

**Charity registration number NIC103068**

**Company registration number NI023076 (Northern Ireland)**

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)  
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)  
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**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)  
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

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<b>Trustees</b>	Mrs M Frawley Ms J Coulter Mr S Small Mrs J Crowe Mrs P McGrogan
<b>Charity registration number</b>	NIC103068
<b>Company number</b>	NI023076
<b>Registered office</b>	97 Malone Avenue Belfast BT9 6EQ
<b>Auditor</b>	GMcG Group Limited 17 Mandeville Street Portadown Craigavon Co Armagh BT62 3PB
<b>Bankers</b>	AIB 35 University Road Belfast BT7 1ND  Ulster Bank Limited Danesfort Stranmillis Road Belfast BT9 5UB
<b>Solicitors</b>	Rosemary Connolly 2 The Square Warrenpoint Co Down BT34 3JT

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**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)  
TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charitable company's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 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).

**Objectives and activities**

The main objectives of Family Care Adoption Services (FCAS) are:

- To provide a comprehensive range of specialist services to anyone affected by adoption;
- To provide these services directly to individuals and on behalf of Health & Social Care Trusts;
- To contribute to the development of adoption service provision throughout Northern Ireland;
- To develop innovative services for children and young people in care or adopted.

The principal activities of FCAS are:-

- To recruit and prepare families in adoption for children offered to the charitable company for adoption placement;
- To provide a comprehensive range of adoption support services in accordance with the provisions of the Adoption (Northern Ireland) Order 1987;
- To provide a range of ancillary support services for adults and children involved in care or adoption proceedings.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland in deciding what activities the charitable company should undertake.

**Achievements and performance**

The achievements of the charitable company during the year included:-

- Projected targets for post adoption and support services and updated projections were met for the year, with adoption placement numbers increasing on the prior year.
- The charitable company continued to assess and approve prospective adoptive parents for placements. Most were also dually approved as foster carers to as to be available for those children whose legal proceedings were not complete at the time of placement.
- The charitable company continues to work with Adoption Routes and Adopt NI to deliver birth family counselling. This partnership has been in place since 2009, with Adopt NI joining in 2015. The programme was funded by the Health and Social Care board to September 2023 and continues to be funded on a rolling basis.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)  
TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**Achievements and performance**

FCAS provides services to the five Health and Social Care Trusts in relation to providing family placements for children from care in need of adoption. This is a core service for the charity and is key in providing and maintaining financial stability as each placement generates an inter-agency fee. In a time of financial constraint however, the Trusts are increasingly likely to seek placements within their own resources as a first preference, which may present some uncertainty in future periods.

The charity continues to engage with the five Northern Catholic Diocese on an annual basis in relation to their contributions towards service provision to adopted and fostered adults, and to adults historically raised in children's homes which were regarded as operating under the auspices of the Catholic Church. This is an oversubscribed and increasing area of work for which the charity is active in seeking additional funding support, which to date have been unsuccessful. Ongoing service provision is therefore at risk due to the limited and uncertain nature of funding in this area.

The Next Step Project is a service that provides support to birth parents, and other relatives, whose children are going to be placed or have already been placed for adoption. This service continued in the year but is due to be retendered with future funding therefore uncertain.

The charity receives core funding from the Department of Health towards salaried posts within the charity. This core funding is vital for the charity.

The charity's Life Story Project has been funded by the Lottery Community Fund for a five year period beginning in April 2019. This Project works with Young People aged 11-22 who are in Care, have left Care or who have been Adopted, and who have questions about their lives and experiences, in the past and in the present.

**Financial review**

The charitable company's financial results are set out in detail on pages 11 to 28.

There is an overall surplus on funds this year of £126,270 (2022 - £19,547). The charitable company has maintained an overall strong financial position.

The accumulated funds (unrestricted and restricted) now stand at £507,378 (2022 - £381,108). This comprises restricted funds of £155,928 (2022 - £117,838) and unrestricted funds of £341,450 (2022 - £263,270).

The trustees acknowledges the ongoing support from the Department of Health, the Health and Social Care Board as well as other funders and supporters.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)  
TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**Structure, governance and management**

The charitable company is a company limited by guarantee, governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 20 September 1989.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mrs M Frawley  
Ms J Coulter  
Mr S Small  
Mrs J Crowe  
Mrs P McGrogan

As set out in the Articles of Association, the existing Directors may appoint any person willing to act as a Director. There is no maximum number of Directors, but there is a minimum of two.

The members of the Board of Directors are drawn from a variety of disciplines as it is considered that a varied membership provides the necessary skills, knowledge and experience to exercise good governance of the charitable company.

**Directors induction and training**

The charitable company has an induction programme for new Directors. This comprises of an information pack containing details of operation aspects of the charitable company, annual reports and audited accounts, an orientation session with Board of Director members and senior staff and observation of Board of Director meeting.

**Organisation**

The trustees administer the charitable company and appoint a Chief Officer to manage the day to day running of the charity. The Board meets approximately 5 to 6 times per year.

**Risk management**

The charitable company has produced a risk management schedule as part of a formal process to identify risks to which the charitable company is exposed. This is monitored and steps taken as appropriate in order to mitigate those risks. The main risk the charitable company faces is in relation to the availability of future funding, the directors continuously seek sources of funding for the charitable company.

**Reserves policy**

Reserves are necessary to bridge the funding gap between remunerating staff and the receipt of the funds generated by the professional services provided by those staff members. Whilst core and Diocesan support some of these costs, the charitable company has to rely on the use of its services by the Health and Social Care trusts and others, if it is to remain viable.

In view of the uncertainty over the extent and timing of the flow of such work, the trustees consider that an ideal level of unrestricted reserves to be between 3 to 4 months of running costs. The current level of reserves is £507,378 of which £351,450 is unrestricted.

**Plans for the future**

The charitable company will continue to develop specialist adoption and childcare services in partnership with statutory and voluntary bodies. Some of which include:

- Funding for The Life Story Project, which provides services to young people in and from care, is secured until March 2024.
- The charitable company has engaged with the Rank Foundation for the employment of a position until March 2025.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)  
TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**Statement of trustees' responsibilities**

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

Company Law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

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

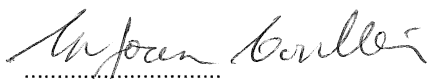
**Small companies exemption**

In preparing this report, the directors have taken advantage of the small companies exemptions provided by section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

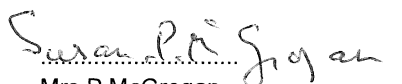
**Disclosure of information to auditor**

Each of the trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditor is aware of such information.

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



Ms J Coulter  
Trustee



Mrs P McGrogan  
Trustee

Date: 19/9/23

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)  
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

**TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES**

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**Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Family Care Adoption Services (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

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

**Basis for 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 charitable company 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 charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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

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**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)  
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)  
TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES**

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**Other information**

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

**Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

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

- the information given in the trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' report has 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 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 in respect of the following matters in relation to which the 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; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)  
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)  
TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES**

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**Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees, who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purpose of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

**Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

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

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)  
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)  
TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES**

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**Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud**

We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and then design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

In identifying and assessing potential risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliances with laws and regulations, we considered the following:

- . The nature of the industry and sector, control environment and business performance, including the company's remuneration policies for directors, bonus levels and performance targets, if any;
- . Results of our enquiries of management about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities;
- . Any matters we identified having obtained and reviewed the company's documentation of their policies and procedures relating to:
  - Identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instance of non-compliance;
  - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud; and
  - The internal controls established to mitigate risks of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- . The matters discussed among the audit engagement team regarding how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and potential indicators of fraud.

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the company for fraud and identified the greatest potential for fraud in revenue. In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override.

We also obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that the company operates in, focusing on provisions of those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The key laws and regulations we considered in this context included the Companies Act 2006, and local tax legislation.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which may be fundamental to the company's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)  
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)  
TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES**

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**Audit response to risks identified**

Our procedures to respond to the risks identified included the following:

- Reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with provisions of relevant laws and regulations described as having a direct effect on the financial statements;
- Enquiring of management concerning actual and potential litigation and claims;
- Performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud;
- Reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance and reviewing correspondence with tax authorities; and
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, testing the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; assessing whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

We also communicated relevant identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all engagement team members and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. In addition, as with any audit, there remains a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as they may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

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

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)  
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)  
TO THE MEMBERS OF FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES**

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**Use of our report**

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



**Ms Gillian Johnston ACA (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
for and on behalf of GMcG Group Limited**

21 December 2023

**Chartered Accountants  
Statutory Auditor**

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**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
<b>Income from:</b>							
Donations and legacies	3	48,038	173,365	221,403	239,306	-	239,306
Charitable activities	4	169,838	156,275	326,113	85,079	153,838	238,917
Investments	5	195	-	195	15	-	15
<b>Total income</b>		<u>218,071</u>	<u>329,640</u>	<u>547,711</u>	<u>324,400</u>	<u>153,838</u>	<u>478,238</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>							
Charitable activities	6	107,718	313,705	421,423	308,926	149,765	458,691
Other	11	18	-	18	-	-	-
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>107,736</u>	<u>313,705</u>	<u>421,441</u>	<u>308,926</u>	<u>149,765</u>	<u>458,691</u>
<b>Net incoming resources before transfers</b>		110,335	15,935	126,270	15,474	4,073	19,547
Gross transfers between funds		(22,155)	22,155	-	-	-	-
<b>Net income for the year/ Net movement in funds</b>		88,180	38,090	126,270	15,474	4,073	19,547
Fund balances at 1 April 2022		263,270	117,838	381,108	247,796	113,765	361,561
<b>Fund balances at 31 March 2023</b>		<u>351,450</u>	<u>155,928</u>	<u>507,378</u>	<u>263,270</u>	<u>117,838</u>	<u>381,108</u>

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

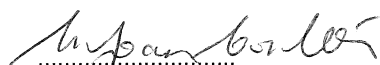
**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)  
BALANCE SHEET**

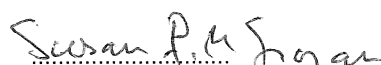
**AS AT 31 MARCH 2023**

	Notes	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	15		7,913		9,891
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	16	114,369		34,156	
Cash at bank and in hand		441,487		418,184	
		555,856		452,340	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	17	(52,593)		(73,388)	
Net current assets			503,263		378,952
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			511,176		388,843
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year</b>	18		(3,798)		(7,735)
<b>Net assets</b>			507,378		381,108
<b>Income funds</b>					
Restricted funds	20	155,928		117,838	
Unrestricted funds		351,450		263,270	
		507,378		381,108	

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

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 19/9/23

  
.....  
Ms J Coulter  
Trustee

  
.....  
Mrs P McGrogan  
Trustee

Company registration number NI023076

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)  
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	Notes	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>					
Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	24		23,108		(1,427)
<b>Investing activities</b>					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-		(2,801)	
Investment income received		195		15	
<b>Net cash generated from/(used in) investing activities</b>					
			195		(2,786)
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>					
			-		-
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>					
			23,303		(4,213)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			418,184		422,397
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>			<u>441,487</u>		<u>418,184</u>

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**1 Accounting policies**

**Charity information**

Family Care Adoption Services is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in Northern Ireland. The registered office is 97 Malone Avenue, Belfast, BT9 6EQ.

**1.1 Accounting convention**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charitable company's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charitable company is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charitable company has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

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

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

**1.2 Going concern**

As with most organisations operating in the third sector in Northern Ireland, FCAS faces some uncertainty in relation to future funding levels, particularly in respect of the charity's funding from the public sector. FCAS has built up a level of reserves in prior years that will enable the charity to continue with its current service provision in the immediate future. Therefore, at the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charitable company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

**1.3 Charitable funds**

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

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

**1.4 Income**

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

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

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

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**1 Accounting policies (Continued)**

**1.5 Expenditure**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

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

**1.6 Tangible fixed assets**

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

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

Fixtures, fittings and equipment	20% Reducing balance
----------------------------------	----------------------

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

**1.7 Impairment of fixed assets**

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

**1.8 Cash and cash equivalents**

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

**1.9 Financial instruments**

The charitable company has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charitable company's balance sheet when the charitable company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

**Basic financial assets**

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

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES  
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**1 Accounting policies (Continued)**

***Basic financial liabilities***

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

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

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

***Derecognition of financial liabilities***

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

**1.10 Employee benefits**

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

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

**1.11 Retirement benefits**

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

The charity employs one employee for whom contributions are made to a multi-employer defined benefit scheme. The operators of the scheme have identified a potential deficit and have notified an annual additional contribution to be made under the terms of a 10 year recovery plan.

**2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements**

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

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

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements (Continued)**

**Key sources of estimation uncertainty**

**Fixed assets**

The annual depreciation charge on fixed assets depends primarily on the estimated lives of each type of asset and estimates of residual values. The directors regularly review these asset lives and change them as necessary to reflect current thinking on remaining lives in light of prospective economic utilisation and physical condition of the assets concerned. Changes in asset lives can have a significant impact on depreciation and amortisation charges for the period. Detail of the useful lives is included in the accounting policies.

**Debtors**

Short term debtors are measured at transaction price, less any impairment. Impairment of short term debtors involves some estimation uncertainty.

**Pensions**

The charitable company is a member of a multi-employer defined benefit pension scheme. Pension obligations have been provided in accordance with agreed upon contributions to the scheme and disclosures have been made in accordance with the requirements of FRS 102. Estimates and assumptions have been used in calculating the present value of future contributions recognised in the financial statements and in the scheme information disclosed at notes 12 to 14. The charitable company used external pension advisors to support the estimates and assumptions made.

**3 Donations and legacies**

	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>Restricted funds</b>	<b>Total Unrestricted funds</b>	
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Grants and donations	48,038	173,365	221,403	187,205
Government and National Lottery grants	-	-	-	52,101
	<u>48,038</u>	<u>173,365</u>	<u>221,403</u>	<u>239,306</u>
<b>Donations and gifts</b>				
Department of Health Core Funding	-	133,865	133,865	129,822
Diocesan Contributions	45,168	-	45,168	47,950
Rank Foundation	-	34,000	34,000	-
Halifax Foundation	-	5,500	5,500	-
Other	2,870	-	2,870	9,433
	<u>48,038</u>	<u>173,365</u>	<u>221,403</u>	<u>187,205</u>

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES  
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**4 Charitable activities**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Assessments, Child Placements and Post Adoption Support	158,755	61,924
Other Adoption Support Services	11,083	23,155
Life Story Project	102,252	99,215
Next Steps Project	54,023	54,623
	<u>326,113</u>	<u>238,917</u>
<b>Analysis by fund</b>		
Unrestricted funds	169,838	85,079
Restricted funds	156,275	153,838
	<u>326,113</u>	<u>238,917</u>

**5 Investments**

	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Interest receivable	195	15
	<u>195</u>	<u>15</u>

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES  
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**6 Charitable activities**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Staff costs	249,500	330,939
Depreciation	1,840	2,300
Redundancy payment	-	11,303
Recruitment, training and seminars	2,220	865
Rent, rates and services	10,269	14,024
Cleaning and hygiene	-	1,585
Insurance	4,203	6,154
Computer costs	4,354	4,600
Light and heat	3,120	2,849
General expenses	4,094	2,247
Repairs and maintenance	928	735
Stationery, printing and advertising	4,967	3,250
Telephone and postage	6,147	9,038
Travelling expenses	10,356	10,959
Adoption panel expenses	-	626
Audit and accountancy	-	3,880
Bank charges and interest	-	728
Subscriptions and professional fees	8,472	9,078
	<u>310,470</u>	<u>415,160</u>
Share of support costs (see note 7)	102,410	38,531
Share of governance costs (see note 7)	8,543	5,000
	<u>421,423</u>	<u>458,691</u>
<b>Analysis by fund</b>		
Unrestricted funds	107,718	308,926
Restricted funds	313,705	149,765
	<u>421,423</u>	<u>458,691</u>

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES  
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**7 Support costs**

	Support costs	Governance costs	2023	Support costs	Governance costs	2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	95,510	-	95,510	32,882	-	32,882
Depreciation	138	-	138	173	-	173
Insurance	741	-	741	-	-	-
Stationery	374	-	374	245	-	245
Telephone	500	-	500	680	-	680
Cleaning and hygiene	1,664	-	1,664	1,086	-	1,086
Rent	1,080	-	1,080	1,480	-	1,480
Light and heat	345	-	345	317	-	317
Travel	135	-	135	135	-	135
Computer costs	1,285	-	1,285	1,533	-	1,533
Bank charges	638	-	638	-	-	-
Audit and accountancy	-	7,880	7,880	-	5,000	5,000
Board meetings and AGM	-	663	663	-	-	-
	<u>102,410</u>	<u>8,543</u>	<u>110,953</u>	<u>38,531</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>43,531</u>
Analysed between						
Charitable activities	<u>102,410</u>	<u>8,543</u>	<u>110,953</u>	<u>38,531</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>43,531</u>

**8 Auditor's remuneration**

Fees payable to the charitable company's auditor and associates:	2023	2022
	£	£
Audit of the charitable company's annual accounts	<u>4,500</u>	<u>5,000</u>

**9 Trustees**

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

**10 Employees**

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

2023	2022
Number	Number
<u>11</u>	<u>13</u>

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES  
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**10 Employees (Continued)**

<b>Employment costs</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Wages and salaries	291,518	307,614
Social security costs	31,246	28,900
Other pension costs	22,246	27,307
	<u>345,010</u>	<u>363,821</u>

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

**11 Other**

	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Financing costs	18	-
	<u>18</u>	<u>-</u>

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES  
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**12 Pensions - TPT Retirement Solutions - The Growth Plan**

The company participates in the scheme, a multi-employer scheme which provides benefits to some 638 non-associated participating employers. The scheme is a defined benefit scheme in the UK. It is not possible for the company to obtain sufficient information to enable it to account for the scheme as a defined benefit scheme. Therefore it accounts for the scheme as a defined contribution scheme.

The scheme is subject to the funding legislation outlined in the Pensions Act 2004 which came into force on 30 December 2005. This, together with documents issued by the Pensions Regulator and Technical Actuarial Standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council, set out the framework for funding defined benefit occupational pension schemes in the UK.

The scheme is classified as a 'last-man standing arrangement'. Therefore the company is potentially liable for other participating employers' obligations if those employers are unable to meet their share of the scheme deficit following withdrawal from the scheme. Participating employers are legally required to meet their share of the scheme deficit on an annuity purchase basis on withdrawal from the scheme.

A full actuarial valuation for the scheme was carried out at 30 September 2020. This valuation showed assets of £800.3m, liabilities of £831.9m and a deficit of £31.6m. To eliminate this funding shortfall, the Trustee has asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme as follows:

**Deficit contributions**

From 1 April 2022 to 31 January 2025:	£3,312,000	per	annum
	(payable monthly)		

Unless a concession has been agreed with the Trustee the term to 31 January 2025 applies.

Note that the scheme's previous valuation was carried out with an effective date of 30 September 2017. This valuation showed assets of £794.9m, liabilities of £926.4m and a deficit of £131.5m. To eliminate this funding shortfall, the Trustee asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme as follows:

**Deficit contributions**

From 1 April 2019 to 30 September 2025:	£11,243,000	per	annum
	(payable monthly and increasing by 3% each on 1st April)		

The recovery plan contributions are allocated to each participating employer in line with their estimated share of the Series 1 and Series 2 scheme liabilities.

Where the scheme is in deficit and where the company has agreed to a deficit funding arrangement the company recognises a liability for this obligation. The amount recognised is the net present value of the deficit reduction contributions payable under the agreement that relates to the deficit. The present value is calculated using the discount rate detailed in these disclosures. The unwinding of the discount rate is recognised as a finance cost.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES  
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**13 Pensions - TPT Retirement Solutions - The Growth Plan (continued)**

	31 March 2023 (£s)	31 March 2022 (£s)	31 March 2021 (£s)
Present value of provision	6,473	10,154	40,187

RECONCILIATION OF OPENING AND CLOSING PROVISIONS

	Period Ending 31 March 2023 (£s)	Period Ending 31 March 2022 (£s)
Provision at start of period	10,154	40,187
Unwinding of the discount factor (interest expense)	191	232
Deficit contribution paid	(3,699)	(10,170)
Remeasurements - impact of any change in assumptions	(173)	(233)
Remeasurements - amendments to the-contribution schedule		(19,862)
Provision at end of period	6,473	10,154

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE IMPACT

	Period Ending 31 March 2023 (£s)	Period Ending 31 March 2022 (£s)
Interest expense	191	232
Remeasurements – impact of any change in assumptions	(173)	(233)
Remeasurements – amendments to the-contribution schedule		(19,862)
Contributions paid in respect of future service*		*
Costs recognised in income and expenditure account		*

\*includes defined contribution schemes and future service contributions (i.e. excluding any deficit reduction payments) to defined benefit schemes which are treated as defined contribution schemes. To be completed by the company.

ASSUMPTIONS

	31 March 2023 % per annum	31 March 2022 % per annum	31 March 2021 % per annum
Rate of discount	5.52	2.35	0.66

The discount rates shown above are the equivalent single discount rates which, when used to discount the future recovery plan contributions due, would give the same results as using a full AA corporate bond yield curve to discount the same recovery plan contributions.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**14 Pensions - TPT Retirement Solutions - The Growth Plan (continued)**

The following schedule details the deficit contributions agreed between the company and the scheme at each year end period:

DEFICIT CONTRIBUTIONS SCHEDULE

Year ending	31 March 2023 (£s)	31 March 2022 (£s)	31 March 2021 (£s)
Year 1	3,699	3,699	10,170
Year 2	3,083	3,699	10,475
Year 3	-	3,083	10,789
Year 4	-	-	9,261
Year 5	-	-	-
Year 6	-	-	-
Year 7	-	-	-
Year 8	-	-	-
Year 9	-	-	-
Year 10	-	-	-

The company must recognise a liability measured as the present value of the contributions payable that arise from the deficit recovery agreement and the resulting expense in the income and expenditure account i.e. the unwinding of the discount rate as a finance cost in the period in which it arises.

It is these contributions that have been used to derive the company's balance sheet liability.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**15 Tangible fixed assets**

**Fixtures, fittings and equipment**

**£**

**Cost**

At 1 April 2022

139,772

At 31 March 2023

139,772

**Depreciation and impairment**

At 1 April 2022

129,881

Depreciation charged in the year

1,978

At 31 March 2023

131,859

**Carrying amount**

At 31 March 2023

7,913

At 31 March 2022

9,891

**16 Debtors**

**2023**

**2022**

**Amounts falling due within one year:**

**£**

**£**

Trade debtors

107,870

29,384

Prepayments and accrued income

6,499

4,772

114,369

34,156

**17 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

**2023**

**2022**

**£**

**£**

Provision for pension scheme deficit

3,699

3,699

Trade creditors

3,030

185

Other creditors

24,292

35,125

Accruals and deferred income

21,572

34,379

52,593

73,388

**18 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year**

**2023**

**2022**

**Notes**

**£**

**£**

Provision for pension scheme deficit

2,774

6,455

Government grants

**19**

1,024

1,280

3,798

7,735

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**19 Government grants**

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Deferred income is included within:		
Non-current liabilities	1,024	1,280
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES  
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**20 Restricted funds**

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds			Movement in funds				Balance at 31 March 2023 £
	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	
Diocesan Capital Fund	24,774	-	-	24,774	-	-	-	24,774
Life Story Project	88,991	54,623	(51,641)	1,091	102,252	(98,706)	5,985	10,622
Next Steps Project	-	99,215	(98,124)	91,973	54,023	(54,023)	-	91,973
DoH Core Funding	-	-	-	-	133,865	(150,035)	16,170	-
Donations	-	-	-	-	39,500	(10,941)	-	28,559
	<u>113,765</u>	<u>153,838</u>	<u>(149,765)</u>	<u>117,838</u>	<u>329,640</u>	<u>(313,705)</u>	<u>22,155</u>	<u>155,928</u>

Diocesan Capital Fund - the various diocese have waived a loan which was made to FCAS some years ago on condition that the amount be retained by the charity to be used for its charitable purposes.

Life Story Project - this project assists young people, aged 11 to 22, who are in care, leaving care or have been in care. The project is funded by the Lottery Community Fund.

Next Steps Project - this project provides support to birth families and their relatives whose child has been or is being placed for adoption. The project is funded by the Health & Social Care Board.

DoH Core Funding - the Department of Health has provided funding for the salaries of three employees.

Donations - The Rank Foundation provided a grant in the current year for salary costs of one employee. the Halifax Foundation provided funding towards rent expenses.

**FAMILY CARE ADOPTION SERVICES  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**21 Analysis of net assets between funds**

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Fund balances at 31 March 2023 are represented by:					
Tangible assets	7,913	-	7,913	9,891	9,891
Current assets/(liabilities)	346,311	156,952	503,263	259,834	378,952
Long term liabilities	(2,774)	(1,024)	(3,798)	(6,455)	(7,735)
	<u>351,450</u>	<u>155,928</u>	<u>507,378</u>	<u>263,270</u>	<u>381,108</u>

**22 Financial commitments, guarantees and contingent liabilities**

A portion of grants received may become repayable if the charity fails to comply with the terms of the relevant letters of offer.

The charity may, in the future, be required to make additional pension contributions in respect of the multi-employer scheme deficit as disclosed in notes 12 to 14.

**23 Related party transactions**

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2022 - none).

**24 Cash generated from operations**

	2023 £	2022 £
Surplus for the year	126,270	19,547
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(195)	(15)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	1,978	2,473
Movements in working capital:		
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(80,213)	4,440
(Decrease) in creditors	(24,476)	(27,552)
(Decrease) in deferred income	(256)	(320)
<b>Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations</b>	<u>23,108</u>	<u>(1,427)</u>

**25 Analysis of changes in net funds**

The charitable company had no debt during the year.