshops for 151 in 2021-22
- In workshop feedback 98% of carers said they had developed a better understanding of what a special guardianship order is, and 97% said they had increased awareness of what taking on a child permanently entails.

"An excellent and informative course delivered very well and definitely recommend this course to any new or existing SGO carers." (Kinship carer)

Peer Support

We were awarded a £1 million one-year contract from the Department for Education to deliver the first national peer support service for kinship carers in England from January-December 2022. This has been extended until June 2024. By March 2023, we had set up 68 new peer support groups. Kinship carers were recruited to support, lead and facilitate new groups.

"Buzzing, absolutely buzzing, fantastic. I guess it's like a feeling of belonging, because you do feel like you are the only person in the world who is dealing with this nonsense."
(Kinship carer volunteer group leader).

For Kinship Compass, we delivered a postcode search function for peer support groups; a peer support group library with videos, downloads and tips and practical tools in co-production with kinship carers to help groups navigate and set up their own group; one-to-one booking system to access our advice team and an online chat with peer volunteers giving emotional support to other kinship carers.

As part of our Department for Education peer support contract we developed 12 workshops for kinship carers, based on themes and topics they identified, such as managing challenging behaviour and understanding trauma. The workshops were run with specialist Associate Practice Partners and our Advice Team and developed and tested with kinship carers. In 2022-23, we ran a total of 126 workshops for 973 kinship carers and ensured our online workshops were more accessible for deaf or hard of hearing kinship carers.

"A good balance between giving people the chance to talk and get to know each other, and practical skills to help us. Fab graphics, skilled counsellor running the workshop. Thank you." (Kinship carer)

An independent evaluation of our peer support service by Coram concluded: "The peer support service was implemented as intended, meeting the needs of kinship carers. Kinship has tested and developed a varied and tailored offer, to support the differing lives and needs of kinship carers. The service is adapted in line with carer feedback and behaviour."

Advice

In February 2023 we launched Kinship Compass, an innovative independent digital information, advice and support hub for kinship carers funded by the National Lottery Digital Fund. Kinship Compass gives kinship carers online access to practical and emotional support. From launch to March 2023, it averaged 6,000 visitors a month. 52 films were produced for the hub with staff and kinship carers to ensure a diverse representation of people.

"It's very helpful and you can go off into the different directions that you want to. It's easy to navigate... It's a great place to dip in and out of for whatever you need." (Kinship carer).

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Kinship carers are also able to access advice and information through a personalised Online Advice Finder, funded by Department for Education, and a new one-to-one booking system. The advice team also developed four online advice workshops around financial support.

Our Advice Team supported a total of 2,387 kinship carers compared to 3,174 in 2021-22. The drop is due to higher staff numbers funded during Covid-19 by the Department for Education. Of these contacts, 70% were online (65% in 2021-22); 24% phone (28% in 2021-22); 4% internal referral (7% in 2021-23); and 2% Calendly online booking (new service). The top three topics were special guardianship orders; legal advice; and our services. The team identified £153k in unclaimed benefits for 43 carers and secured £49,564 in small grants for kinship carers for white goods, therapeutic support, laptops and swimming lessons, compared to £49,000 in 2021-22. The team also secured £10,440, compared to £22,000 in 2021-22, in holiday grants. We continue to offer a bi-lingual service with a Welsh-speaking advice worker.

Young Champions

Funded by BBC Children in Need, our Young Champions project aims to improve the communications skills and increase the emotional wellbeing and confidence of young people in kinship care in six North London boroughs by empowering them to campaign for better support for children and young people in kinship care. Our part-time Senior Youth Participation Worker supported four young people over the year and one participant's highlight was:

"Getting to know that there's another group of young people like me and having the opportunity to meet with them." (Kinship young person)

Someone Like Me

Our peer-to-peer telephone support service, Someone Like Me, supported 182 kinship carers with 30 volunteers trained, compared to 221 supported and 27 trained in 2021-22.

Changing the system – building awareness, understanding and recognition about kinship carers' role in children's lives, and campaigning for change so kinship care is promoted and supported by legislation, policy and practice

Highlights summary: We had significant success in raising awareness, recognition and support of kinship care, securing the first ever major UK Government commitment to kinship families. Building on the many years of campaigning by kinship carers, we achieved this with an integrated policy influencing, campaigning and communications strategy. At the beginning of the year, the key focus was extensive engagement with the Independent Review of Children's Social Care, which recommended many of our policy calls. Following this, our persuasive policy reports, research and parliamentary engagement, combined with our flagship #ValueOurLove campaign and high-profile media and social media presence, significantly influenced the UK Government to announce investment in training and support for kinship carers and commit to developing the first ever Kinship Care Strategy. Key work includes:

- Our evidence-based policy reports and research informed and influenced decision makers and led to the first ever major Government commitments to kinship families.
- Political and stakeholder engagement work saw record numbers of MPs put pressure on the Government by calling for our campaign changes to kinship care policy.
- Raising awareness of kinship care with record levels of high-profile media coverage and reaching bigger audiences through growth of our social media channels.
- Launching our first national kinship carer-led campaign to influence government policy.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

Policy

We worked collaboratively with kinship carers, researchers, professionals, decision makers and other partners to produce evidence-based policy reports, responses and briefings that influenced national and local policy making across England and Wales and led to the UK Government's first ever commitments to kinship families. Our unique reach allows us to listen to the views and expertise of thousands of kinship carers each year; our national surveys of kinship carers are the largest of their kind. We published a survey of kinship carers' financial circumstances in July. Our annual survey, The Cost of Loving, and our #ValueOurLove campaign launched in October. Together with the insights from our direct work with kinship families, they provide a powerful and compelling picture about the challenges facing kinship carers and their children today, and what needs to change.

Following the publication of the Independent Review of Children's Social Care in May 2022, we launched our online kinship care policy tracker, providing a central hub for decision makers, professionals and others to keep up to date with kinship care policy in England, which we continuously update.

Commissioned by the Adoption and Special Guardianship Leadership Board Special Guardianship Reference Group until December 2022, we published a report in June 2022 exploring pioneering practice around the provision of financial support for special guardians in three local authorities – Brighton & Hove, Leeds and Shropshire.

We also worked with The Department for Education, to improve information about the Adoption Support Fund.

Political and stakeholder engagement

Our influencing ensured kinship carers featured heavily in the Independent Review of Children's Social Care report published in May 2022. We built strong relationships with the Care Review team and hosted a webinar with kinship carers on their behalf.

We continued to build relationships and engage with key national decision makers across Government and Parliament to influence the direction of kinship care policy. We produced regular policy briefings, responses to Committee inquiries, and supported Parliamentarians to take actions which put pressure on the Government and boost awareness of kinship care, including tabling written and oral questions, mentioning our evidence during debates, sharing support for the campaign on social media, and writing articles championing the #ValueOurLove campaign calls. In response we have seen unprecedented levels of parliamentary interest and activity around kinship care. Key activities included:

- Hosting our #ValueOurLove campaign launch reception in the House of Commons in October 2022, welcoming 27 MPs and five Peers and contributions from senior figures including Shadow Secretary of State for Education, Bridget Phillipson MP, and Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza.
- Working closely with Munira Wilson MP, Liberal Democrat Spokesperson for Education, on the content and promotion of her Kinship Care Private Members' Bill.
- Coordinating meetings between kinship carers and key stakeholders including with Claire Coutinho MP, as Minister for Children, Families and Wellbeing, and Helen Hayes MP, as Shadow Minister for Children and Early Years and Susan Acland-Hood, the Permanent Secretary at the Department for Education.

Campaigns

Working alongside kinship carers we developed and launched our first national flagship campaign, #ValueOurLove, in October 2022 calling for kinship families to be better supported, valued and recognised.

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We engaged with new audiences and potential supporters and 12,396 people took the campaign action to sign a petition and email their MP. Every MP across England and Wales was contacted about the campaign, with 93% contacted over 10 times and 41% contacted over 20 times. In December 2022, kinship carers handed the petition into 10 Downing Street, joined by key MP allies, including the Chair of the Education Committee, Robin Walker MP. Our campaigning work is funded by Comic Relief and Triangle Trust to support and empower kinship carers to share their experiences and participate more effectively in campaigning.

We developed a campaign Steering Group of kinship carers who co-designed the campaign. This included selecting a creative agency, developing the campaign concept, and messaging, sharing stories, attending and speaking at Parliamentary events and campaigning nationally and locally. Kinship carers involved in this work were offered a training programme to develop their confidence, understanding of campaigning methods and community organising. We also collaborated with our on-the-ground services to signpost diverse carers to our campaigns. One-fifth (22%) of kinship carers and kinship care-experienced people featured in the campaign were from Black, Asian or minoritised ethnic backgrounds. Our campaign film read by members of the Campaign Steering Group, was awarded Bronze in the Smiley Film Awards.

“For me the kinship care experience stole so much from me and the day I walked into the first campaign meeting I felt so powerless. But the whole process allowed my power to return.” (Campaigning kinship carer)

Our campaign project in the North East, funded by the Triangle Trust, concluded in June 2022. Having undertaken campaign training, two groups of kinship carers in Newcastle and Middlesbrough developed campaigning priorities and goals which affected significant change in their local areas, securing 17 commitments from local decision makers. They also worked to improve awareness and understanding of kinship care with local government, GPs and universities across the two regions. By the end of the project the groups had been supported to continue to run independently, reflecting its success in enabling kinship carers to feel empowered and confident.

Rooted in our experience as an employer of kinship carers and in response to growing interest from employers, Kinship began to develop a Kinship Friendly Employers initiative, to encourage and support organisations across England and Wales to ensure that any kinship carer employees can access fair, flexible and funded support within a positive workplace culture which understands and respects their needs. We were delighted at how positively employers from all sectors engaged in this initiative and are looking to secure funding to be able to build on this and roll out the initiative to more organisations next year.

Media and social media

Over the last 12 months we have dramatically raised the profile of kinship care in the media positioning Kinship as the leading kinship care charity. Our record-breaking high-profile coverage across all the leading TV national networks and national media outlets undoubtedly increased public and political awareness. We empowered a growing and diverse group of kinship carers to share their experiences in the media, putting pressure on decision-makers and leveraging celebrity support.

In 2022-23, we were featured in 266 pieces in the national media (2021-22: 20), an increase of 1,230%, and 622 pieces in regional & sector media (2021-22: 23), an increase of 2,604%. Highlights include:

- ITV documentary featuring our new celebrity ambassador Jay Kontzle and Dr Lucy Peake.
- BBC Radio4 Woman’s Hour with Dr Lucy Peake and a kinship carer.
- Long reads in the Metro, Independent, the ‘i’, Mirror, The Daily Mail/Mail Online.
- ITV Good Morning Britain package featuring carers and Dr Lucy Peake.
- Sky packages featuring carers, and ITV and BBC network exclusives on our financial allowances survey featuring kinship carers and Dr Lucy Peake broadcast across their national and regional outlets, including two BBC TV Breakfast packages and BBC 1pm news.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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We have grown our social media followings and engagement levels significantly this year, raising kinship care and brand awareness. We have 4,298 new social media followers and a total of 17,719 across all platforms.

- Facebook – 6,600 (2021-22: 5,335) 24% increase compared to 15% in 2021-22
- Instagram – 2,415 (2021-22: 456) 429% increase compared to 140% in 2021-22
- Twitter – 7,883 (2021-22: 7,176) 10% increase compared to 37% in 2021-22
- LinkedIn – 821 (2021-22: 454) 80% increase compared to 5% in 2021-22.

We have seen our social media engagement bolstered by celebrity engagement, including two posts from Davina McCall on her Instagram profile which received more than 70,000 likes.

Kinship Care Week

With our role in leading the national Kinship Care Week on behalf of the sector, we worked with kinship carers and sector stakeholders to develop an engaging, adaptable and celebratory toolkit, which led to high levels of engagement from local authority partners, local and national sector organisations, kinship carers and local media.

Research and Practice

We commission our own research, as well as collaborate with academics to ensure kinship carers can participate in external research in a meaningful way.

We were delighted to secure funding from the KPMG Foundation for ground-breaking new research into the experiences of Black and Asian kinship carers, addressing a major gap in research as we wanted to deepen our understanding to catalyse positive changes in our services and across the sector. We recruited a diverse advisory group, and selected Dr Priya Tah and Professor Julie Selwyn at the Rees Centre at Oxford University as academic partners for this research. Findings will be available in Autumn 2024.

We also:

- Worked with Professor Judith Harwin on a research project to support participation of special guardians in research. This has involved collaborating with special guardian peer researchers and our Kinship Community to ensure participants are representative of special guardians. A report and toolkit will be produced in Spring 2024 .
- Joined What Works Centre for Children's Social Care to map local authority support for kinship carers, funded by the Government's Evaluation Accelerator Fund.

Our Kinship Care Professionals' Network grew from 1,204 members in 2021-22 to 1,715 in 2022-23. Meetings were held to discuss our 'Out of the Shadows' report, the Independent Review of Children's Social Care, and special guardianship in Wales. We also support a North East specific professionals' group. Our Researchers' Network grew from 66 in 2021/22 to 75, with members from across the UK, Europe and Australia.

Kinship Community

We continued to strengthen and grow our thriving Kinship Community of 10,340 kinship carers. This is compared to a revised figure of 9,207 in 2021-22 (not 11,345 as previously reported due to a discrepancy between numbers on our CRM, which has since been de-duplicated). Our Community allows kinship carers to connect with each other and with Kinship, providing updates on kinship care developments, and opportunities to connect and be involved in our work. We developed a new content planning approach to our Community emails, providing more regular and engaging content, tailored to, and representative of, the diversity of members of the Community. This new approach is informed by analytics on the performance of content. Our highest performing emails achieved 32% open rates, compared to an industry standard of 21%.

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Approach to kinship carer involvement

Four more kinship carers joined our Advisory Group which is made up of kinship carers across England and Wales. They contribute their expertise to support the objectives, aims and work of Kinship, and provide feedback and recommendations on all our work.

Across Kinship, we have ensured that a diverse range of kinship carers are meaningfully involved in all our plans, projects and opportunities from research, service design to influencing policy and the development of our national peer-to-peer support service. We began to consolidate skills, learnings and the experiences of kinship carers to develop a Kinship Carer Participation and Involvement Framework for the organisation in the coming year.

Strengthening our culture – being a brave, inclusive and high performing team, striving to be better for each other and the people we serve

Highlights summary: We invested in our people and their wellbeing and created a more diverse and supportive workplace, and ensured staff were able to adapt to post-Covid working. We:

- Developed a safeguarding learning review and rolled out a new 'safeguarding structure'.
- Introduced a Kinship Care Leave policy on par with maternity and adoption policies.
- Embedded equality, diversity and inclusion across the organisation.
- Gave cost-of-living one-off payments to all staff past their probationary period.

The new safeguarding structure includes the creation of deputy safeguarding leads from each service; bespoke training for all safeguarding leads, cascaded to all frontline staff; new internal processes, reflective practice, alignment with case management systems and a dynamic action plan for delivery over 18 months.

We are committed to supporting staff wellbeing and introduced therapeutic debrief sessions for all kinship carer frontline staff. In response to the cost-of-living crisis, all staff members through their probation periods were eligible for a one-off payment to help absorb the rising cost-of-living.

Our Kinship Care Leave policy, ensures staff who become kinship carers, irrespective of legal order, are eligible for paid kinship care leave on par with our maternity and adoption leave policies.

Our Equality, Diversity, Inclusion (EDI) action plan embedded EDI across the organisation, and into all our operational plans. To help create an inclusive workforce, we committed to the use of recruitment agencies to find diverse longlists of candidates for senior roles. We implemented a blind recruitment process from April to December 2022, and in January 2023 introduced the 'Be Applied' platform which reduces unconscious bias by anonymising and randomising applications. We ensured all vacancies included a question on kinship care lived experience, to guarantee those who meet the minimum requirements of a role are invited for interview.

We were explicit about our need for a diverse Board during new Trustee recruitment and we were pleased to increase representation from Black, Asian and minoritised backgrounds as well as people with kinship care experience.

Strengthening our operations – capitalising on our leading position by being ambitious, smart and strategic

Highlights summary: We invested in our core infrastructure and grew our team to include kinship-care experienced staff to meet the needs of kinship carers across England and Wales.

- Staff team expanded from 59 in 2021-22 to 68 in 2022-23.
- Employed kinship care-experienced staff at all levels.

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We recruited to the new key role of Director of Finance, People and Performance, with plans to recruit other HR and Finance roles in 2023-24. Our expansion included new recruits in the Policy and Communications, and Salesforce teams, as well as regional, on-the-ground staff within the Peer Support Service.

We are delighted that we continue to have kinship care-experienced staff at all levels of the organisation, including the executive team and senior management. As our staff team grew, these kinship care-experienced colleagues made up 18% of our workforce in 2022-23, compared to 20% in 2021-22.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Kinship's 2022-25 Strategy is to be growth-ready in terms of commercial and strategic mindset to actively position the charity for opportunity to achieve greater service reach and impact. While the charity saw modest income growth from £2.115M in 2020-21 to £2.573M in 2022-22, investment in resourcing and infrastructure has enabled the charity to develop its capacity to support large-scale programmes and, as a result, income is anticipated to be in excess of £6M by 2025.

Total income in 2023 was £3.246M (2022 (restated): £2.573M) against total expenditure of £3.153M (2022: £1.902M) led to a net surplus in year of £0.101M.

During 2022-23, several key restricted programmes effectively wound down; including 21 local authority commissions representing multiple local authorities/local authorities' consortia and £0.904M of expenditure in local communities (2022: £0.824M). This level of kinship care support is critical in empowering kinship carers to build happy, stable homes for the children in their care, resulting in positive futures for the whole family. Work on the development of the Kinship Compass website - an independent online information, advice and support hub for kinship carers – funded by The National Lottery fund grant of £0.499M – also came to fruition in year. This resource will continue to be developed as a key information, advice and support hub for kinship carers.

Other major elements of Kinship's work include the development and support of peer support networks across the England, funded by the Department for Education, with a total of £1.042M (2022: £0.156M) invested in the year.

Kinship's campaign work, supported by Comic Relief, also delivered £0.195M in year (2022: £0.052M) and our youth participation work, funded by BBC Children in Need, delivered £0.035M in 2022-23 (2022: £0.028M) of £0.090M funding.

In all, a total of £2.526M (2022: £1.527M) was spent in providing a wide range of services to kinship carers, with a further £0.262M being spent directly on the provision of advice services (2022: £0.123M). The charity provided additional resources of £0.236M (2022: £0.133M) in resourcing its charitable activities.

With the level of planned growth at the charity, sufficient unrestricted reserves must be held to comply with the agreed Reserves Policy. The total of unrestricted reserves held as at 31 March 2023 was £1.703M (2022 (restated): £1.296M) while the level of restricted reserves – being the surplus restricted funds to be carried forward to 2023-24 was £0.715M (2022 (restated): £1.021M).

The Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts for the year ending 2022-23 shows a re-stated income figure of £2.573M (£2.102M per statutory accounts published in 2022) as a result of the retrospective alignment of income recognition in accordance with FRS 102 SORP.

In March 2023, our auditor informed us that he was no longer able to audit the charity as he had served for 10 years and, as a single partner firm, did not have the ability to offer us a successor auditor. As we have made improvements to our finance systems and finance team resourcing to support our ongoing growth, we used this as an opportunity to appoint a larger audit firm. Kinship has always received a clean independent audit opinion. As part of their usual first year audit procedures, the incoming auditor reviewed the books and records for the year ended 31 March 2022 and was not able to satisfy themselves that we had maintained sufficiently detailed records to support expense allocations. We have responded to the auditor's recommendations, as well as implementing a new financial management system. Our response means that the charity is in a strong position for future growth.

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Investment performance

The Trustees appointed Quilter Cheviot as Investment Managers to the charity in October 2022; making an initial investment of £0.750M with appropriate investment restrictions in place to ensure ethical investment.

The portfolio market value at 31 March 2023 was £0.760M (2022: £nil) and the year-end valuation, net of accrued income and cash, was £0.751M (2022: £nil).

Total income from the investment portfolio for the year ending 31 March 2023 was £0.006M (2022: £nil).

Reserves policy and position

As the charity continues to campaign on behalf of kinship carers while concurrently developing and delivering a wide range of services at national level, the charity needs to ensure that it balances these activities with the need to:

- provide sufficient working capital for the following year and to provide against any downturn in revenue generation and fundraising activities.
- mitigate the risk of unforeseeable expenditure and/or business interruption.
- support innovative programmes where such require a period of development and testing prior to proving their case to external funders.
- invest in organisational development and infrastructure to better support front-line delivery and boost long-term stability and sustainability.

In setting out its Reserves Policy which is reviewed annually, the Board of Trustees seek to retain a prudent level of reserves from unrestricted income which they consider to be equivalent to six months' of unrestricted expenditure in year. Based on expenditure planned in 2024-25, this means that the level of reserves should be held at just under £0.9M to comply with the policy.

As the balance of unrestricted funds held at 31 March 2023 was £1.703M, the charity will be seeking ways to utilise the excess balance - including allocating additional funds to its investment portfolio to support sustainable growth; continuing to invest in digital technologies and growing its fundraising capacity to support its reach and impact.

Going concern

The financial year ending 2023 saw a level of free reserves of £1.683M (2022 (restated): £1.262M). This figure comprises the net of unrestricted reserves in year of £1.703M; less £0.020M of Fixed Asset Reserve.

The Trustees recognise that, in setting budgets for the 2024-25 financial year which anticipate unrestricted expenditure of £1.800M, they require to hold c.£0.900M to comply with the Reserves Policy.

The Trustees have reprofiled the drawdown on free reserves to the end of the current financial strategy in 2025 and, based on the Reserves Policy requirement to hold 6 months' of expenditure, have adopted a six-month reserve target of £0.900M and are carefully monitoring progress against the budget targets set out within that timeframe.

The Trustees are confident that, given the scope of committed funds in 2024-25 which has seen in excess of 74% of funding secured and, having profiled unrestricted income and expenditure trends to 31 March 2025, they believe there are sufficient resources to support the charity's Reserves Policy.

The Trustees therefore conclude there is a reasonable expectation that Kinship has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for at least a year from the date of signing the Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 and for the foreseeable future. For these reasons, the Board of Trustees continues to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

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Principal funding sources in 2022-23

In 2022/23 we continued to diversify our sources of income. We are extremely grateful to all our funders and supporters for their generous support.

Our funders include:

- BBC Children in Need
- City Bridge Trust
- Comic Relief
- Department for Education
- The Dulverton Trust
- The Esmée Fairbairn Foundation
- Four Acre Trust
- Garfield Weston Foundation
- Cripplegate Foundation (Islington Giving)
- The KPMG Foundation
- The Charity of Sir Richard Whittington
- The Oak Foundation
- Pears Foundation
- Players of the People's Postcode Lottery through Postcode Support Trust
- Sport England Families Fund
- TNLCF – Digital Fund
- Triangle Trust 1949 Fund

We would like to extend a special thanks to the Players of the Peoples' Postcode Lottery for their generous support since 2017. This has supported our organisational growth and impact, our awareness raising and influencing activities, our vital advice service and helped us to reach and support more kinship carers through our growing community.

We are also grateful to the generous individuals who continue to support our work through donations and by completing challenge events to raise funds for Kinship.

Priorities for 2023-24

Everything we do is focused on achieving our goal that every kinship family will be able to access the support they need.

During 2023-24 we will:

- Deliver high quality, evidence-based support programmes in England and Wales that make a difference for kinship carers.
- Develop and deliver a peer support service in England and increase the number of sustainable kinship carer-led peer support groups across England and Wales.
- Develop our advice service and launch a new digital information hub to enable potential and current kinship carers to find advice, information and support when they need it.
- Grow our kinship care community to connect kinship carers with each other and with us for support and to influence change.
- Develop an organisation-wide approach to participation so that kinship carers and young people are well-supported to influence our work.
- Raise awareness about kinship care, including through high profile media coverage and leading the national awareness campaign Kinship Care Week.

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- Continue to develop our #ValueOurLove campaign, with meaningful kinship carer participation and stakeholder engagement that delivers impact.
- Contribute to the development of kinship care policy, practice and research, collaborating with kinship carers, policy makers, local authorities, charity partners and academics to increase understanding and drive positive change.
- Focus on delivering our EDI action plan, including addressing the lack of ethnic diversity on our Board and senior team, commissioning new research and reviewing and developing our services to ensure they meet the needs of all kinship families.
- Invest in our infrastructure to ensure systems and processes support our people to work efficiently and effectively.
- Invest in our people, embedding our values, developing our leadership and management capacity and skills, supporting teams and staff to adapt post-pandemic, and supporting staff wellbeing.
- Have a relentless focus on learning, horizon scanning and collaborating to innovate and income generate to support further growth and impact and deliver real change for kinship families.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The principal risks and uncertainties identified by the trustees are as follows:

Risk identified	Action taken to mitigate the risk
The risk that the charity doesn't achieve its growth ambition and/or it grows in a way that is not sustainable.	Fundraising and business development strategies to diversify income while investing in a sustainable infrastructure (people, systems, processes) to support growth and impact.
Ongoing inflationary/cost of living pressures and impact on our beneficiaries, our people and our operations.	Ongoing review of beneficiary needs and our services, focus on income generation and financial planning, annual cost of living salary review.
Data breach/loss and/or GDPR concerns.	Data Protection Policy and IT systems and processes reviewed regularly; CRM system implemented with mandatory training for staff in Safeguarding and Cyber Security protocols.
Failure to fundraise for core services.	An appropriate margin is agreed with funders to support core services delivery as well as ensuring sufficient overhead cover to run the charity effectively.
The need to continuously adapt and evolve the way the charity offers advice and support for kinship carers.	Creating a structured, iterative approach to kinship carer participation and involvement, the charity conducts ongoing reviews of beneficiaries' needs drawing on services insight, user feedback, and external agency input. The charity continues to digitally innovate and roll out new digital offerings informed by user experience.
External factors including political, societal and environmental changes that could impact delivery of services.	Regularly review agreed deliverables, monitor effective completion of commissioned and other services, assess external factors and ensure business as usual measures are incorporated.

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Legal Structure

Grandparents Plus, (T/A “Kinship”), is constituted as a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (number 4454103) and registered as a charity with the Charity Commission (number 1093975).

The charity was founded in April 2002; incorporated as Grandparents Plus on 5 June 2002 as a charitable company limited by guarantee and registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales on 30 September 2002. It is governed by its Articles of Association which have not been amended since the foundation of the charity in April 2002.

Subsidiary undertakings

Grandparents Plus (T/A “Kinship”) has no subsidiary undertakings.

Charitable objects

The charitable objects of the charity are:

- Object 1 to support kinship carers who are grandparents, family members or friends who care for children when a parent calls for help or when there has been family breakdown or in other difficult circumstances promoting the best interests of the children they care for.
- Object 2 to work with local authorities, children’s services, voluntary agencies, social workers and other professionals, and kinship carers to promote better support for all children in kinship care.
- Object 3 to ensure the role of kinship carers and the wider family in caring for children is fully incorporated within legislation, and national and local government policy and practice.
- Object 4 to raise awareness of the contribution kinship carers make to society so that kinship carers are recognised, valued and supported.

Public Benefit Statement

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission’s general guidance on public benefit, ‘Charities and Public Benefit’.

Kinship’s Board of Trustees regularly monitors and reviews the success of the organisation in meeting its key objectives. The Trustees confirm, in the light of the guidance, that these aims fully meet the public benefit test and that all the activities of the charity, described in the this report, are undertaken in pursuit of these aims.

This report demonstrates how Kinship’s strategy and activities during the year have helped kinship carers and their families through key performance metrics and reported outcomes. Kinship has also reiterated its commitment to continuing to deliver public benefit in the years ahead through its 2022-25 Strategy.

Structure and governance

The Articles of Association provide for a minimum of three trustees and a maximum of 10. Newly appointed trustees receive an induction pack and training, which includes the charity’s governing document and a briefing document describing the legal status, and role and responsibilities of trustees.

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) serve for three years, after which period they may put themselves forward for re-appointment. The Board of Trustees keeps the skill requirements of its members under review and may appoint a person as a trustee either to fill a vacancy or as an additional trustee. New Trustees may be sought by open advertisement or through a dialogue with existing supporters of the charity.

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Trustees are invited to visit the offices of the charity for further informal briefings by the Chief Executive and also invited to staff planning days and encouraged to meet beneficiaries. The Board is responsible for setting the strategy and policies of Kinship. The members of the board elect the Chair and appoint the Chief Executive. The Chief Executive is responsible to the Board of Trustees, through the Chair, for the execution of those policies.

Management and decision-making

The Trustees who held office during the year are shown in the Reference Information on page 1. There were four board meetings during the year and a trustee away day. In addition, the finance sub-committee meets quarterly, chaired by the Treasurer.

Risk management and internal controls

The trustees have overall responsibility for ensuring that the charity has appropriate systems of control, both financial and operational.

The Finance Committee meets regularly and reviews the major financial and operational risks facing the charity. It monitors the implementation of any changes necessary to ensure that, as far as is reasonable, controls are in place to protect the charity, its members, its staff, the general public and other stakeholders. Julian Young, the Treasurer, chaired the committee during 2022-23.

The systems of internal control are designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance against material misstatement or loss. They include:

- An annual budget approved by the board.
- Regular consideration by the board of financial results, variance from budgets and non-financial performance indicators.
- Delegation of authority and operating procedures.

Kinship has a formal risk management process in place through which a trustee who leads on risk, the chief executive and the senior leadership team, identify the major risks to which the charity may be exposed.

The identified risks are assessed and ranked based on the likelihood and impact, culminating in a risk control document which is updated on a regular basis. All significant risks, together with current mitigation actions, are reviewed quarterly by the trustees. The Trustees review the risk register on a quarterly basis to discuss any emerging risks and consider their potential impact on the charity.

As a result, the Trustees are satisfied that systems have been developed and are in place to mitigate identified risks to an acceptable level.

Staff and volunteers

The Trustees wish to thank the skilled and committed staff and volunteers who are dedicated to ensuring that kinship carers are recognised, valued and supported. We are proud to work with kinship carers who are members of staff, trustees and advisory group members, and who also make up a growing group of volunteers who help deliver our advice service and programmes, influencing and awareness raising activities. They are transforming support for kinship families and we could not do what we do without them.

Our Kinship Care Advisory Group is made up of kinship carers from across England and Wales. Co-chaired by Natalie Baldry, a kinship carer and trustee, and our chief executive, the group is a key part of our commitment to ensuring that kinship carer voices are heard and shape our work at every level.

Remuneration of key personnel

The pay of the chief executive and senior leadership team is reviewed annually and may be increased in accordance with average earnings to reflect a cost-of-living adjustment.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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Statement to Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also Directors of Grandparents Plus for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and 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 that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Statement of Recommended Practice (Accounting and Reporting by Charities) (the Charities' SORP FRS 102);
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards 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 charity will continue in operation.

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

Each of the Trustees confirms that:

- So far as the Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditors are unaware; and
- They have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as a Trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditors are aware of that information.

This confirmation is given and should be interpreted in accordance with the provisions of s418 of the Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions. The Report of the Trustees, which incorporates the requirements of the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report as set out in the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

.....
Jayne Harrill
Chair of Trustees

Date:

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)

Qualified opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Grandparents Plus (trading as Kinship) (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the 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, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the basis for qualified opinion section of our report the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for qualified opinion

In the periods prior to 31 March 2022, the charitable company has not maintained accounting records to enable it to demonstrate that it has accurately allocated expenditure between restricted and unrestricted funds. As a result, we have been unable to satisfy ourselves on the allocation of funds between restricted and unrestricted at 31 March 2021 and at 31 March 2022, and therefore also at 31 March 2023, and the allocation of expenditure between restricted and unrestricted funds in the year ended 31 March 2022. Consequently, we were unable to determine whether any adjustment to these amounts were necessary.

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the 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 qualified opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP) (CONTINUED)

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.

As described in the basis for qualified opinion section of our report, we were unable to satisfy ourselves over the allocation of restricted and unrestricted funds at 31 March 2022, and therefore at 31 March 2023, and also the allocation of expenditure between restricted and unrestricted funds in the year ended 31 March 2022. We have concluded that where the other information refers to restricted or unrestricted fund balances, or to restricted versus unrestricted expenditure in the year ended 31 March 2022, it may be misstated for the same reason.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

Except for the possible effects of the matter described in the basis for qualified opinion section of our report, in our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Except for the possible effects of the matter described in the basis for qualified opinion section of our report, in the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' report.

Arising solely from the limitation on scope of our work relating to the allocation of expenditure between restricted and unrestricted funds referred to above:

- we have not obtained all the information and explanations that we considered necessary for the purpose of our audit; and
- we were unable to determine whether adequate accounting records have been kept.

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:

- returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; 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 Trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a Strategic report.

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP) (CONTINUED)

Responsibilities of trustees

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

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims;
- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance to identify any material instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Performing audit work to address the risk of irregularities due to management override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for evidence of bias.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

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

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP) (CONTINUED)

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Michael Bath BSc FCA DChA (Senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of

James Cowper Kreston Audit

Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor

Greenham Business Park

Newbury

Berkshire

RG19 6AB

Date:

GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)
(A company limited by guarantee)

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	As restated Total funds 2022 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	24,061	-	24,061	9,235
Charitable activities	4	729,025	2,482,469	3,211,494	2,562,664
Investments	5	10,146	-	10,146	706
Total income		763,232	2,482,469	3,245,701	2,572,605
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	6	129,721	-	129,721	118,723
Charitable activities	7	235,569	2,788,399	3,023,968	1,783,107
Total expenditure		365,290	2,788,399	3,153,689	1,901,830
Net income/(expenditure) before net gains on investments					
		397,942	(305,930)	92,012	670,775
Net gains on investments		9,008	-	9,008	-
Net movement in funds		406,950	(305,930)	101,020	670,775
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		1,296,240	1,021,299	2,317,539	1,646,764
Total funds carried forward		1,703,190	715,369	2,418,559	2,317,539

The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 27 to 43 form part of these financial statements.

GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)

(A company limited by guarantee)

REGISTERED NUMBER: 04454103

**BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31ST MARCH 2023**

	Note	2023 £	As restated 2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	12	20,304	34,282
Investments	13	751,151	-
		<u>771,455</u>	<u>34,282</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	14	874,075	940,650
Cash at bank and in hand		1,092,458	1,584,883
		<u>1,966,533</u>	<u>2,525,533</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(319,429)	(242,276)
		<u>1,647,104</u>	<u>2,283,257</u>
Total net assets		<u><u>2,418,559</u></u>	<u><u>2,317,539</u></u>
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	17	715,369	1,021,299
Unrestricted funds	17	1,703,190	1,296,240
		<u>2,418,559</u>	<u>2,317,539</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 and signed on their behalf by:

.....
Jayne Harrill
Chair of Trustees
Date:

The notes on pages 27 to 43 form part of these financial statements.

GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

	Note	2023 £	As restated 2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities	20	241,754	107,938
Cash flows from investing activities			
Dividends and interests from investments		10,146	706
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(2,182)	(22,415)
Proceeds from sale of investments		427,732	-
Purchase of investments		(1,169,875)	-
Net cash used in investing activities		(734,179)	(21,709)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year			
		(492,425)	86,229
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		1,584,883	1,498,654
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	21	1,092,458	1,584,883

The notes on pages 27 to 43 form part of these financial statements

GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

1. General information

Grandparents Plus (trading as Kinship) is a private company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (Company Registered Number 04454103). It is registered with the Charity Commission (Charity Registered Number 1093975).

In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the Charity.

The address of the registered office is given in the Charity information on page 1 of these financial statements. The nature of the Charity's operations and principal activities are as detailed on page 3.

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

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements 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), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Grandparents Plus (trading as Kinship) 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.

2.2 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 income receivable can be measured reliably.

Grants are included in the Statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

Other income is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.3 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, 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 classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the Charity to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Charity's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.4 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

2.5 Taxation

The Charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the Charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

2.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing £500 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method.

Depreciation is provided on the following basis:

Fixtures and fittings	-	25%
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GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.7 Investments

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the Statement of financial activities.

2.8 Debtors

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

2.9 Cash at bank and in hand

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

2.10 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

2.11 Financial instruments

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

2.12 Pensions

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Charity to the fund in respect of the year.

GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.13 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

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

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

3. Income from donations

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	As restated Total funds 2022 £
Donations	14,959	14,959	7,573
Publications	232	232	1,276
Sundry income	8,870	8,870	386
	<hr/> 24,061 <hr/>	<hr/> 24,061 <hr/>	<hr/> 9,235 <hr/>
Total 2022 as restated	<hr/> 9,235 <hr/>	<hr/> 9,235 <hr/>	

GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	As restated Total funds 2022 £
Support services	-	904,270	904,270	809,869
Advice	729,025	1,578,199	2,307,224	1,752,795
	<u>729,025</u>	<u>2,482,469</u>	<u>3,211,494</u>	<u>2,562,664</u>
Total 2022 as restated	<u>420,203</u>	<u>2,142,461</u>	<u>2,562,664</u>	

5. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Investment income	6,615	6,615	-
Bank interest	3,531	3,531	706
	<u>10,146</u>	<u>10,146</u>	<u>706</u>
Total 2022	<u>706</u>	<u>706</u>	

GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

6. Expenditure on raising funds

Costs of raising voluntary income

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	As restated Total funds 2022 £
Staff costs	115,046	115,046	117,004
Other costs	14,675	14,675	1,719
Total 2023	<u>129,721</u>	<u>129,721</u>	<u>118,723</u>
Total 2022 as restated	<u>118,723</u>	<u>118,723</u>	

7. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	As restated Total 2022 £
Advice Service	-	262,137	262,137	123,255
Kinship Care Support Services	-	2,526,262	2,526,262	1,526,866
Core	235,569	-	235,569	132,986
	<u>235,569</u>	<u>2,788,399</u>	<u>3,023,968</u>	<u>1,783,107</u>
Total 2022 as restated	<u>132,986</u>	<u>1,650,121</u>	<u>1,783,107</u>	

GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2023 £	Support costs 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	As restated Total funds 2022 £
Kinship Care Support Services	1,934,809	591,453	2,526,262	1,526,866
Advice Service	190,282	71,855	262,137	123,255
Core	49,594	185,975	235,569	132,986
	<u>2,174,685</u>	<u>849,283</u>	<u>3,023,968</u>	<u>1,783,107</u>
Total 2022 as restated	<u>1,341,931</u>	<u>441,176</u>	<u>1,783,107</u>	

Analysis of support costs

	Total funds 2023 £	As restated Total funds 2022 £
Depreciation	16,160	17,460
Other staff costs	149,670	82,396
Marketing	74,820	32,532
Premises costs	53,947	56,711
Professional and consultancy costs	423,234	168,842
Office equipment maintenance	36,711	29,547
Postage	4,235	3,427
Investment management costs	1,444	-
Database costs	55,232	44,525
Subscriptions and memberships	24,763	3,985
Other costs	9,067	1,751
	<u>849,283</u>	<u>441,176</u>

GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

9. Auditor's remuneration

	2023	2022
	£	£
Fees payable to the Charity's auditor for the audit of the Charity's annual accounts	68,000	6,000
	<u><u>68,000</u></u>	<u><u>6,000</u></u>

10. Staff costs

	2023	As restated 2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	1,725,825	1,267,003
Social security costs	164,631	116,404
Pension costs	43,076	30,442
	<u><u>1,933,532</u></u>	<u><u>1,413,849</u></u>

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

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
Direct activities	51	37
Fundraising	4	2
Resourcing and support	7	6
Key management personnel	5	5
	<u><u>67</u></u>	<u><u>50</u></u>

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	1	1
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	1	1

During the year remuneration paid to key management personnel, including national insurance contributions, totalled £298,121 (As restated 2022: £272,094).

11. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2022 - £NIL).

During the year ended 31st March 2023, no Trustee expenses have been incurred (2022 - £NIL).

GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Computer equipment £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 April 2022	84,354
Additions	2,182
	86,536
At 31st March 2023	86,536
Depreciation	
At 1 April 2022	50,072
Charge for the year	16,160
	66,232
At 31st March 2023	66,232
Net book value	
At 31st March 2023	20,304
At 31st March 2022	34,282

13. Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £
Cost or valuation	
Additions	1,169,875
Disposals	(428,027)
Revaluations	9,303
	751,151
At 31 March 2023	751,151

GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

14. Debtors

	2023	As restated
	£	2022 £
Due within one year		
Grant debtors	148,735	41,123
Accrued income	696,999	895,322
Other debtors and prepayments	28,341	4,205
	874,075	940,650

15. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023	As restated
	£	2022 £
Trade creditors	163,704	41,714
Other taxation and social security	58,436	46,980
Accruals and deferred income	97,289	153,582
	319,429	242,276

	2023	As restated
	£	2022 £
Deferred income at 1 April 2022	127,000	170,333
Resources deferred during the year	21,000	127,000
Amounts released from previous periods	(127,000)	(170,333)
	21,000	127,000

Deferred income represents income received in advance of services to be provided.

GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

16. Prior year adjustments

The Trustees have reviewed the recognition and classification of certain income, and the classification of certain expenditure in previous periods. The impact of this is as follows:

	Year ended 31 March 2022 £	Year ended 31 March 2021 £
Increase in accrued income	678,331	312,918
Decrease in deferred income	(161,210)	(55,548)
Increase in unrestricted funds brought forward	563,015	171,440
Increase/(decrease) in restricted funds brought forward	(194,549)	439,103
Increase/(decrease) in unrestricted income	97,325	(62,084)
Increase/(decrease) in restricted income	373,750	(179,993)
Decrease in unrestricted expenditure	(254,723)	(453,659)
Increase in restricted expenditure	254,723	453,659

GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

17. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	As restated Balance at 1st April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31st March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
Fixed asset fund	34,282	-	(16,160)	2,182	-	20,304
General funds						
General funds	1,261,958	763,232	(349,130)	(2,182)	9,008	1,682,886
Total Unrestricted funds	1,296,240	763,232	(365,290)	-	9,008	1,703,190
Restricted funds						
Commissioned work	29,998	904,270	(924,268)	-	-	10,000
Peer support network	-	1,042,183	(1,040,440)	-	-	1,743
Digital development - Kinship Compass	271,895	-	(271,895)	-	-	-
Campaign, Voice and Participation	467,663	166,439	(262,222)	-	-	371,880
Research	-	220,508	(20,508)	-	-	200,000
Advice and direct beneficiary support	251,743	121,632	(241,629)	-	-	131,746
Regional grants	-	27,437	(27,437)	-	-	-
	1,021,299	2,482,469	(2,788,399)	-	-	715,369
Total of funds	2,317,539	3,245,701	(3,153,689)	-	9,008	2,418,559

GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

17. Statement of funds (continued)

RESTRICTED FUNDS

Restricted funds are those funds that must be used in accordance with the donors' wishes. In 2022-23 a total of £2.482m (2022: £2.142m) to support wide range of activities, as follows:

Commissioned Work

Kinship currently partners with local authorities across England and Wales to deliver a range of services, including the charity's flagship Kinship Connected, Kinship Reach and Kinship Ready programmes. Kinship contracted with 21 local authority consortia in 2022-23 to deliver £904K of services in local communities (2022: £850k). Additional work in Islington, North London continued to be supported by Islington Giving (The Cripplegate Foundation) in 2022-23 through a two-year grant of £40k awarded in October 2021.

Peer Support Network

The Department for Education continued to support the development and support of peer support networks across the UK, with a total of £1.042m (2022: £263k) invested in the year.

Digital Development – Kinship Compass

Work on the development of the Kinship Compass website - an independent online information, advice and support hub for kinship carers – funded in 2019 by The National Lottery Fund grant of £499k – was also fully spent down in year. This resource will continue to be developed as a key information, advice and support hub for kinship carers.

Campaign, Voice, Participation

Kinship's campaign work, supported by Comic Relief, also delivered £195k in year (2022: £53k) and our youth participation work, funded by BBC Children in Need, delivered £35k in 2022-23 (2022: £9k) of £90k funding. The Triangle Trust 1949 Fund also continued their support of Kinship's campaigning work; committing a further £90k over three years in 2023.

Research

A grant of £200k was awarded in year from the KPMG Foundation to support a joint research programme "Understanding and responding to the needs of kinship families from Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities". Additional research work was supported in 2022-23 by the What Works for Children's Social Care.

Advice and direct beneficiary support

Additional restricted funds totalling £122k (2022: £361k) were received from a range of funders to support our Advice Line and help to support beneficiaries directly, including from the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation, City Bridge Trust, The Mercers' Company, The Headley Trust and The Dulverton Trust.

Regional Grants

The Ballinger Charitable Trust continued to fund activity in the North East of England in year through a 3-year grant of £60k awarded in December 2019.

DESIGNATED FUNDS

Fixed Asset Fund

The fixed asset fund represents the net book value of tangible assets (see note 12) as of the balance sheet date. This fund has been designated by the Board of Trustees to cover future depreciation on tangible assets held.

GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

17. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	As restated Balance at 1st April 2021 £	As restated Income £	As restated Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	As restated Balance at 31st March 2022 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Fixed asset fund	29,327	-	(17,460)	22,415	34,282
General funds					
General funds	1,088,479	430,144	(234,250)	(22,415)	1,261,958
Total Unrestricted funds	1,117,806	430,144	(251,710)	-	1,296,240
Restricted funds					
Commissioned work	35,817	849,868	(855,687)	-	29,998
Peer support network	-	262,823	(262,823)	-	-
Digital development - Kinship Compass	328,183	5,000	(61,288)	-	271,895
Campaign, Voice, Participation	50,000	527,505	(109,842)	-	467,663
Advice and direct beneficiary support	13,738	361,260	(123,255)	-	251,743
Regional grants	101,220	136,005	(237,225)	-	-
	528,958	2,142,461	(1,650,120)	-	1,021,299
Total of funds	1,646,764	2,572,605	(1,901,830)	-	2,317,539

GRANDPARENTS PLUS (TRADING AS KINSHIP)
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

18. Summary of funds

Summary of funds - current year

	As restated Balance at 1st April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31st March 2023 £
Designated funds	34,282	-	(16,160)	2,182	-	20,304
General funds	1,261,958	763,232	(349,130)	(2,182)	9,008	1,682,886
Restricted funds	1,021,299	2,482,469	(2,788,399)	-	-	715,369
	<u>2,317,539</u>	<u>3,245,701</u>	<u>(3,153,689)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,008</u>	<u>2,418,559</u>

Summary of funds - prior year

	As restated Balance at 1st April 2021 £	As restated Income £	As restated Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31st March 2022 £
Designated funds	29,327	-	(17,460)	22,415	34,282
General funds	1,088,479	430,144	(234,250)	(22,415)	1,261,958
Restricted funds	528,958	2,142,461	(1,650,120)	-	1,021,299
	<u>1,646,764</u>	<u>2,572,605</u>	<u>(1,901,830)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,317,539</u>

19. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	20,304	-	20,304
Fixed asset investments	751,151	-	751,151
Current assets	1,230,164	736,369	1,966,533
Creditors due within one year	(298,429)	(21,000)	(319,429)
Total	<u>1,703,190</u>	<u>715,369</u>	<u>2,418,559</u>

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19. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	As restated Unrestricted funds 2022 £	As restated Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	34,282	-	34,282
Current assets	1,358,484	1,167,049	2,525,533
Creditors due within one year	(96,526)	(145,750)	(242,276)
Total	<u>1,296,240</u>	<u>1,021,299</u>	<u>2,317,539</u>

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

	2023 £	As restated 2022 £
Net income for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	101,020	670,775
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	16,160	17,460
Gains/(losses) on investments	(9,008)	-
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(10,146)	(706)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	66,575	(540,172)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	77,153	(39,419)
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>241,754</u>	<u>107,938</u>

21. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash in hand	1,092,458	1,584,883
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>1,092,458</u>	<u>1,584,883</u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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22. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1st April 2022	Cash flows	At 31st March 2023
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	1,584,883	(492,425)	1,092,458
	1,584,883	(492,425)	1,092,458
	1,584,883	(492,425)	1,092,458

23. Pension commitments

The Charity operates a defined contributions pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Charity in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the Charity to the fund and amounted to £43,076 (2022: £30,442). Contributions totalling £4,486 (2022: £6,449) were payable to the fund at the balance sheet date and are included in creditors.