

Charity registration number 1003674 (England and Wales)

DESTINATION FLORIDA
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

DESTINATION FLORIDA

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	S Ashworth FRICS G Mason OBE A Nicholls M Sharples B Morrison S Armstrong D Phillips	(Appointed 3 January 2024)
Charity number (England and Wales)	1003674	
Principal address	Clarendon Business Centre 38 Clarendon Road Eccles Manchester M30 9ES	
Independent examiner	Mark Turner FCA Champion Accountants LLP 1 Worsley Court High Street Worsley Manchester M28 3NJ	
Bankers	HSBC Bank PLC Ground Floor Regents Place Regent Road Salford Greater Manchester M5 4BT	

DESTINATION FLORIDA

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 3
Independent examiner's report	4
Statement of financial activities	5
Balance sheet	6
Notes to the financial statements	7 - 13

DESTINATION FLORIDA

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The Trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Structure, governance and management

The Charity is governed by the Trust Deed and registered with the Charity Commission

The Trustees are a small group who put in a tremendous amount of work to ensure the continued success of the Charity. The Trustees constantly review the constitution of the Board. The Trustees have a wealth of experience behind them, and it is a privilege to work with such a committed and supportive group of people, many of them are "hands-on" and I cannot thank them enough for the major role they play in the success of the charity.

The Trustees are assisted by the Charity's dedicated office team, which plays a crucial role in the smooth operation of Destination Florida. The team consists of Rachel Radnor, Charley Kerr, and our newest member, Georgina Alexander-Pulham, who has been appointed to lead on PR and Marketing. Their combined efforts and commitment are instrumental in delivering the Charity's mission and supporting its ongoing growth.

Trustee meetings are held every 6 weeks where decisions on policy and major expenditure are discussed and agreed. Minutes are taken of every meeting and committed to record. During each meeting all previous and near future Charity activities are discussed. Planned revenues and expenditure for each event are presented and challenged to ensure adequate profits are achieved and following the event the actual accounts are measured against the projections.

A budget plan for the Charity income and expenditure is agreed at the beginning of the financial year. At each Trustee meeting the Trustees review the Charity's financial performance for the last financial period and financial year to date. The performance is compared to the budget plan for the year with exceptions in revenue and expenditure being highlighted and an outlook for the remainder of the year is generated. Based upon this outlook additional events are scheduled to make up any potential shortfall in funds for the year.

Risk review

The major risks to which the charity is exposed, as identified by the Trustees, are reviewed on an annual basis and systems have been established to mitigate these risks.

Objectives and activities

Destination Florida continues to thrive as an active and successful charity, consistently fulfilling its mission of providing children with life-threatening or life-limiting illnesses the opportunity to experience a once in a lifetime trip to Florida.

We are delighted to report that on 3 October 2025, a further 72 children, accompanied by a dedicated team of carers, will embark on another unforgettable week in Florida. The heartfelt letters of appreciation we receive from families are a powerful testament to the profound and lasting impact these trips have.

The Board of Trustees remains deeply committed to the Charity's aims and objectives, working tirelessly to ensure that each trip delivers joy, hope, and cherished memories to the children and families we support.

DESTINATION FLORIDA

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Achievements and performance

The Trustees acknowledge the growing financial demands associated with the rising cost of trips to Florida. In response, the Charity recognises the importance of increasing its fundraising efforts both internally, through additional events and externally, by strengthening partnerships with local businesses and the wider community.

Ladies Lunch – April 2024
Held at the Lowry Hotel in Manchester, our annual Ladies Lunch proved to be a tremendous success. The event raised over £29,500 and has now become a staple in our charity calendar, offering a valuable opportunity to engage supporters in a relaxed and enjoyable setting.

Summer Ball – June 2024
Our flagship fundraising event, the Summer Ball, took place at The Hilton Deansgate. With exceptional attendance and generous contributions, the event raised in excess of £133,000. This remains our most significant fundraising occasion, both in terms of revenue and community engagement.

Charity Extra Campaign – October 2024
In October, the Charity launched a dedicated fundraising campaign called Charity Extra which successfully raised £140,000. This initiative demonstrated the continued generosity of our supporters and the effectiveness of targeted fundraising efforts.

The Trustees extend their sincere gratitude to all individuals, families, businesses, community groups, clubs, and societies for their generous fundraising efforts and unwavering support over the past twelve months. Your contributions have been instrumental in helping us continue our mission.

In addition, the Trustees would like to formally recognise and thank their fellow board members for the invaluable time, knowledge, and expertise they dedicate to the Charity. Their commitment ensures that Destination Florida is governed with integrity and effectiveness. The Trustees remain deeply aware of the vital role the Charity plays in the lives of the children and families it serves.

Financial review

Like many charities, Destination Florida continues to face significant challenges in raising substantial funds due to the ongoing economic climate. As a result, the Trustees and support team are working harder than ever to ensure the Charity's finances are carefully monitored and managed, particularly with the anticipated costs of the upcoming trip in October 2025.

Sustained and proactive fundraising remains essential. Throughout 2024, our fundraising activities have been maintained and strengthened to support the financial demands of the next scheduled trip. The continued success of these efforts is vital to ensuring we can deliver the life-changing experiences that lie at the heart of our mission.

Notwithstanding the substantial cost increases in putting together a trip for so many children, the finances of the Charity remain under regular review by the Trustees. The Trustees are both mindful and conscious of ensuring that fundraising continues with regularity and that we maintain the support of those who support Destination Florida by attending events.

The Trustees wish to thank our fellow Trustee Ged Mason for allowing us to use his premises for our general office. Additionally, it is important to recognise the contribution made by Champion Accountants LLP, who donate their skills and time of their team to the Charity, to provide a management accounts service and the production of an annual report and accounts during each financial year. These contributions are greatly appreciated.

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the Charity to maintain a level of reserves sufficient to cover the cost of a trip to Florida two years before the trip actually occurs. This means a reserve in the region of £450,000 is considered adequate.

DESTINATION FLORIDA

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Plans for future periods

The Charity intends to continue to achieve its objectives of biennially providing the trip of a lifetime for children with life-limiting and life-threatening illnesses for the foreseeable future.

Fundraising efforts for the 2025 and 2027 trips are already underway. The Trustees will carefully consider all aspects of the upcoming trip to ensure it delivers another unforgettable experience for a very special group of children. It is anticipated that approximately 72 children will take part in this life changing journey.

The expenses of the charity are kept under constant review.

Trustees

The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

S Ashworth FRICS
G Mason OBE
A Nicholls
M Sharples
B Morrison
S Armstrong
D Phillips

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

S Ashworth FRICS

Chairman

Dated: 18 June 2025

DESTINATION FLORIDA

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF DESTINATION FLORIDA

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Destination Florida (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000, the independent examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Charities Act 2011.
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of financial statements set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the financial statements give a true and fair view, which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Mark Turner FCA

Champion Accountants LLP
1 Worsley Court
High Street
Worsley
Manchester
M28 3NJ
18 June 2025

DESTINATION FLORIDA

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Income from:			
Charitable activities	3	528,973	558,278
Investments	4	2,426	27
Total income		531,399	558,305
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	5	202,695	757,316
Total expenditure		202,695	757,316
Net income/(expenditure) and movement in funds		328,704	(199,011)
Reconciliation of funds:			
Fund balances at 1 January 2024		128,337	327,348
Fund balances at 31 December 2024		457,041	128,337

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

DESTINATION FLORIDA

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		55		65
Current assets					
Cash at bank and in hand		458,534		128,294	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(1,548)		(22)	
Net current assets			456,986		128,272
Total assets less current liabilities			457,041		128,337
The funds of the charity					
Unrestricted funds	14		457,041		128,337
			457,041		128,337

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 18 June 2025

S Ashworth FRICS
Chairman

DESTINATION FLORIDA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Destination Florida is an unincorporated charity.

1.1 Accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

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

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

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

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

1.4 Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

DESTINATION FLORIDA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Resources expended

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 are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

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

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

Fixtures, fittings & equipment	15% reducing balance
Computers	33% straight line

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

DESTINATION FLORIDA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.9 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.10 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

DESTINATION FLORIDA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

3 Charitable activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Income from Charitable Activities	528,973	558,278

4 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Interest receivable	2,426	27

5 Charitable activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Staff costs	1,524	1,409
Direct wages and salaries	86,064	67,220
Fundraising events	100,754	185,306
Florida Trip	-	473,500
	<u>188,342</u>	<u>727,435</u>
Share of support costs (see note 6)	12,494	26,765
Share of governance costs (see note 6)	1,859	3,116
	<u>202,695</u>	<u>757,316</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	<u>202,695</u>	
	<u>202,695</u>	
For the year ended 31 December 2023		
Unrestricted funds		<u>757,316</u>
		<u>757,316</u>

DESTINATION FLORIDA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

6 Support costs

	Support costs	Governance costs	2024	2023	Basis of allocation
	£	£	£	£	
Depreciation	10	-	10	11	Support
Sundry Expenses	902	-	902	2,426	Support
Printing, Postage and Stationery	2,981	-	2,981	5,666	Support
Premises Expenses	278	-	278	5	Support
Computer costs	3,162	-	3,162	4,901	Support
Rates	173	-	173	126	
Legal and Professional	3,158	-	3,158	-	
Insurance	1,601	-	1,601	13,630	
Support costs heading 10	229	-	229	-	
Bank Charges	-	922	922	2,257	Governance
Telephone	-	937	937	859	Governance
	<u>12,494</u>	<u>1,859</u>	<u>14,353</u>	<u>29,881</u>	
Analysed between Charitable activities	<u>12,494</u>	<u>1,859</u>	<u>14,353</u>	<u>29,881</u>	

7 Net movement in funds

2024
£

2023
£

The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):

Fees payable for the independent examination of the charity's financial statements

Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets

-

10

-

11

8 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

9 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

2024
Number

2023
Number

3

3

Employment costs

2024
£

2023
£

Other pension costs

1,524

1,409

DESTINATION FLORIDA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

9 Employees

(Continued)

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel was as follows:

10 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £	Computers £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 January 2024	1,194	12,576	13,770
At 31 December 2024	1,194	12,576	13,770
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 January 2024	1,129	12,576	13,705
Depreciation charged in the year	10	-	10
At 31 December 2024	1,139	12,576	13,715
Carrying amount			
At 31 December 2024	55	-	55
At 31 December 2023	65	-	65

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Other taxation and social security	1,548	22

13 Retirement benefit schemes

	2024 £	2023 £
Defined contribution schemes		
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	1,524	1,409

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

DESTINATION FLORIDA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

14 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 January 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£
General funds	128,337	531,399	(202,695)	457,041
	<u>128,337</u>	<u>531,399</u>	<u>(202,695)</u>	<u>457,041</u>
Previous year:	At 1 January 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£
General funds	327,348	558,305	(757,316)	128,337
	<u>327,348</u>	<u>558,305</u>	<u>(757,316)</u>	<u>128,337</u>

15 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024
	£
At 31 December 2024:	
Tangible assets	55
Current assets/(liabilities)	456,986
	<u>457,041</u>
	<u>457,041</u>
	Unrestricted funds 2023
	£
At 31 December 2023:	
Tangible assets	65
Current assets/(liabilities)	128,272
	<u>128,337</u>
	<u>128,337</u>