

**Families in Care
Registered Charity No. 1007596**

**Trustees' Report
and
Financial Statement
for the year ended
31 March 2025**

Legal and Administrative Information

Name: **Families in Care**

Charity no: 1007596

Structure: Unincorporated association governed by a constitution.

Trustees: *Al Coates MBE*
Victoria Malone
Catherine Gibson
Andrew Wraith
Kevin Mulgrew

Address: 1 Carlol Square
Newcastle
NE1 6UF

Bankers: Cooperative Bank
Balloon Street
Manchester

Independent Examiner: Mark Thompson MAAT
42 Lesbury Road
Newcastle
NE6 5LB

Trustees' Annual Report

Background

The trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Structure, governance and management

Families in Care is constituted under a trust deed dated 12 November 1991 amended 3 July 2002 and is a registered charity no. 1007596.

Organisation

The trustees who have served during the year and since the year end are set out on the admin page. The appointment of trustees is governed by the constitution of the charity.

Objectives and activities

Objects of the Charity

The object of the charity is to relieve the stresses experienced by parents whose children have been taken into care or who are at risk of being taken into care.

In planning our activities for the year we keep in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our trustee meetings.

Our activities continue to advise and offer emotional support to birth parents and other family members before and after care/adoption proceedings. The Charity's team of social workers and advisors work closely with families, who are often referred from local solicitors, local authority social workers and children's guardians.

Achievements and performance

Families in Care:

- * Provide independent advocacy, emotional support and therapeutic help for birth parents before during and after Care/Adoption proceedings, acting as advocates at Child Protection Conferences and Court Hearings.

- * Mediate between local authority social workers and birth parents, promoting positive working relationships in the interests of children in need.

- * Ensure birth parents with learning disabilities are fairly represented helping them make informed decisions about their children.

- * Provide practical help for birth parents experiencing poverty.

- * Mental health work such as helping parents to cope with feelings of separation/loss, anxiety, depression, self harm and suicide.

- * Help birth parents maintain contact with their children in foster/adoptive placements, e.g. life story work, birthday cards/letter writing.

- * Provide weekly support groups including wellbeing and learning & development.

Financial review

The statement of financial activities show a surplus for the year of £6,624.

The trustees actively pursue other sources of funding and income and are confident that appropriate funding will continue for the next financial year.

Reserves Policy

The executive members aim to hold three months running costs in reserve, which it will build up when funds are available.

Risk Management

The executive members have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to major risks.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

Charity Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which comply with the regulations set out in the Charities Act 1993. The Trustees have elected to take advantage of the provisions that apply to small charities and have prepared a Receipts and Payments Account and Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

Signed:Chair, on behalf of the Trustees, date:

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

Report to the trustees of

Families in Care

On accounts for the year ended

31 March 2025

Charity no 1077596

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees of the organisation are responsible for the preparation of accounts; they consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 and that an Independent Examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts (under section 145 of the 2011 Act),
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act), and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the trustees have not met the requirements to ensure that:
 - proper accounting records are kept (in accordance with section 130 of the Act); and
 - accounts are prepared which agree with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Date: 27 May 2025

Name: Mark Thompson MAAT
Address: 42 Lesbury Road
Newcastle
NE6 5LB

Families in Care

Receipts and payments account for the period

1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025

Notes	2025 Unrestricted	2025 Restricted	2025 Total	2024 Total
Incoming Resources				
Donations	16063		16063	6752
Charitable Activities	50500	26480	76980	91980
Other Activities	2800		2800	6420
Bank Interest			0	0
Total Receipts	69363	26480	95843	105152
Resources Expended				
Charitable Activities	58611	30608	89219	117154
Cost of Generating Voluntary Income			0	0
Total Payments	58611	30608	89219	117154
Surplus for the period	10752	-4128	6624	-12002
Balance at 1 April 2024	-27825	23173	-4652	7350
Balance at 31 March 2025	-17073	19045	1972	-4652

**Families in Care
Balance Sheet
at 31 March 2025**

	notes	2025	2024
Current Assets			
Debtors			
Cash at Bank		1972	-4652
Total Current Assets		<u>1972</u>	<u>-4652</u>
Liabilities			
Net Assets at 31 March 2025		<u>1972</u>	<u>-4652</u>
 Represented by:			
Restricted Funds	(4)	19045	23173
Unrestricted Funds		-17073	-27825
Total		<u>1972</u>	<u>-4652</u>

The financial statements were approved by the following members of the Management Committee :

Signed Position

Signed Position

Date

Families in Care

Notes to the accounts, 2025

1. Accounting Policies

- a The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) – Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006

Families in Care 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 note(s).

- b Grants received are accounted for on a received basis and credited to income.
- c Voluntary income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in full in the Receipts and Payments Account when received.

2. Grants receivable

Restricted:

The Grocers Charity	8000
Greggs Foundation	18480

Total Restricted Grants Received 26480

Unrestricted:

Newcastle City Council	20000
Greatham Hospital	1000
Garfield Weston Foundation	10000
Foyle Foundation	5000
Barbour Trust	5000
The Archer Trust	4000
Joicey Trust	2500
The Hadrian Trust	2000
Joseph Strong Frazer Trust	1000

Total Unrestricted Grants Received 50500

Total Grants Received 76980

3. Trustees, staff and related party transactions

The organisation employed 5 members of staff during the period of the accounts. No payments were made to trustees.

The total salary costs for the year were £74,953

4 Fund Year End Balances

Restricted Funds	Balance Apr-24	Income	Expend	Balance Mar-25
Tudor Trust (Training Post)	10182		10182	0
Tudor Trust (Staff Wellbeing)	371		371	0
Tudor Trust (Parent Hardship & IT Development)	300		300	0
The Grocers Charity	0	8000	250	7750
Greggs Foundation	12320	18480	19505	11295
Total	23173	26480	30608	19045