

Farms for City Children Limited
(A charitable company limited by guarantee)
Report and Financial Statements
Year ending 31 August 2023



Registered Charity Number: 325120

Registered Company Number: 01177239 (England and Wales)

Farms for City Children Limited

Reference and administrative details

Charity number: 325120
Company number: 01177239
Registered Office: Unit 2 Huxham Barns, Huxham, Exeter, EX5 4EJ

Directors and Trustees

The Directors of the Charitable Company (Charity) are its Trustees for the purpose of charity law. The Trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Chair	Simon Gregory	(resigned as Chair 14 December 2022)
	Rachel Goult	(appointed as Chair 14 December 2022)
Trustees	Sir Michael Morpurgo OBE Lady Morpurgo MBE Frances Harris Justin Albert OBE Peter Pantlin Richard Ash Andrew Bailey Jonathan Bishop Rachel Goult Simon Gregory Laura Reynolds Mary Trussell	(resigned 29 October 2022) (resigned 6 October 2022) (resigned 3 September 2022) (appointed 11 March 2023)
Secretary	Lady Morpurgo MBE	
Chief Executive	Donna Marie Edmonds	
Auditors	Westcotts (SW) LLP 47 Boutport Street Barnstaple Devon EX31 1SQ	
Bankers	NatWest Bank plc 59 High Street Exeter Devon EX4 3DL	

Farms for City Children Limited

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 August 2023

The Trustees are pleased to present their Annual Trustees' Report together with the consolidated Financial Statements of the Charity and its subsidiary for the year ending 31 August 2023. The Report and Financial Statements are prepared to meet the Directors' Report and Accounts requirements for Companies Act purposes.

The Financial Statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, 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) (effective 1 January 2019).

Chair's Report

This has been a tremendous year of growth and re-awakening for Farms for City Children. With the challenges of national lockdowns now firmly behind us, we have opened our doors to more beneficiaries than ever before, welcoming 3288 children from 93 schools and over 600 supervising teachers. We have also expanded our offering to reach new groups of young people, all of whom, without exception, benefit from the therapeutic value of our offer.

We are immensely proud of the fantastic team of the staff and volunteers committed to creating a week of "muck and magic" for every person - children, young people, teachers, and group leaders alike - that visits one of our three heritage farms in the heart of the countryside: Nethercott in Iddesleigh, mid-Devon; Wick Court in Gloucestershire; and St David's in Pembrokeshire, Wales. Working alongside our dedicated partner farmers, these amazing teams make the charity what it is today - an inspiring charity with a vision to see a world where all young people benefit from being connected to food, farming, and the natural world - where access to the countryside is accepted as a right, not a privilege.

Farms for City Children is a vibrant Charity that, since our foundation in 1976, has been delivering learning and well-being impact to children and young people from cities and disadvantaged communities through the experience of working together on our farms in the heart of the British countryside. Looking forward to 2024, we are developing our strategic business plan, in partnership with our staff, trustees, beneficiaries, and external stakeholders, that will determine the direction of the charity for the upcoming years and beyond.



**Rachel Gault,
Chair of the Board of Trustees**

Farms for City Children Limited

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

Our purposes and activities

Farms for City Children exists to remove the barriers that prevent children and young people from having meaningful access to the natural world. Our purpose, as set out in the governing document, is to “advance the education of boys and girls from urban areas by the establishment and maintenance of suitable educational study centres in the countryside of England and Wales”. Through our food, farming, and nature-connected wellbeing offer, we strive to empower the next generation to experience the physical and mental health benefits of being in the countryside and to see themselves as the custodians of our landscape for generations to come.

During an immersive five-day residential stay at one of our stunning heritage farms (Nethercott House in Devon, Lower Treginnis in Pembrokeshire, and Wick Court in Gloucestershire), children and young people participate in seasonal farming tasks alongside experienced farm teams and partner farmers.

In setting our objectives and planning our activities for the year, the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission’s guidance on public benefit, including the guidance ‘public benefit: running a charity (PB2)’. The Trustees have always been proactive in ensuring that our activities are to the benefit of the public and children, and consequently have considered the guidance in all our activities and fee charging.

The holistic offer of physical outdoor education in a residential environment, combined with nutritious home-grown and home-cooked food prepared by the children themselves, introduces our beneficiaries to a new and healthy world. The health and wellbeing benefits are immediately recognisable, as are the personal and social developments made through profound connections with classmates and accompanying adults. At the end of the week the nurtured and empowered young people are ready to return to school and home with new grit, growth mindset, and a set of valuable transferable life skills and a wider knowledge of our climate and sustainability.

We want children and young people to feel a momentous connection to nature, a sense of their own social and moral responsibility to be stewards of our planet, and an emerging feeling of agency in visualising a future for themselves that involves remaining in contact with the countryside and nature beyond their visit.

Teachers and Youth Workers report that the impact on them is just as life changing. Many will experience the week with the same wide-eyed wonder as their young people, having also been denied access to the countryside in this way throughout their own lives. Feedback tells us that the week stimulates bonds between the young people and the accompanying adults that endure in the classroom upon return to school. Others report significant changes to behaviour, emotional reactions, and levels of confidence and engagement. Teachers tell us that children are more curious, courageous, and compassionate because of the week on the farm, and that these character developments permeate the school and family setting when children return home.

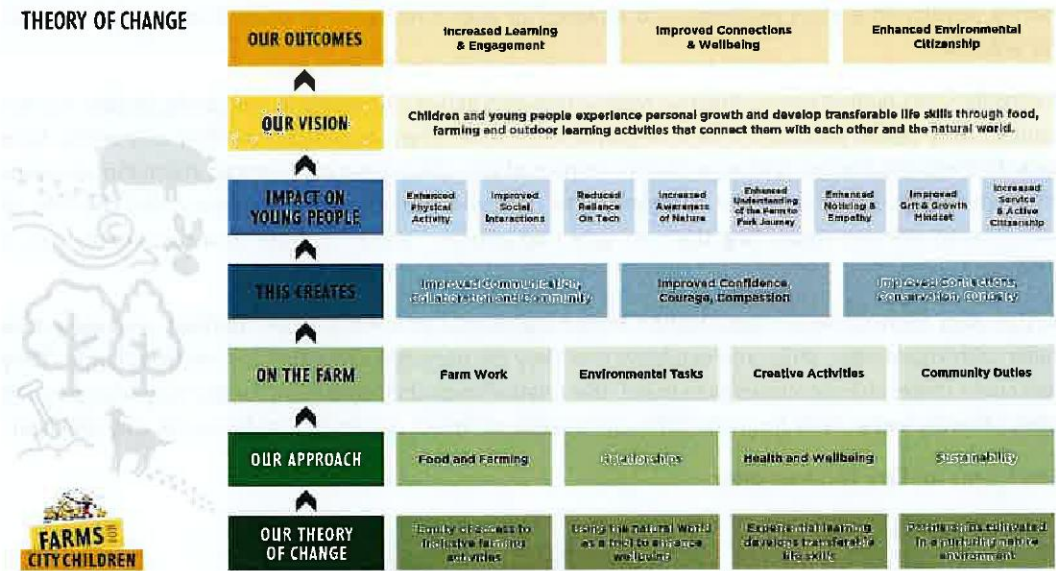
Operating now for 52 weeks a year, in school term and non-term weeks, and subsidising the visits at 50% of the true cost of the week on the farm, we support over 3,000 young people each year to connect meaningfully with the natural world.

We are determined to keep fighting for this equity of access to obliterate the poverty of experience that is currently defining childhood for many millions of children living in the UK.

Farms for City Children Limited

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

Our purposes and activities (continued)



What do children learn?

Days start early on our immersive five-day residential and, whilst the cycle of the seasons and vagaries of the weather ensure that each day is different, there is a reassuring routine and structure to life on the farm.

A combination of physical farm tasks in compassionately tending to the animals and their welfare and maintaining the farms is combined with sowing, harvesting, and cooking tasks that anchor the young person to an understanding of the field > farm > fork journey. This improves food choices, increases the consumption of fresh, locally produced meat, fruit, and vegetables, which can help young people to develop longer term commitments to leading a healthier life.

A renewed focus on nature nurture is delivered through wellbeing activities to induce greater nature connectedness from long biodiversity walks, birdwatching on the coast and the riverside, beekeeping sessions, sustainable arts and crafts, mindfulness sessions, storytelling, poetry, and astronomy. Collaborating on tasks never previously attempted develops courage, confidence, and curiosity.

Children and young people learn to be mindful, empathetic, and to notice their environment. They learn to take responsibility for themselves, each other, and work in harmony with the animals and the land. Free from digital intrusion, their analogue imaginations are liberated, and they enjoy mental health respite from the pressures of a life lived online.

Farms for City Children Limited

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

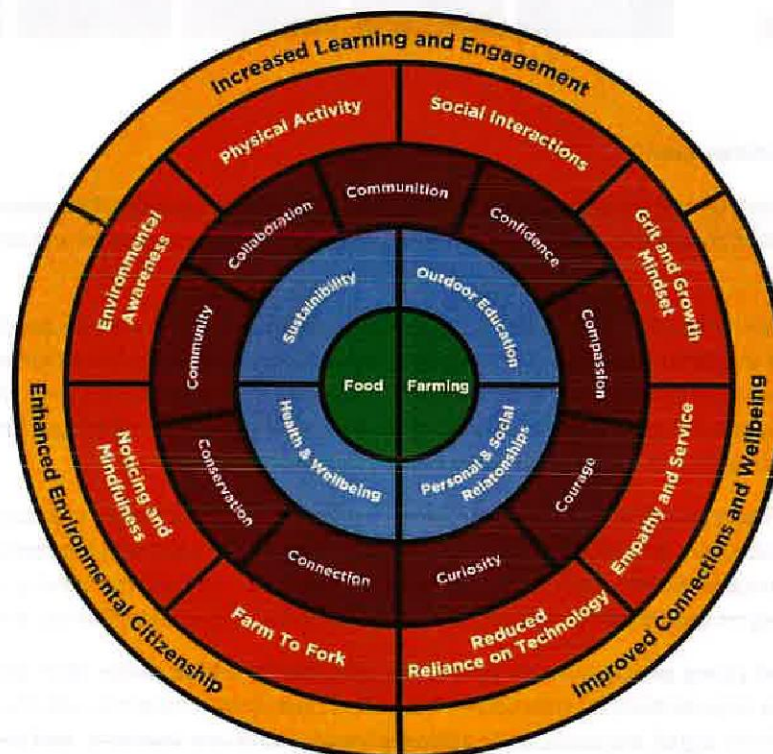
Our purposes and activities (continued)

Being on the farm gives each child or young person that space to just be. With reduced stress levels, increased freedom and more meaningful interactions and connections, young people return home having developed greater resilience and attained an enormous sense of pride from being a "Farmer for a Week."

Farms for City Children knows that our week empowers active citizenship in our young people. Alumni contact us to report that their relationship with nature has been sustained from their visit on the farm as a child into adulthood. We know that the impact of providing these experiences in childhood means that we will give young people the agency to deal with the climate emergency and the loss of biodiversity. We are supporting them to 'grow up greener' and contribute to a sustainable future economy.

In the short term, we know that children and young people return happy and fulfilled, walking a little taller with knowledge, skills, and expertise that they did not have when they set off from home. They will never forget the memories they make, the relationships they cultivated, or the way that they felt about themselves as they flourished through a week of "muck and magic" at Farms for City Children.

The Farms for City Children offer



Our purposes and activities (continued)



The Impact of our offer

INCREASED LEARNING AND ENGAGEMENT

Multiple studies assert that experiencing learning outside of a classroom setting enhances the way that a young person engages. Outdoor learning gives children and young people practical experience of curriculum subjects and enables them to make vital connections between their lessons and real-life scenarios. The breadth, depth, and variety of farming tasks and wellbeing activities during the immersive residential visit, support the school's commitment to improving student engagement, progress, and attainment.

Children exposed to nature score higher on concentration and self-discipline, have greater developed awareness, reasoning and noticing skills, work better collaboratively in teams and show higher levels of empathy and compassion.

Farms for City Children Limited

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

A week on the farm builds resilience and develops a growth mindset as young people encounter completely new challenges that test their perseverance to the limit. The transferable life-skills gained from this week can be leveraged upon return to the classroom environment for months to come.

From applying literacy and numeracy knowledge to real-work problems, to seeing practical applications of STEM subject knowledge in tasks across the farm, children and young people gain an introduction to the world of work through hands on activities where they are responsible for the livestock and each other. They discover aptitudes and talents they did not know they had, and they begin to visualise a future for themselves in employment.

IMPROVED CONNECTIONS AND WELLBEING

One in six children aged five to 16 were identified as having a probable mental health issue in July 2021; a huge increase from one in nine in 2017. That's five children in every classroom.

Children and young people, and the teachers who care for them, need the opportunity to come together outside of the classroom and invest in health, wellbeing, and relationships. The self-esteem built from conquering challenging farm tasks is complemented by the space to be during nature sessions on coastal or biodiversity walks, in natural arts and crafts or from mindfulness sessions together.

The chance to play in nature, to build dens, turn wood, build campfires, and tell stories offers both the children and their teachers a time to decompress from the stresses of life. Reducing the reliance on technology and living off grid for the week liberates the analogue imaginations and children and their teachers talk to each other, invent games, share discoveries, and build connections that change behaviour and engagement upon return to school.

ENHANCED ENVIRONMENTAL CITIZENSHIP

Out of 14 nations surveyed, the UK ranks bottom in Europe for nature connectedness and wellbeing. Evidence shows that people with high levels of nature connectedness enjoy better mental health and are far more likely to live their lives in a more environmentally responsible way. A week at Farms for City Children explicitly teaches young people and their teachers how to be the future stewards of the countryside and how to connect more meaningfully with nature as it exists in their home locations.

Learning about sustainable farming and its links to climate protection, about biodiversity and securing species and habitats, and linking children and young people to where their food comes from, is a key outcome of the work of the charity. Growing, harvesting, preparing, and cooking their own food improves children's food choices, increases consumption of locally sourced fresh products, and highlights the benefits for health around good eating habits. With so many of our children living with food insecurity, there has never been a more important time to connect them to the provenance of what they eat.

As schools are now being challenged to examine their teaching of climate and sustainability in the classroom, the immersive experience of life on the farm can provide compelling and enduring memories that empower young people to be the advocates for their planet tomorrow. Children return with a powerful sense of agency, perceiving themselves as the change they want to see in the world, knowing that even back in the city there are choices they can make to protect our planet.

Farms for City Children Limited

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

Our purposes and activities (continued)

*Teacher from Whitefield Primary School,
Liverpool at Wick Court*

I have been leading residential for 30 years and visited many different places with groups of children. I have never been on a residential which has had such an amazing impact on the children .

It has been incredible to watch all the children's confidence develop in new situations. In particular, it has been fantastic watching certain children who are normally extremely shy offer answers, get stuck in, and come out of their shell .

Teacher from Pembroke Dock Primary School at Lower Treginnis

Farms for City Children Limited

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

Our purposes and activities (continued)

Teacher, Keyham Barton Catholic Primary School, Plymouth

The children are more aware of the world around them, and more appreciative of the nature and animals in general. They were considerate of the farm to fork journey, and recognised the need to care for animals, even when it's not comfortable for themselves.

In London there are trees, but out here is a lot of nature to take in, bushes, hay, trees; it's like opening a nice book and reading it, and every word has a big mouthful of wonderfulness.

Year 5 pupil, Gordrich Community Primary, London

Finding out new things and trying new food and having the confidence to touch and feed animals at Nethercott and Bridgetown and getting to know other people.

Year 6 pupil, Whetstone Primary School, Walsall

I have loved every minute of every day, it has been one of the best weeks of my life. I love Treginnis and I hope I get the opportunity to come again.

Year 6 pupil, St Mellons Primary School, Cardiff

Huge experience, learning how to farm and about the animals, and where our food comes from.

You can do other things that make you happy than go on a screen or use technology.

We understand the food process more and that we have to get dirty and physically do some work

Year 5 pupil, St George and St Teresa Catholic Primary, Solihull

Farms for City Children Limited

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

Achievements and performance

2022-23 was a great year for Farms for City Children. Implementing our new strategy to be operational for 40 weeks at each site has seen a significant increase in our beneficiary numbers. 3,288 children and young people experienced a week of muck and magic on our three farms, along with 620 adult beneficiaries accompanying these young people.

Beneficiaries came from across England and Wales, with significant numbers from London, Birmingham, Plymouth, and Liverpool, and the charity enjoyed visits from community organisations serving diverse groups, some of which included refugee support networks, military families, young carers, and children at risk of county lines crime. We completed the second year of our Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award participants, and we look forward to increasing numbers in this area by adding a second farm to the offer at Wick Court.

In total, 93 schools visited one of our farms in the 2022-23 academic year. They came from 13 English and from 4 Welsh counties and 17 London boroughs. We delivered 96 primary and secondary school residentials, and six one day visits for learners in the Virtual School system. 57 of the schools were loyal returning schools, but we were delighted to add 36 new schools to the charity last year which strengthens our resilience in building our client base to meet the needs of our expanding strategy.

In Wales, six of these new schools were able to make the visit to us through funding support from the Ernest Cook Trust and their Outdoor Week of Learning collaboration. 70% of our young beneficiaries came from major urban areas of extreme deprivation. In fact, over a third of all visits to the charity last year were made by schools in the top 10% most deprived neighbourhoods in England and Wales, and this is testament to the work that we have done to support those schools that need it most to secure the funding that pays for their contribution to the costs of the week.

Our rigorous new Impact and Evaluation process yielded some compelling results for the charity. 99% of all lead teachers reported that their children had an outstanding or good increase in their awareness of the natural world. 95% of teachers reported that there were outstanding or good improvements in children's social connections with each other and the accompanying adults. 97% of teachers said that their children and young people experienced an outstanding or good impact on the levels of physical activity during the week.

98% of lead adults said that the farm visit met or exceeded our pledge to increase learning and engagement. 98% of the adults that visited us told us that we met or exceeded our pledge to improve young people's social connections and well-being and 95% of lead adults said that beneficiaries came away with an enhanced sense of environmental citizenship. These results highlight the significant impact that the charity is having on the lives of the beneficiaries and the teachers who visit us, and that our programme is truly transformative.

Some of the best data from our evaluation came from the children themselves. 93% of all the children and young people who visited said they felt that they were better connected to nature. 84% of them said that they now know where their food comes from. 90% reported being more active than they are ever when at home. And 88% told us that they felt that they had made new friends or got to know existing friends better and that their confidence and self-esteem had improved. We are quite rightly

Farms for City Children Limited

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

proud of these statistics that confirm that our offer is working, and that the charity has a role to play in educating this generation of young people.

We were able to collect volumes of case studies, focus groups, film clips, and surveys in the past year and we have cleansed this data to help us to make modifications to our programme for 2023-24. The powerful piece of research conducted by MRes student Liz Tree, gave us further confirmation of the efficacy of this project. In the research, Liz looked at several variables around children's well-being, their sense of self, their connection to nature, food, and farming, and explored the ways in which our offer can support the development of essential life skills. She conducted the research on site at the farm at Wick Court, and then extended her research into the home schools of beneficiaries to prove the lasting effect of the charities work. We are extremely proud of her conclusions, and we look forward to sharing this research widely in 2024.

Serving older beneficiaries and supporting them with the programme that assists in securing accreditation on curriculum courses, collaborating with more young people with complex and diverse learning needs, and offering up the farms as a solution to the safeguarding issues often experienced during long school holidays through visits from community and youth groups, have all been a great success this year, and we plan to do more of this work in 2024.

Farms for City Children Limited

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Nethercott House

The past year has been a whirlwind of activity, hosting a wide range of groups and individuals, all of whom have contributed to the rich tapestry of experiences that define Nethercott House. We welcomed a total of 40 different groups and we also had the privilege of working alongside 14 Ukrainian refugee families who became an integral part of our special community.

One of the significant developments this year has been the reclamation of land and buildings at Burrow. This expansion has allowed us to embark on numerous firsts. Our first flock of rare breed Whitefaced Dartmoor sheep now proudly graze the land around us, and the newly renovated lambing barn witnessed its first births with visiting children. Having this facility to continue working with the children at night in a barn setting will only add more value to the offer at the farm. Our new herd of rare breed Devon cattle produced two healthy heifer calves, marking another milestone for the farm.

Our Farm Operations Manager has driven significant regenerative change at Nethercott House through his commitment to agroecology and agroforestry projects that will ensure that more harmonious farming practices connect us to our nature stewardship responsibilities. Our commitment to environmental conservation is further evidenced by our partnerships with organizations like The Devon Wildlife Trust and The Woodland Trust. This year, we initiated the hay meadow creation project, spreading seeds in the hope of nurturing a flourishing ecosystem, and we are exploring funded projects in 2024 around decommissioning of our slurry pit with the creation of a wetland area, hedgerows to create nature corridors, and the development of a new orchard space.

Our livestock, including rare breed Large Black pigs, poultry, and equine, have thrived under the care of our dedicated team and visiting children. The addition of Derek the donkey from the Donkey Sanctuary has brought joy and companionship to the farm. The pigs have enjoyed many cycles of breeding this year, much to the delight of the children.

Cooking sessions have been particularly popular, resulting in the production of an impressive 1,150 pasties throughout the year. Each regular pasty uses ingredients which are all sourced from Nethercott and these sessions are led by our Kitchen Manager and her team who turn Nethercott House into the most sumptuous restaurant at every food sitting.

Our beekeeping sessions have flourished thanks to the expertise and generosity of the Okehampton Beekeepers and our wonderful volunteer Pat. 23 Duke of Edinburgh students played a pivotal role in building a dedicated bee shed, complete with an observation hive, setting the stage for future learning, and their week on the farm working towards accreditation for their GOLD award was so successful that we will run two weeks next year.

In August, our dedicated garden volunteers joined us in welcoming the public to our Open Garden, showcasing the beautiful walled garden which is spectacular, and it helps us to feast all year round. It plays a crucial role in educating children about where their food comes from and gives them tools to take home that they can deploy in their own home or school setting in starting their own horticulture projects.

Farms for City Children Limited

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Lower Treginnis

Lower Treginnis Farm has been a hub of activity this year, reflecting the ever-changing rhythms of the seasons and the farm community. From the excitement of children planting pumpkins, to engaging craft sessions and coastal walks, not forgetting the thriving livestock and vibrant flower tunnel, the farm has been a dynamic hub of experiences.

This year the farm has buzzed with the energy of over 1,100 visiting children and over 160 teachers and other accompanying adults. We are really proud to have further developed our commitment to Welsh schools, with a record 10 weeks of bookings this year, in part supported by the Ernest Cook Trust funded Outdoor Week of Learning (OWL) Project and some additional support from our very own Friends of Treginnis. As part of the OWL project, we worked closely with a cluster of 6 schools to address the needs of deprived communities in the Barry area, resulting in a project that brought together almost 200 pupils from both primary and secondary schools together on combined visits to the farm. We also joined them back in their local area to celebrate their achievements in a Festival of Learning showcasing the project for their own local community.

In gardening sessions, the children planted over 1,000 pumpkins resulting in a substantial autumn harvest. Working closely with the support of our local fundraising group The Friends of Treginnis, we opened the farm to local neighbours for a pumpkin patch fundraiser. However, we were sad that our planned annual fete for the local community of St David's had to be cancelled in July because of the horrendous run of bad weather, but we are looking forward to resurrecting this community event in 2024.

The polytunnels have been bursting this year and under the careful stewardship of our Farm School Leader for Horticulture, we have seen a bounty of different produce coming into the kitchen, but also giving the children the experience of preparing fruit and veg for sale to the general public across local food networks and our small onsite farm shop.

Caring for our livestock continues to be a key focus of our daily activities with beneficiaries. This year we have delivered over 600 sessions with our Welsh pigs, milking goats, donkeys and our large flock of laying hens. We have also worked every day alongside our partner farmer next door with his large commercial sheep farm, giving the children and teachers the experience of shepherding, feeding and moving sheep. This year he lambed over 2000 ewes, providing really engaging sessions for our beneficiaries as well as providing the context for powerful discussions with visitors about the provenance of the food they eat, how it is reared, culled, and prepared for sale for a large supermarket chain.

Food, as ever, has been central to our beneficiary experience at Lower Treginnis. Alongside 3 square meals a day, this year we have delivered more than 100 cooking sessions with beneficiaries, with the making of Welsh Cakes being a firm favourite – our visiting children have made over 1400 of them this year!

Farms for City Children Limited

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

We organised over 140 engaging drop-in craft sessions this year in our dedicated classroom space. The craft room is a real place of sanctuary at Lower Treginnis, and children can drop in during free time to decompress from the busy outdoor activities with sessions where they weave willow, paint pebbles, sew, craft, use timber and shells collected from the beach to express themselves through art. These sessions in the craft room, and also outside in the walled garden area around the fire-pit have become firm favourites with the children and visiting adults alike.

All 37 of our school and group bookings were introduced to the wonders of the Pembrokeshire shoreline on coastal walks that provide insight into the beauty and fragility of our stunning coastal environment. Many children visiting the farm this year had never been in the countryside and in many cases, they had never seen the sea. The circular walk and beach visit creates moments for nature observation, surveys, birdwatching, and just taking a moment to perch on the rocks and look out to Ramsey Island, the RSPB conservation zone.

Wick Court

This year we have hosted 31 schools at Wick Court, serving 1,125 children and 173 teachers and group leaders. Seven of those groups were new to the charity. We hosted weeklong residentials from three community groups across the year and welcomed children in the care system, with their carers for a day visit. We also welcomed three local schools on our doorstep for day visits. Beneficiaries experienced a jam-packed programme, including lambing, calving and farrowing, and moved 20 tonnes of woodchip. They have planted 700* trees and weighed 516* pigs and visited our partner farmer 172* times (*approximately).

This year we celebrated 25 years of Farms for City Children at Wick Court. Inviting local people who have been instrumental in the farm's success, with the visiting children of Marsh Hill Primary School, Walsall, hosted a tea party with music, cake and games.

We welcomed four Hereford cows to our herd, joining the Gloucester Cattle and in late August had a beautiful new calf born. We have welcomed a new boar to the farm, replacing the infamous 'Paddy the Daddy' with Sammy. We have removed a large barn and have planning permission for a new one more fit for purpose. The harvest has been successful, and we are working as closely as ever with the Merrett's family on our partner farm. In January we rehomed a Turkey stag that has been spared the fate of Christmas dinner and have hatched several of his chicks, meaning that the children at this farm, and our others, can see the strange but wonderful changes a turkey chick goes through before it reaches maturity.

With thanks to the Halpin Trust we have a shiny new tractor that is better suited to the needs of Wick Court. We have renamed many of the fields and pens on the farm, inspired by titles and individuals that have shaped Wick Court history. At the Dowdeswell Pen, we speak to visitors about the family that owned and farmed the last commercial herd of Gloucester Cattle here, at Percy's Pen we speak to the children about this larger-than-life local character that supported Wick Court.

Farms for City Children Limited

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Our beekeeping season has been particularly successful this year, going from three colonies to eight; harvesting enough honey for the children to experience and for the bees to 'over-winter'. We have a functioning, but still beautifully rustic craft room set up in the space where cider has been pressed for hundreds of years, and we are now working with the fleeces of our own flock of Dorset, Grey-faced Dartmoor, and Ryland sheep.

We are excited to say, that despite a wet winter and a dry spring, we successfully planted 700 trees donated by Gloucestershire County Council and The Woodland Trust. Used as a flagship project, the children managed to plant, mulch and water most of them, and Gloucestershire Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs supported some of the heavier toil. We are grateful to Gloucestershire County Council for their support on this project. We continue to take part in the National Bat Monitoring Programme and a healthy number of bats (110) were counted exiting the building; the vast majority being some of the UK's rarer bats Lesser Horseshoe and Brown Long-Eared bats.

This year we have made some wonderful funding partnerships with local organisations, including Gloucestershire Agricultural House Foundation who purchased some very essential farm equipment. Stonehouse Milk donated 5p for every litre of milk sold between May and July to the charity. Westbury Young Farmers, the Cirencester Quakers and Frampton Church, have also fundraised for us, as have Frampton and Cheltenham WI, Severn Vale Rotary Club, Cheltenham U3A, Stroud 41 Club and various other local generous individual givers. We have refurbished our Apple Pressing and Produce Room, just in time, before the fruit comes in and we have received funding to replace our faulty and essential dishwasher and oven.

In addition to producing and serving over 17,000 delicious meals the kitchen team have worked hard to preserve the glut of fruit and vegetables from the orchards and gardens, producing 270 jams and chutneys to sell throughout the year. Through the support of hard labour in the garden, by staff, volunteers and children, we have achieved a food offer to be proud of, including much of the vegetables coming from our own gardens, and all the meat coming from our farm. In addition, we continue to supply local farm shops and restaurants with meat.

We continue to have the ongoing support of nine weekly volunteers, to whom we are incredibly grateful. We also continue to have our corporate supporters Tyler Grange visit us every other month and we have also had a volunteering work party from Babcock International and the local Rotary Club. We have hosted 8 weeks of work experience students over the course of the year. As well as delivering activities for children we also opened our doors to the local community. We welcomed over 400 people to our Open Farm Event in June and hosted Arlingham Church's Harvest Festival service held outside in a barn. We have been visited by our local MP and worked with the staff and students at the University of Gloucestershire, the Royal Agricultural University and the University of Nottingham. We have attended local shows and markets to represent the work of the charity and we are proud to have been invited to attend the Gloucestershire and District Agricultural Valuers Association 100th Annual Meeting, attended by HRH Princess Royal. We also hosted the annual general meeting of the British Grassland Society alongside our partner farmer and have developed a strong partnership with St James City Farm in central Gloucester, who are doing some innovative community and farming initiatives in one of the most economically deprived parts of the city.

Farms for City Children Limited

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Fundraising

Through its fundraising Farms for City Children subsidises every visit to its farms to ensure affordability and accessibility.

We are extremely grateful to all our supporters who continue to enable children and young people, from some of the most deprived areas of England and Wales, to have good quality access to food, farming, and outdoor learning.

Following on from the previous year, 2022-23 presented a continuing challenging fundraising environment in the wake of the cost-of-living crisis, and overseas conflict and natural disasters. Understanding that there is an ever-increasing demand and competition for finite fundraised income the charity has built its supporter portfolios and has focused on developing its fundraising strategy, growing team capacity and skills, and implementing a robust evaluation process to demonstrate impact.

Recruitment was turbulent throughout the year reflecting experiences of other charities across the country and meaning the charity experienced significant gaps in capacity for much of the year. The key fundraised income streams remain to be, Trusts and Foundations, Individual Giving and Corporate complemented with Community, Major Gifts, Legacy, and In-Memoriam.

Despite reduced capacity the hard-working team raised over £1.4 million to support the cost of visits to the farms for our beneficiaries and capital projects.

Trusts and Foundations

Our fully resourced Trusts and Foundations team stewarded the continued support for children spend a week at one of our farms, from many small to medium grant makers who are integral to our programme each year. The charity received a significant multi-year grant from the Garfield Weston Foundation, welcomed several new partnerships including the Progress Foundation, the Swire Foundation, and the Texel Foundation. The charity successfully delivered its role in the Ernest Cook Trust Outdoor Week of Learning collaboration which enabled 200 young beneficiaries from South and West Wales to spend a week at Lower Treginnis. We are delighted to have been awarded funding for 2023-24 under this programme to continue delivery in Wales and to expand the project to Gloucestershire schools.

Access funding from the Steve Morgan Foundation enabled a group of young people from Liverpool to experience a transformative week at Wick Court and the Adventures Away from Home Fund supported beneficiaries with additional needs from Plymouth to participate in an array of new experiences at Nethercott House. Two key funders, Reta Lila Howard Foundation and the Zephyr Charitable Trust generously supported our Access Fund for schools and groups most in need of additional financial support for their children to visit.

Farms for City Children Limited

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Looking ahead we will maintain the capacity of this team to deliver our established programme, build on existing relationships, seek new partnerships, and work to secure further multi-year grants to aid future planning.

Individual Giving

Once again, our individual giving programme experienced mixed results impacted by a vacancy for several months. The 2022 Big Give Christmas Challenge and 2023 Champions for Children campaigns both exceeded target. However overall, this income line was under budget at year end. Recruitment into this stream of income will bring a revised approach to retaining and growing our individual donors. We will commit to two match funding campaigns in 2023/24 and implement stronger, more regular, and relevant engagement with our supporters.

Corporate

Despite an on-going vacancy in our corporate partnerships programme, this line of income exceeded budget with thanks to a significant donation from Grove End Housing and continuing support from Tesco customers, who voted for the Charity with their blue tokens.

We also enjoyed our partnership with the Bank of Montreal whose employees cycled from Paris to London raising funds along the way for the Charity.

As we move into 2023-24, we will be joined by a new Corporate Fundraising Manager who will continue to build relationships with our valuable existing supporters and will begin our strategic journey to grow corporate support with organisations aligned with Farms for City Children's values and mission.

Legacy

In 2022-23 we partnered with Guardian Angel to raise awareness of the Charity and the difference a legacy could make to our work with young people. Whilst outperforming budget in 2021-22 this income line, being far from predictable, did not meet similar levels this year. We will continue our partnership with Guardian Angel in 2023-24 with the programme stewarded by our new Individual Giving and Legacy Manager.

Community

Much of Farms for City Children community fundraised income is kindly generated by individuals and groups on behalf of the charity. Due to capacity constraints our community fundraising and events programme was not resourced in 2022-23. It is an ambition to build a community fundraising plan that is relevant and encompasses the Farms for City Children team in its widest sense.

Major Donors

We are very grateful to our major donors, several of whom pledged to our match funding campaigns during the year. This is an income stream where capacity has been lacking, however the ambition is to grow our major donor supporter base once new team members are settled in their roles.

Farms for City Children Limited

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

In addition to the above fundraised income streams the team has raised significant funds to deliver numerous capital expenditure projects and we are extremely grateful to the Halpin Trust for funding our much-needed new tractor for Wick Court and the Phoebe Wortley-Talbot Charitable Trust for their generous donation to help open facilities for over-wintering our native cattle at Nethercott House and enabling children to take part in winter evening farming sessions.

Looking ahead we are in a period of strategic growth of our fundraising team capacity and skills, and fundraised income. We acknowledge that the environment will continue to be challenging and that we as a charity, needing to raise significant funds to enable even more children and young people to benefit from food, farming, and outdoor learning activities, must be agile and adaptable whilst remaining true to our strategic direction.

We will utilise the introduction of a Communications Officer supporting fundraising communications to strengthen engagement with supporters and to continually raise the profile of Farms for City Children.

Farms for City Children is proud to be registered with the Fundraising Regulator and applies the principles in the Fundraising Code of Practice. Due to the nature of our work safeguarding is a key aspect in everything that we do, and we make sure that we consider vulnerable people when undertaking fundraising to ensure that they are considered and protected in all that we do. We do not share or sell donors data. We work closely with commercial partners to ensure that they operate to our expected standards. We do not employ third party fundraisers to operate on our behalf.

In the financial year we received no complaints relating to our fundraising activities.

Farms for City Children Limited

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

Financial review

Farms for City Children had an overall surplus of £233,789 in 2022-23 (2022: £305,660), thereby increasing total group reserves to £4,077,024 (2022: £3,843,235). Bookings of residential trips increased on the previous year, and we generated income of £11,920 (2022: £4,000) from day trips and £1,223,704 (2022: £815,671) from residential trips, which includes an amount of £283,127 released from deferred income that had been held back in the event of a potential insurance claim relating to trips cancelled due to the pandemic. The growth in income reflects our strategy of widening beneficiary reach and welcoming children from non-school groups to the farms outside term time.

We typically raise approximately 50% of our income through grants, donations, and legacies, which subsidise the cost of a week at the farm to make it as affordable as possible for all children. Our objective is to increase this figure going forward. The fundraising landscape remains challenging, and we have not had a full fundraising team in place this year. Despite this, income from donations rose to £528,952 (2022: £471,352) but income from legacies decreased to £9,962 (2022: £76,147). We are pleased to report a large increase in income from revenue grants to £692,507 (2022: £494,412) as part of our strategy to forge long term partnerships with funders and seek multi-year grants where possible. We received grants for capital purchases totalling £59,924 (2022: £11,000). The funds from the Halpin Trust, the Exeter Foundation, and the Rowlands Trust enabled us to purchase a new tractor, cooker, and dishwasher at Wick Court and a bee shed at Nethercott House. Funds from the NFU Mutual Charitable Trust and the Phoebe Wortley Talbot Charitable Trust will go towards farming projects next year.

Commercial trading activity was increased in the year, and this was operated through the wholly owned trading subsidiary, FFCC Enterprises Ltd. We took the decision to let the farms on a commercial basis for selected weeks throughout the year which we were unable to fill with schools or non-school groups. This generated income of £11,219 (2022: £nil) in the year and we plan to grow this income stream next year. Rent received from partner farms decreased to £9,819 (2022: £18,519) as the Farming Business Tenancy with the Oldbury Partnership at Wick Court ended in 2022.

Income from the Rural Payments Agency decreased in the year to £5,455 (2022: £16,269) due to the sale of the land at Wick Court in January 2022. Just over 90 acres was sold which was a significant proportion of our Higher-Level Stewardship Agreement and was also included in the Basic Payment Scheme claim, resulting in a lower claim this year.

Investment income was £13,485 (2022: £1,131) and this reflects a new strategy to actively manage cash deposits for higher returns which has been aided by the increase in interest rates.

Premises and other operating costs have increased this year and we have been particularly hit by rises in utilities and agricultural feed. We expanded our farming offer at Nethercott House with the introduction of cattle. We operate a rolling programme of maintenance and repair of our heritage properties and have seen cost increases due to rises in inflation.

Farms for City Children Limited

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

Financial review (continued)

Investment powers and policy

The Trustees, having regard to the liquidity requirements of running Farms for City Children, have kept available funds in several interest-bearing deposit accounts and seek to achieve a rate on deposit which matches or exceeds inflation as measured by the retail prices index.

Reserves policy

At 31 August 2023, the free reserves of the group (unrestricted reserves less unrestricted fixed assets) stood at £889,715 (2022: £767,580). This represents 3.5 months' operating costs. Reserves restricted in their use at 31 August 2023 amounted to £2,623,454 (2022: £2,561,092).

In the long term, the Trustees believe that excessive levels of free reserves (see Note 22) are unjustified. However, considering the financial challenges presented by the Covid-19 pandemic, the Trustees made a commitment to grow free reserves over a 5-year period to be equivalent to 6 months' operating costs. This will ensure the Charity can better meet the needs of its beneficiaries during periods of economic uncertainty and be resilient in the face of external shocks.

Going concern

The cost-of-living crisis and high rate of inflation continue to adversely impact our beneficiaries. Schools are grappling with enormous energy bills and other rising costs and enrichment visits are not at the top of school agendas. Sadly, some schools have cancelled upcoming visits, and we are looking at ways to offer more financial help to enable the children who most need a week in wellies to visit a farm.

It is vital that we continue to reach out to new schools and non-school groups to widen our beneficiary reach and ensure that we have visitors at the farms every week and we worked with 36 new schools in the year. In addition, our partnerships with the Ernest Cook Trust and the Gosling Foundation have enabled us to reach out to many new schools and these partnerships will continue next year.

The Senior Leadership Team and Board of Trustees are in the process of developing a 3-year business plan which encompasses investment in the fundraising team for future income growth, new strands of income generation, marketing & communications, a programme of maintenance & repairs at the three farms and a review of procurement. Once this work is completed, we are confident that the charity will be financially and operationally sustainable. The Trustees therefore believe it is appropriate to prepare the Financial Statements on the going concern basis.

Farms for City Children Limited

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

Plans for future periods

The charity enters 2024 with a sense of great hope and optimism. Our three-year strategic business plan 2024 to 2027 will come into effect which sees the charity project ambitions for a more sustainable financial future and a renewed commitment to inclusion by maintaining year-round operations that welcome increasingly diverse beneficiaries to experience our offer.

A core element of our business plan is growth in our fundraising team. 2024 will see us diversify income streams through developing expertise in our team from fundraisers seeking to secure donations from varied pipelines. Expert stewardship of our existing individual donors, corporate funders, and our very significant portfolio of loyal and generous Trusts and Foundations, continues to be a strategic priority for the charity, and we look forward to continuing to nurture those existing relationships and to welcome new multi-year funders to our family.

Building upon the significant partnerships cultivated in 2023, the charity looks forward to the continuation of key relationships that generate projects resulting in increased bookings, income from funding opportunities, sector-wide campaigning relationships that give Farms for City Children a voice at the table of issues involving education, young people's health and well-being, nature connectedness and environmental issues, diversity and inclusion, and food, farming, and outdoor learning lobbying to effect profound change in our sector.

These partnerships will yield some exciting and highly anticipated events in 2024, commencing with Farms for City Children's first ever speaking invitation at the Oxford Farming Conference in January 2024. Contributing to a panel discussion around enhancing equity, diversity and inclusion in the agricultural sector will no doubt be a highlight of our calendar and we hope to share with the wider sector how our charity is part of a solution to diversifying new entrants into this profession by drawing on our multi-ethnic and multi-cultural beneficiary groups and welcoming young people from non-rural environments. We eagerly anticipate events that showcase the power of partnership, endorsed by HRH Princess Royal, to be held at the Butchers Hall with the support of the Worshipful Company of Butchers livery in June 2024. Bringing together our schools, teachers, children and young people, funders, donors, and strategic partners, we hope that this event will spotlight how much can be achieved when people come together and build alignment around a mission.

Farms for City Children will continue to refine, develop, and seek out new project opportunities in 2024 particularly around strategic, geographic areas of deprivation along the M5 corridor. 2023 was a year when the OWL (Outdoor Week of Learning) programme funding from the Ernest Cook Trust supported a large cluster of schools from the Barry area in Wales to enjoy a week on the farm in Lower Treginnis. We were delighted when we were selected to repeat this in 2024, but also now welcome a second farm site to the programme by funding deprived children from the Gloucester area to have a week at Wick Court. Additionally, funding from the Gosling Foundation will support a project in the Gosport area working specifically with young people from military families educated in the local area. In Devon, the collaboration between funders in Plymouth, most notably Plymouth Children in Poverty (PCiP), will deliver multiple weeks for young people living in the area experiencing extreme levels of economic deprivation. Considering accessible transport routes to all three of our farms has driven us

Farms for City Children Limited

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

Plans for future periods (continued)

to target locations in the Midlands for 2024 where the multiple indices of deprivation informs us that children are navigating their young lives with the most pressing need. Target areas for 2024 include Birmingham, Stoke-on-Trent, Liverpool, Rochdale, and Bury.

We will continue to participate in multiple lobbying campaigns around equitable access to the countryside, to the Nature Premium ring-fenced funding that will ensure all schools are funded to enjoy our offer, and to debates around diversifying employment opportunities in the agricultural sector. We have gained much traction through webinars and podcasts, through media appearances on TV and on the radio, and through articles in the print media but there is still far more to do. The charity looks forward to working with our Patrons and Ambassadors, and to welcoming even more Ambassadors speaking about issues connected to the charity's offer. Our plans to develop our website, increase social media traffic by refining our communications on our social platforms, working with a film producer and documentary maker on a project to celebrate the work of the charity, and starting to formulate plans for our 50th anniversary celebration in 2026 are all strategic priorities for 2024.

As bookings at the farms continue to improve each year, our 120 bookings weeks target is most certainly in sight for 2024. Our rich beneficiary group has flourished and we now welcome primary schools, secondary schools, post 16 colleges with young people working towards accreditation and farming, animal care, land management and catering, and our wonderful, vibrant community groups who visit us in non-term weeks, combine to make up a service group that we can be extremely proud of. Having supported almost 3500 young people in 2023, our ambition is to exceed that number next year, always being anchored by our commitment to finding the young people who need our offer the most.

And finally, one of the most exciting of our strategic priorities for 2024 is to move forward with the project at The Burrow, Nethercott House in Devon. Having taken back a portion of land that was once leased to a local farmer, the charity has begun a sustainable and environmentally innovative land management project that is already garnering significant attention from local and national wildlife, conservation and environmental groups. Our plans to redevelop derelict heritage buildings to create a centre of operations for the charity and a new Head Office is complemented by even more ambitious plans for pioneering agroforestry and agroecology initiatives that will see the land transformed from heavily farmed acreage to a sustainable, regenerative farming for change site that will increase biodiversity, improve the soil, enhance the habitat, and protect rare heritage breeds.

2024 will commence with a Trustee recruitment process as we look to welcome four new Trustees with expertise in education and outdoor learning, marketing, and fundraising, farming, and legal work to build upon capacity in our existing Trustee board. The SLT and teams across the farms look forward to collaborating with our Trustees to drive forward the business plan and to work together to ensure that Farms for City Children continues to go from strength to strength with each passing year.

Farms for City Children Limited

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Farms for City Children Limited is a registered charity (No 325120) and a company (No 01177239) limited by guarantee. The governing document of Farms for City Children Limited is its Articles of Association dated 13th July 2021. The company was incorporated on 12 July 1974 and registered as a charity on 6 November 1974. The Trustees of the Charitable Company guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the Charity in the event of winding up.

Appointment, induction, and training of trustees

Trustees are recruited for their expertise, experience, and skills in a variety of relevant fields. All Trustees undertake a skills audit, and any gaps in skills are proactively considered in recruiting new Trustees. Prospective Trustees are interviewed by a nominations committee made up of the Chair of the Board and two other Trustees. Their appointment is dependent on a unanimous election by the Board. New Trustees are provided with an induction pack of reading material and an induction plan to assist them in familiarising themselves with the work, value, and ethos of the Charity. Trustees are encouraged to visit all three of the farms, and to attend any relevant events alongside their attendance at quarterly meetings. Board wide training is arranged as required. Trustees serve a 3-year term and are eligible for two further 3-year terms up to a maximum of 9 years. As Founders, Sir Michael and Lady Morpurgo are not subject to a maximum term of office as Trustees. Three trustees stepped down in 2023 – Laura Reynolds, Peter Pantlin and Justin Albert – and we thank them for their service to the charity. We are in the process of recruiting new trustees to the board and have already recruited a trustee with responsibility for finance, Mary Trussell.

The Trustee Board uses the Charity Governance Code as the basis for the development of the Charity's governance structures and ongoing monitoring of its governance systems and processes. The Board of Trustees undergo regular training and professional development to ensure they remain abreast of current developments, changes in statutes and best practice.

Organisation

The Trustees determine the strategic direction of the Charity and delegate responsibility for the day-to-day management and operation to the Chief Executive and Senior Leadership Team, consisting of the Head of Fundraising, Head of Operations and Head of Finance & Resources, with support from the Senior Management Team consisting of the Partnerships Manager, Finance Manager, Farm School Managers and Farm Operations Managers.

The Trustees ensure the accuracy and timeliness of all financial reporting information through the Finance & Resources Committee, which reviews all financial information and progress on income generation and fundraising strategies. The Finance & Resources Committee, which meets on a quarterly basis, develops, and monitors the Charity's Financial Procedures and Risk Register.

Farms for City Children Limited

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

Structure, Governance and Management (continued)

In addition, it reviews operational risks in relation to employment issues as well as keeping abreast of changes in employment law and developing relevant policies. The Finance & Resources Committee also reviews the Health & Safety Policy prior to consideration and approval by the full Board.

The Board routinely meets on a quarterly basis to review the Charity's performance, consider the financial reports and reports from the Senior Leadership Team and Senior Management Team, and to decide other matters of governance and policy, as advised by the Chief Executive.

There are four sites: three farms – Nethercott House, Lower Treginnis and Wick Court – and Head Office at Huxham Barns. The Senior Leadership Team are based at Huxham Barns near Exeter, with Head Office providing a central legal, IT, finance, and human resources function across the Charity, as well as leading on Charity-wide policy including Health & Safety, overseeing large capital projects, and providing the fundraising and marketing function. There is a hybrid working model in place for the Head Office team that meets the needs of the Charity and the employees. Each farm is managed by the Farm School Manager with the support of a Farm Operations Manager and a team of staff who provide the activities for the children, manage the accommodation, and care for the livestock.

Related parties and co-operation with other organisations

None of our Trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work as Trustees with the Charity. Related party relationships are monitored, and a Trustees' Register of Interests maintained and checked annually. Any updates to the Register of Interests or potential conflicts due to the items shown on the agenda are recorded at the start of every Board meeting.

Pay policy for senior staff

The Directors, who are the Charity's Trustees, consider themselves, the Senior Leadership Team, and the Farm School Managers to be the key management personnel in charge of directing and controlling, running, and operating the Charity on a day-to-day basis. All Directors give of their time freely and no Director received remuneration for being a Director/Trustee in the year. Details of related party transactions are disclosed in note 14 to the accounts.

The Finance & Resources Committee meet in the Spring to review all salaries, including those of the Chief Executive and Senior Leadership Team. In their decisions they are informed by the recommendations of the Chief Executive (except in the case of their own salary) and by the Charity's pay policy and scales, which are benchmarked and reviewed every three years.

Farms for City Children Limited

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

Structure, Governance and Management (continued)

Risk management

The Trustees review the objectives, services, management, and funding of the organisation as part of an ongoing planning and review process. The Finance & Resources Committee reviews the risk process, reviewing the Risk Register quarterly. There are also routes for any additional areas of concern highlighted through routine reports or arising through changes in external circumstances, new activities, or changes in the law. The risk is assessed, and any further action is identified, and parameters are agreed. The Senior Leadership Team assesses day to day risks using the Risk Register as a management tool to ensure the constant mitigation of potential risks.

The Trustees have reviewed the major risks that could impact on Farms for City Children. These are:

Risk	Mitigation
Financial: The charity relies heavily on two primary sources of income: payments from visiting school groups, and charitable donations.	Board focus, investment in fundraising, marketing & communications, diversification of income including commercial lettings, increased number of operating weeks and diversification of beneficiary groups.
Cost of Living Crisis: Parents and schools may be unable to afford a residential visit.	Exploring ways of offering more Access Funds to reduce the cost of a farm visit for the children most in need.
Inflation: Utilities, food and other costs are impacted by the high inflation rate.	Board focus, regular reforecasts, and review of costs, putting on hold any non-essential expenditure.
Health and Safety: There are considerable health & safety risks associated with farming and with children working in a farm environment.	Continuing good practice in terms of children working on a farm, work with health & safety advisers NFU, who audit our practice annually, provide annual action plans and provide an on-call service.
Child protection and safeguarding: There are inherent child protection and safeguarding risks in any residential setting.	Every school group is accompanied by at least 4 members of staff from their own school who remain in loco parentis throughout the day, all staff have an up-to-date DBS check, participate in safeguarding training to the appropriate level and are regularly made aware of the Charity's child protection and safeguarding policy, including the disclosure procedure. The Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy remains under annual review and is updated, as necessary.

Farms for City Children Limited

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the Financial Statements

The Trustees (who are also the Directors of the Farms for City Children Limited for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing a Trustees' Annual 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 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 for that period. In preparing the Financial Statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK 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 Farms for City Children will continue in business.

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

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on Farms for City Children's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of Financial Statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Statement as to disclosure to our auditors

In so far as the Trustees are aware at the time of approving our Trustees' Annual Report:

- there is no relevant information, being information needed by the auditor in connection with preparing their report, of which Farms for City Children's auditor is unaware, and
- the Trustees, having made enquiries of fellow Trustees and Farms for City Children's auditor that they ought to have individually taken, have each taken all steps that he/she is obliged to take as a Trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.



By order of the Board of Trustees
Rachel Goult (Chair)

17 April 2024

Farms for City Children Limited

Independent Auditor's report to the Members of Farms for City Children Limited for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

Opinion

We have audited the Financial Statements of Farms for City Children Limited "the charitable parent company" and its subsidiaries (the "group") for the year ended 31 August 2023, which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities (including the Income and Expenditure Account), the Consolidated Balance Sheet, Balance Sheet, Consolidated Cash Flow Statement and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and parent charity's affairs as at 31 August 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources profit for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the Financial Statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Trustees (who are also the Directors of

Farms for City Children Limited

Independent Auditor's report to the Members of Farms for City Children Limited for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the other information. 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.

In connection with our audit of the Financial Statements 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 audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the Financial Statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' report, which includes the Directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the Financial Statements are prepared is consistent with the Financial Statements; and
- the Directors' report included within the Trustees' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and the parent charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Directors' report included within the Trustees' report.

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or 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
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 17, 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

Farms for City Children Limited

Independent Auditor's report to the Members of Farms for City Children Limited for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

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:

As part of our audit planning we obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that is applicable to the group and the sector in which it operates. The key laws and regulations we identified were group legislation and regulations in relation to health and safety (RIDDOR) and data protection (GDPR).

We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements, primarily the Companies Act 2006.

We discussed with management how compliance with these laws and regulations is monitored and discussed policies and procedures in place. We also identified the individuals who have responsibility for ensuring that the group complies with laws and regulations and deals with reporting any issues if they arise.

Based on this understanding we designed our audit procedures to identify non-compliance with such laws and regulations. Our procedures involved the following: -

- Enquiries of management and those charged with governance regarding their knowledge of any non-compliance with laws and regulations that could affect the financial statements;
- Review of any health and safety incidents which have been reported under The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013 ("RIDDOR") during the period;

Farms for City Children Limited

Independent Auditor's report to the Members of Farms for City Children Limited for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

- Review of the charitable company and group's controls in relation to GDPR, Safeguarding and Environmental Stewardship and enquiries to Senior Management as to the occurrence and outcome of any reportable breaches;
- Reviewing legal and professional costs to identify any possible non-compliance or legal costs in respect of non compliance;
- Reviewing Trustees' meeting minutes;

As part of our enquiries, we discussed with management whether there have been any known instances, allegations or suspicions of fraud.

We evaluated the risk of fraud through management override including that arising from management incentives. The key risks we identified were management bias in accounting judgements and estimates. We also evaluated the risk of fraud through misappropriation of income or misapplication of grant funding.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Statements (continued)

In response to the identified risk, as part of our audit work we:

- Confirmed on a sample basis that expenditure was properly authorised and made in accordance with the terms of the relevant fund;
- Used data analytics to test journal entries throughout the year for appropriateness;
- Reviewed estimates and judgements made in the accounts for any indication of bias and challenged assumptions used by management in making estimates.
- Reviewed financial statement disclosures and examined relevant supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

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. This risk increases the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements as we are less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment, 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.

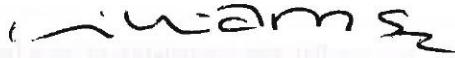
Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable parent 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 group 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

Farms for City Children Limited

Independent Auditor's report to the Members of Farms for City Children Limited for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

responsibility to anyone other than the charitable parent company and its members as a body for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Catherine Williams FCA DChA

Senior Statutory Auditor

For and on behalf of

Westcotts (SW) LLP

47 Boutport Street

Barnstaple

Devon

EX31 1SQ

Date: 7th May 2024

Farms for City Children Limited
Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities
(including consolidated Income and Expenditure Account)
for the year ending 31 August 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Income					
<i>Donations and legacies</i>					
Donations and legacies	3	447,629	91,285	538,914	547,499
<i>Income from charitable activities:</i>					
Charitable activities	4	1,529,464	491,245	2,020,709	1,357,599
<i>Income from other trading activities:</i>					
Trading operations	5	53,791	-	53,791	46,970
Investment income	6	13,485	-	13,485	1,131
Other income		-	-	-	3,537
Total income		2,044,369	582,530	2,626,899	1,956,736
Expenditure					
<i>Costs of raising funds:</i>					
Trading operations		25,517	-	25,517	24,330
Fundraising support costs		213,021	-	213,021	214,325
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities:</i>					
Charitable activities	7	1,648,404	520,168	2,168,572	1,948,018
Total expenditure		1,886,942	520,168	2,407,110	2,186,673
Gain/(loss) on sale of fixed assets		14,000	-	14,000	535,597
Net (expenditure)/income and net movement in funds for the year	9	171,427	62,362	233,789	305,660
Reconciliation of funds					
Total Funds brought forward		1,282,143	2,561,092	3,843,235	3,537,575
Total funds carried forward		1,453,570	2,623,454	4,077,024	3,843,235

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The prior year Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities is provided in note 27.

The notes on pages 35 to 55 form an integral part of the Financial Statements.

Farms for City Children Limited
Consolidated Balance Sheet
as at 31 August 2023

	Note	Group 2023 £	Group 2022 £	Charity 2023 £	Charity 2022 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	17	2,931,167	2,911,128	2,931,167	2,911,128
Investment	10	-	-	1	6,097
Total Fixed Assets		2,931,167	2,911,128	2,931,168	2,917,225
Current assets					
Stock	18	49,824	47,307	40,546	47,307
Debtors	19	152,687	194,890	165,835	194,890
Cash at bank and in hand	20	1,480,676	1,458,716	1,425,949	1,432,207
Total Current Assets		1,683,187	1,700,913	1,632,330	1,674,404
Liabilities					
Creditors falling due within one year	21	(537,330)	(768,806)	(530,744)	(767,807)
Net Current assets		1,145,857	932,107	1,101,586	906,597
Net assets		4,077,024	3,843,235	4,032,754	3,823,822
The funds of the Group:					
Unrestricted funds	22	1,453,570	1,282,143	1,409,300	1,262,730
Restricted funds		2,623,454	2,561,092	2,623,454	2,561,092
Total group funds		4,077,024	3,843,235	4,032,754	3,823,822

The trustees have prepared group accounts in accordance with section 398 of the Companies Act 2006 and section 138 of the Charities Act 2011. These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act relating to small companies and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006 and are for circulation to members of the company.

These financial statements were approved by the members of the Board authorised for issue on the 17th April 2024 and are signed on their behalf by:

Signed



Rachel Goult, Chair of Board on behalf of the Trustees

The notes on pages 35 to 55 form an integral part of the Financial Statements.

Farms for City Children Limited
Statement of Cash Flows and Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows
for year ending 31 August 2023

	Note	Group 2023 £	Group 2022 £	Charity 2023 £	Charity 2022 £
Cash generated by/(used in) operating activities	25	101,908	(84,771)	67,595	(84,739)
Cash flows (used in)/generated by investing activities					
Interest income		13,485	1,131	13,485	1,131
Repayment of investment from FFCC Enterprises Ltd		-	-	6,095	-
Sale of tangible fixed assets		14,000	645,200	14,000	645,200
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(107,433)	(94,538)	(107,433)	(94,538)
Cash (used in) investing activities		(79,948)	551,793	(73,853)	551,793
Cash (used) in financing activities					
Repayment of bank borrowings (CBIL)		-	(321,294)	-	(321,294)
Cash (used in) financing activities		-	(321,294)	-	(321,294)
Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents in the year		21,960	145,728	(6,258)	145,760
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		1,458,716	1,312,988	1,432,207	1,286,447
Total cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		1,480,676	1,458,716	1,425,949	1,432,207

The notes at pages 35 to 55 form an integral part of the Financial Statements.

Farms for City Children Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 August 2023

1. Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the Financial Statements are as follows:

a) Basis of preparation

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 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Farms for City Children meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

The Financial Statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

b) Group financial statements

The financial statements consolidate the accounts of the charity Farms for City Children Ltd, company number 01177239, and its wholly owned subsidiary FFCC Enterprises Ltd, company number 03804473, on a line-by-line basis. A separate Statement of Financial Activities and Income and Expenditure account for the Charity has not been presented because the Charity has taken advantage of the exemption afforded by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006. The surplus for the Charity for the year was £208,933.

c) Reconciliation with previous Generally Accepted Accounting Practice

In preparing the accounts, the Trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 the restatement of comparative items is required.

d) Judgements and key accounting estimates

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Farms for City Children Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 August 2023 *(continued)*

1. Accounting Policies (continued)

Significant judgements

The judgements (apart from those involving estimations) that management has made in the process of applying the entity's accounting policies and that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements are as follows:

- Determination of whether there are indicators of impairment of the Charity's tangible fixed assets. Factors taken into consideration in reaching such a decision include the economic viability and expected future financial performance or charitable use of the asset.
- Determination of whether leases entered into by the Charity as lessee are operating or finance leases. These decisions depend on an assessment of whether the risks and rewards of ownership have been transferred from the lessor to the lessee on a lease-by-lease basis.
- Determination of recoverability of trade debtors. A specific provision is made against certain debts where in the opinion of the Trustees the debt is not fully recoverable.

e) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

As explained in the Trustees' Annual Report, the Trustees have approved a detailed budget for 2023-24, based on the all-year round operating model with plans for investment in fundraising for future income growth. Having taken into consideration the availability of cash and the level of forecast reserves the Trustees believe it is appropriate to prepare the Financial Statements on the going concern basis.

f) Income recognition policies

Items of income are recognised and included in the accounts when all of the following criteria are met:

- the Charity has entitlement to the funds;
- any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met or are fully within the control of the Charity;
- there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable; and
- the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from residential visits is accounted for when a school visits one of the charity's three farms. Payments received in advance of the visit are deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

Other trading activities are accounted for in the accounting period to which the income relates.

Farms for City Children Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

1. Accounting Policies (continued)

g) Donated services and facilities

Donated services or facilities are recognised as income when the Charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the Charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. On receipt, donated services and facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the Charity which is the amount the Charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt. The value of goods and services donated in kind in the year and included in donations is £8,260 (2022: £23,955).

h) 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 Bank.

i) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the Charity. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the Charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the Charity.

j) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprise the costs of trading and their associated support costs and fundraising support costs.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of the provision of services and activities undertaken to further the purposes of the Charity and their associated support costs.
- Farms for City Children is not registered for VAT and cannot recover VAT on any of its purchases. Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

Farms for City Children Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 August 2023 *(continued)*

1. Accounting Policies *(continued)*

k) Allocation of support costs

Support costs relate to those functions that assist the Charity's work but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back-office costs, finance, HR, payroll and governance costs which support the work of the Charity. The bases on which support costs have been allocated are set out in note 8.

l) Operating leases

The Charity classifies the lease of printing equipment as an operating lease; the title to the equipment remains with the lessor and the equipment is replaced every 5 years whilst the economic life of such equipment is normally 10 years. Rental charges are charged on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

The Charity leases offices at Huxham Barns, Huxham, Exeter and this is classified as an operating lease.

The Charity leases land from the National Trust at Lower Treginnis with a rolling notice period of 12 months which is also classified as an operating lease.

The Charity classifies the letting of land at Nethercott House, Lower Treginnis and Wick Court under Farming Business Tenancy agreements as operating leases; the title to the land remains with the charity as lessor. All agreements currently have an end date of 31 August 2026, but either party to each lease may terminate the lease by giving 12 months' notice. The total annual rent receivable is £9,819 (2022: £18,519).

Farms for City Children Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

1. Accounting Policies (continued)

m) Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset over its expected useful economic life, as follows:

Asset Category	Depreciation Rate
Freehold buildings and improvements	
Nethercott House	50 years
Leasehold improvements	
Lower Treginnis	60 years
Wick Court	99 years
Plant and machinery	5 to 25 years
Furniture and equipment	5 years

Freehold land is not depreciated.

Donated fixed assets are recognised at fair value which is the amount the Charity would have been willing to pay for the items on the open market.

Assets with a value below £2,000 or a life span of less than 1 year are not capitalised within the Financial Statements but expensed to the SOFA.

n) Stock

Trading stock is included at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Net realisable value is based on selling price less any future costs expected to be incurred to completion and disposal.

Animal stocks are included at deemed cost or net realisable value. Feed and resale stock is included at cost.

o) Debtors

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

p) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash 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.

Farms for City Children Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

1. Accounting Policies (continued)

q) Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

r) 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. The financing charge to expenditure is at a constant rate calculated using the effective interest method.

s) Pensions

The Charity contributes to an auto enrolment compliant group money purchase defined contribution pension scheme operated by NEST. New and existing employees are automatically enrolled into the money purchase scheme unless they have exercised their right to opt out of scheme membership.

Employees joining the money purchase pension scheme operated by NEST contract directly with the insurance company. The Charity makes a matching contribution of 6% (2022: 6%) of salary to this pension scheme and acts as agent in collecting and paying over employee pension contributions.

2. Legal status of the Charity

Farms for City Children is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England & Wales, and has no share capital. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the Charity.

The registered office address is Unit 2, Huxham Barns, Huxham, Exeter, EX5 4EJ.

Farms for City Children Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Donations	437,667	91,285	528,952	471,352
Legacies	9,962	-	9,962	76,147
	447,629	91,285	538,914	547,499

Income from donations includes Gift Aid. From time to time Farms for City Children benefits from the involvement and support of volunteers. In accordance with accounting standards, the economic contribution of general volunteers is not recognised in the accounts. Included in unrestricted donations is an amount £8,260 (2022: £23,955) which is the economic value of goods donated in kind.

4. Income from Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Residential visits	1,223,704	-	1,223,704	815,671
Day visits	11,920	-	11,920	4,000
Grants – revenue	261,186	431,321	692,507	494,412
Grants - capital	-	59,924	59,924	11,000
Farm produce sales	17,562	-	17,562	10,589
Farm livestock sales	9,637	-	9,637	5,658
Rural Payments Agency grants	5,455	-	5,455	16,269
	1,529,464	491,245	2,020,709	1,357,599

Farms for City Children Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

5. Income earned from trading activities

The wholly owned trading subsidiary FFCC Enterprises Ltd is incorporated in the United Kingdom (company number 03804473) and pays all of its profits to the Charity under the gift aid scheme. FFCC Enterprises income arises from short term letting of residential accommodation on the farms and the sale of gifts, books, and cards. In the year ending 31 August 2022, this income was received in the Charity as the trading subsidiary was dormant.

A summary of the trading results is shown below.

	2023	2022
	£	£
Rent received	9,819	18,519
Holiday lets	11,219	-
Sales of gifts, books and cards	29,051	26,973
Miscellaneous income	3,702	1,478
	<u>53,791</u>	<u>46,970</u>

The summary financial performance of the subsidiary alone is:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Turnover	40,270	-
Cost of sales & administration costs	(15,417)	(34)
Net profit/(loss)	<u>24,853</u>	<u>(34)</u>
Amount gift aided to the Charity	-	-
Retained in subsidiary	<u>24,853</u>	<u>(34)</u>

The assets and liabilities of the subsidiary were:

Current assets	64,001	26,509
Current liabilities	<u>(19,734)</u>	<u>(7,096)</u>
Total net assets	<u>44,267</u>	<u>19,413</u>

Aggregate share capital & reserves	<u>44,267</u>	<u>19,413</u>
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6. Investment income

All of the group's investment income arises from money held in interest bearing deposit accounts.

Farms for City Children Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 August 2023

7. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	2023	2022
	£	£
<i>Operation of farms</i>		
Livestock purchases & produce costs	18,968	3,367
Staff costs	1,101,613	1,020,384
Premises costs	310,802	263,937
Other operating costs	214,056	153,273
Depreciation	87,394	78,878
<i>Support costs (see note 8)</i>		
Staff costs	302,860	271,515
Other costs	87,665	110,236
<i>Governance costs (see note 8)</i>		
Audit & accountancy	12,600	9,600
Board costs	3,169	2,715
Staff costs	29,445	34,113
	2,168,572	1,948,018

Of the £2,154,572 expenditure in 2022-23 (2022: £1,948,018), £1,634,404 was charged to unrestricted funds (2022: £1,601,771) and £520,168 to restricted funds (2022: £346,247).

Farms for City Children Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

8. Analysis of governance and support costs

Farms for City Children initially identifies the costs of its support functions. It then identifies those costs which relate to the governance function. Having identified its governance costs, the remaining support costs together with the governance costs are apportioned between the key charitable activities undertaken (see note 7) in the year. Refer to the table below for the basis for apportionment and the analysis of support and governance costs.

	Analysis of support and governance costs				Basis of apportionment
	General support	Governance function	Total 2023	Total 2022	
	£	£	£	£	
Salaries, wages & related costs	302,860	29,445	332,305	305,628	Staff time
General office costs	80,822	3,169	83,991	84,954	Direct
Legal fees	6,843	-	6,843	27,997	Direct
Audit & tax fees	-	12,600	12,600	9,600	Direct
Total	390,525	45,214	435,739	428,179	

9. Net income/(expenditure) for the year

	2023	2022
	£	£
This is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Operating leases – equipment	29,100	39,221
Depreciation	87,394	78,878
(Profit)/Loss on disposal of fixed assets	(14,000)	(528,910)
Audit & tax fees	12,600	9,600

10. Investments

The Charity owns the sole £1 share issued by FFCC Enterprises Limited (registration number 03804473) which was incorporated to operate the charity's trading activities and began trading again from 1 September 2022 following a period when it was dormant. The registered office of FFCC Enterprises Limited is the same as that of Farms for City Children shown in the Trustees' Report. The activities and results of this company are summarised in note 5. Related party transactions are excluded as they are eliminated on consolidation.

Farms for City Children Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

11. Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

	2023	2022
	£	£
Salaries and wages	1,367,671	1,302,455
Social security costs	120,416	119,148
Pension costs	77,181	64,453
Other employee benefits	-	100
Other wages costs (including subcontractors & recruitment)	63,352	42,147
	1,628,620	1,528,303

One employee had employee benefits in excess of £60,000 and in band £70,000 to £80,000 (2022: 0). Pension costs are allocated to activities in proportion to the related staffing costs incurred. There were no redundancy or termination costs in the year (2022: £8,976).

The pension costs charged represent contributions payable by the Charity to schemes for the year.

The key management personnel of Farms for City Children comprise the Chief Executive, the Head of Fundraising (appointed 1 May 2023), the Head of Operations, the Head of Finance & Resources, the Head of Sales & Marketing (resigned 28 June 2023) and three Farm School Managers. The total employee benefits (salary and pension contributions) of the key management personnel were £403,558 – 8 people (2022: £390,687 – 8 people).

The Trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with Farms for City Children in the year (2022: £nil). Two trustees were reimbursed expenses to the value of £294 for attending meetings in the year (2022: £315).

12. Staff Numbers

The average monthly number of employees (including casual and part time staff) analysed by function during the year was as follows:

	2023	2022
	Number	Number
Management, Fundraising & Administration	17	17
Education, domestic & agricultural	33	31
	50	48

Farms for City Children Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

13. Defined contribution pension scheme

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents employer contributions payable by the charity to the scheme and amounted to £77,181 (2022: £64,453).

Employee and employer contributions totalling £10,175 (2022: £9,800) were payable to the scheme at the end of the year and are included in creditors.

14. Related party transactions

Simon Gregory is a consultant at Foot Anstey LLP. Foot Anstey LLP did not supply any services in the year (2022: £5,116). There was no outstanding balance at the end of the year (2022: £nil).

Justin Albert OBE is a Director for Wales, The National Trust. Farms for City Children paid rent for Lower Treginnis to The National Trust of £6,400 (2022: £6,400). There was no outstanding balance at the year end (2022: £nil).

Jonathan Bishop is the CEO and Executive Headteacher of Cornerstone Academy Trust. Yeo Valley Primary School, a school in the trust, attended a week's residential at Nethercott House in September 2022 at a cost of £10,724 (2022: £10,724). There was no outstanding balance at the year end (2022: £3,500).

Donations from Trustees amounted to £11,265 in the year (2022: £16,961).

15. Corporation Taxation

Farms for City Children is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

16. Transfer between funds

There were no transfers between Unrestricted Funds and Restricted Funds (2022: £9,464).

Farms for City Children Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 August 2023

17. Tangible fixed assets – charity (also comprising that of the group)

	Freehold Property	Leasehold Property	Plant & Machinery	Furniture & Equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost:					
As at 1 September 2022	1,012,872	2,762,720	469,827	110,692	4,356,111
Additions	18,529	32,771	54,056	2,077	107,433
Disposals			(24,474)	(2,051)	(26,525)
As at 31 August 2023	1,031,401	2,795,491	499,409	110,718	4,437,019
Depreciation:					
As at 1 September 2022	187,105	790,820	364,482	102,576	1,444,983
Disposals			(24,474)	(2,051)	(26,525)
Charge for the year	15,507	36,068	30,512	5,307	87,394
As at 31 August 2023	202,612	826,888	370,520	105,832	1,505,852
Net book value					
As at 1 September 2022	825,767	1,971,900	105,345	8,116	2,911,128
As at 31 August 2023	828,789	1,968,603	128,889	4,886	2,931,167

In 2022 there was a gain of £535,597 on the sale of land at Wick Court.

18. Stock

	Group 2023	Group 2022	Charity 2023	Charity 2022
	£	£	£	£
Animals and goods for resale	28,048	28,485	18,770	28,485
Non animal stock used in operating farms	21,776	18,822	21,776	18,822
	49,824	47,307	40,546	47,307

19. Debtors

	Group 2023	Group 2022	Charity 2023	Charity 2022
	£	£	£	£
Trade debtors	81,624	51,104	94,772	51,104
Prepayments and accrued income	71,063	143,786	71,063	143,786
	152,687	194,890	165,835	194,890

Farms for City Children Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

20. Cash at bank and in hand

The cash figure includes £368,172 (2022: £640,946) relating to deposits and final balances received for residential visits and holiday lets invoiced in advance.

21. Creditors

	Group 2023 £	Group 2022 £	Charity 2023 £	Charity 2022 £
Trade creditors	88,237	47,379	85,407	47,379
Other creditors and accruals	52,197	51,238	51,198	50,238
Deferred income (residential visits & holiday lets to 31 August 2024)	368,172	640,946	365,415	640,946
Taxation and social security	28,724	29,243	28,724	29,244
	537,330	768,806	530,744	767,807

The movement on this income invoiced in advance is as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Deferred income at 1 September 2022	640,946	685,319
Resources deferred in the year	384,272	357,819
Amounts released in the year	(657,046)	(402,192)
Deferred Income at 31 August 2023	368,172	640,946

Deferred income comprises deposits and balances received for residential visits and holiday lets.

Farms for City Children Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

22. Analysis of charitable funds

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

a) Year ending 31 August 2023

	Balance 1 September 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Funds 31 August 2023 £
General fund	1,282,143	2,058,369	(1,886,942)	-	1,453,570

b) Year ending 31 August 2022

	Balance 1 September 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Funds 31 August 2022 £
General fund	1,008,631	2,123,402	(1,840,426)	(9,464)	1,282,143

Name of unrestricted fund

Description, nature and purposes of the fund

General fund

Unrestricted funds used at the discretion of the Trustees to further any of the Charity's purposes. The Trustees' policy is to maintain the general fund at an appropriate level, planning for adverse economic conditions and other potential threats, safeguarding the long-term future of the charity and providing assurance to schools, staff and supporters.

Farms for City Children Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

22. Analysis of charitable funds (continued)

Analysis of movements in restricted funds

a) Year Ending 31 August 2023

	Balance 1 September 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers	Funds 31 August 2023 £
<u>Charity wide</u>					
Geographically restricted beneficiaries for both 2022 and 2023	38,320	197,029	(174,954)	-	60,395
Access Funds	109,796	238,055	(175,491)	-	172,360
Residential and day visits	6,434	60,892	(67,326)	-	-
Restoration of buildings	9,977	-	(9,977)	-	-
Gardening sessions	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-
	<u>164,527</u>	<u>496,976</u>	<u>(428,748)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>232,755</u>
<u>Nethercott House</u>					
Farm equipment	-	25,464	-	(2,077)	23,387
Residential visits at Nethercott House	-	8,300	(8,300)	-	-
All other donations < £1,000	-	5,738	(5,738)	-	-
Own Use Property	561,715	-	(16,162)	2,077	547,630
	<u>561,715</u>	<u>39,502</u>	<u>(30,200)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>571,017</u>
<u>Lower Treginnis</u>					
All other donations < £1,000	-	4,164	(4,164)	-	-
Own use Property	472,483	-	(17,523)	-	454,960
	<u>472,483</u>	<u>4,164</u>	<u>(21,687)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>454,960</u>
<u>Wick Court</u>					
Friends of Wick Court	-	253	(253)	-	-
Plant & machinery	-	25,012	-	(25,012)	-
All other donations < £1,000	-	16,623	(8,679)	(7,944)	-
Own use Property	1,362,367	-	(30,601)	32,956	1,364,722
	<u>1,362,367</u>	<u>41,888</u>	<u>(39,533)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,364,722</u>
Total	<u>2,561,092</u>	<u>582,530</u>	<u>(520,168)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,623,454</u>

Farms for City Children Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

22. Analysis of charitable funds (continued)

b) Year Ending 31 August 2022

	Balance 1 September 2021	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Funds 31 August 2022
	£	£	£		£
<u>Charity wide</u>					
Geographically restricted beneficiaries for both 2022 and 2023	40,523	97,992	(100,195)	-	38,320
Access Funds	44,493	146,396	(81,093)	-	109,796
Residential and day visits	6,000	64,304	(63,870)	-	6,434
Restoration of buildings	61,224	-	(627)	(50,620)	9,977
	152,240	308,693	(245,785)	(50,620)	164,527
<u>Nethercott House</u>					
Farm equipment	2,086	-	(2,086)	-	-
Residential visits at Nethercott House	-	25,000	(25,000)	-	-
All other donations < £1,000	-	1,060	(1,060)	-	-
Own Use Property	566,587	-	(14,972)	10,100	561,715
	568,673	26,060	(43,118)	10,100	561,715
<u>Lower Treginnis</u>					
Restoration of buildings	5,694	-	(1,352)	(4,342)	-
Farm equipment & garden work	-	12,028	(3,789)	(8,239)	-
All other donations < £1,000	-	1,620	(1,620)	-	-
Own use Property	447,150	-	(17,380)	42,713	472,483
	452,844	13,648	(24,141)	30,132	472,483
<u>Wick Court</u>					
Friends of Wick Court	-	237	(237)	-	-
Plant & machinery	-	11,000	(597)	(10,403)	-
Residential visits at Wick Court	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Reintroducing horses at Wick Court	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-
All other donations < £1,000	-	2,294	(2,294)	-	-
Own use Property	1,355,187	-	(23,075)	30,255	1,362,367
	1,355,187	20,531	(33,203)	19,852	1,362,367
Total	2,528,944	368,931	(346,247)	9,464	2,561,092

Farms for City Children Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

22. Analysis of charitable funds (continued)

Name of restricted fund	Description, nature and purposes of the fund
Geographically restricted child places	Donations received to support children from specific geographical areas of the UK or specific schools.
Access Funds	Funding received from various trusts & foundations and the Friends of Treginnis which was allocated to support schools that would not be able to visit our farms without additional financial support.
Residential visits (all farms)	Funding received from various trusts & foundations to support residential visits.
Restoration of buildings (all farms)	Grants received to support the restoration, maintenance & improvement of the farm buildings.
Gardening sessions (all farms)	Funds received from the Worshipful Company of Gardeners funded gardening sessions at the farms.
Own use Property (all farms)	The restricted capital fund balances for Nethercott House, Lower Treginnis and Wick Court include funds received for specific capital developments, and assets including land, property values and major plant.
All other donations < £1,000 (all farms)	Donations received for a specific farm; these are allocated to core running costs for each farm.
Nethercott House: Farm equipment	Funds received to purchase a bee shed and equipment, pig arcs, weighing scales, a poultry poly tunnel and equipment for a cattle project at Nethercott House.
Lower Treginnis: Farm equipment & garden work	Donations received to fund various items of farm equipment and garden work. In 2021-22, funds received enabled the purchase of a new chicken shed and a dishwasher as well as further garden works.
Wick Court: Friends of Wick Court	Donations received this year partly funded maintenance costs at Wick Court.
Wick Court: Plant & Machinery	Funds received from the Halpin Trust partly funded the purchase of a new tractor.
Wick Court: Reintroducing horses	Funds received from Lord Barnby's Trust partly funded the reintroduction of horses at Wick Court.

Farms for City Children Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

23. Analysis of net assets between funds

a) Year ending 31 August 2023

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	563,855	2,367,312	2,931,167
Cash at bank and in hand	1,238,634	242,042	1,480,676
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	(348,919)	14,100	(334,819)
Total	1,453,570	2,623,454	4,077,024

b) Year ending 31 August 2022

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	514,563	2,396,565	2,911,128
Cash at bank and in hand	1,329,189	129,527	1,458,716
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	(561,609)	35,000	(526,609)
Total	1,282,143	2,561,092	3,843,235

24. Commitments under operating leases

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Not later than 1 year	22,503	23,168
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	48,597	62,251
Later than 5 years	-	-
	71,100	85,419

Farms for City Children Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 August 2023 (continued)

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

	Group 2023 £	Group 2022 £	Charity 2023 £	Charity 2022 £
Net movement in funds	233,789	305,660	208,933	305,694
Add back depreciation charge	87,394	78,878	87,394	78,878
Deduct interest income shown in investing activities	(13,485)	(1,131)	(13,485)	(1,131)
Loss/(profit) on disposal of fixed assets	(14,000)	(528,910)	(14,000)	(528,910)
Decrease/(increase) in stock	(2,517)	(17,983)	6,761	(17,983)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	42,203	143,806	29,055	143,804
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(231,476)	(65,091)	(237,063)	(65,091)
Net cash used in operating activities	101,908	(84,771)	67,595	(84,739)

26. Capital Commitments

Farms for City Children has future commitments for the following projects and expects these commitments to be contracted within the next year and financed by cash reserves and grants.

	2023 £	2022 £
Capital expenditure that has been contracted but has not been provided for in the Financial Statements	<u>19,310</u>	<u>-</u>

Farms for City Children Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 August 2023

27. Prior Year Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities

Farms for City Children Limited
Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities
(including consolidated Income and Expenditure Account)
for the year ending 31 August 2022

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Income			
<i>Donations and legacies</i>			
Donations and legacies	446,018	101,481	547,499
<i>Income from charitable activities:</i>			
Charitable activities	1,090,149	267,450	1,357,599
<i>Income from other trading activities:</i>			
Trading operations	46,970	-	46,970
Investment income	1,131	-	1,131
Other income	3,537	-	3,537
Total income	1,587,805	368,931	1,956,736
Expenditure			
<i>Costs of raising funds:</i>			
Trading operations	24,330	-	24,330
Fundraising support costs	214,325	-	214,325
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities:</i>			
Charitable activities	1,601,771	346,247	1,948,018
Total expenditure	1,840,426	346,247	2,186,673
Transfers between funds	(9,464)	9,464	-
Gain on sale of land	535,597	-	535,597
Net (expenditure)/income and net movement in funds for the year	273,512	32,148	305,660
Reconciliation of funds			
Total Funds brought forward	1,008,631	2,528,944	3,537,575
Total funds carried forward	1,282,143	2,561,092	3,843,235