

L.A.S.T Sure Start
Company Limited by Guarantee
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year ended 31 March 2023

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name L.A.S.T Sure Start
Charity registration number 103776
Company registration number NI057099
Principal office and registered office Units 1&2
Strathroy Enterprise centre
Meelmore Drive
Omagh
Co Tyrone
BT79 7XL

The trustees

Mr M McColgan
Ms S McDermott
Ms C Doncaster (Resigned 29 March 2023)
Ms P Colgan
Ms P Cleary
Mrs N Carson (Appointed 29 March 2023)

Auditor SP McCaffrey & Co
Chartered accountants & statutory auditor
50 Campsie Road
Omagh
Co Tyrone
BT79 0AG

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

L.A.S.T Sure Start is a company limited by guarantee (Registration Number NI057099). The company is governed by its Memorandum of Articles of Association. The company is recognised as a charity and is registered with the Charities Commission for Northern Ireland. (Charity No 103776)

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Structure, governance and management *(continued)*

Governance

L.A.S.T Sure Start has a responsibility to conduct its business efficiently. The establishment of, and the strict adherence to sound financial management policies is an integral part of the organisation. The Board of directors and Management Committee of are committed to establishing, maintaining and applying all necessary good practice to ensure that their duty of care to the management of finances of the organisation are fulfilled. The Board of directors are responsible for taking the strategic decisions of how the Charity will move forward and who also are responsible for appointments to the board.

It is essential that L.A.S.T Sure Start control all operational risks as far as is possible. This includes the participation of all those involved directly or indirectly with the banking arrangements for the organisation. Along with the financial systems of the organisation, this policy aims to detail responsibilities, risk management, internal controls, and audit requirements associated with the use of online banking.

Objectives and activities

The objectives of Last Sure Start are:

- A) Educate the public in all matters relating to parenting and child development by the provision of education and training courses.
- B) enhance the development and education of young children by encouraging parents/guardians to understand and provide for the needs of their children by offering appropriate play facilities, with the right of parent/carers to take responsibility for and to become involved in the activities of the Company, ensuring that the company offers opportunities for all children regardless of religion, culture, race ability or gender.
- C) preserve and protect health by the provision of counselling, advice and information.
- D) provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and other leisure time occupations with the object of improving the conditions of life for the inhabitants of Killyclogher, Lisanelly, Camowen, Drumragh, Strule, Fintona, Termon & Gortrush wards the area of benefit.

Strategic report

The following sections for achievements and performance and financial review form the strategic report of the charity.

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Achievements and performance

With the accounting period of 2022/2023 the project ran a number of parenting programmes, Health programmes, Outings and social events for all the families registered with Sure Start. Here are examples of the programme run: " Infant Massage " Baby Yoga

- " Feeding under 5's
- " Potty Training
- " Oral Health
- " Hypno Birthing
- " Managing Children's Behaviour
- " Baby Peeps
- " First Aid
- " Circuit Training
- " Pre Football skills
- " Swim Tots
- " Walking Club
- " Baby Reflexology
- " Book Start Event
- " Christmas, Halloween & Easter outings
- " Wriggle & Rhyme event
- " Travellers Project
- " Special needs outing & event
- " Young Mums Project

The total number of families registered with Last Sure Start is 787 and within this accounting period the project had 83% uptake in all programmes & events run. This achievement has allowed Last Sure Start to be one of the top 20 projects in the North for uptake of services. Last Sure Start helped the local community by offering a service that promotes social engagement, emotional and physical well-being by running programmes which will give parents skills to help develop their children's social, education, play and emotional needs. The project also runs programmes that help integrate other cultures within our local community for example we run a very successful Travellers programme and also run an ethical minority parent & toddlers. The Project also offers respite crèche to families in most need allowing parents some time out for appointments etc. Within the project there is an element of home visiting which again offers additional support to the families in our local community. This year the project just completed a very successful programme with dads emphasising the importance a dad has on a child's life and within the family unit.

Financial review

Review of the Business

The Company is non-profit making and returned a surplus of £974 for the year. The management continues to be engaged in ongoing efficiency savings and is aware of the sustainable use of resources.

Reserves Policy

The trustees of L.A.S.T Sure Start consider that the charity is not permitted to hold reserves, obligations will therefore be met by statutory authorities. The trustees do however note the deficits reported in the two most recent years and consider it prudent to retain some level of reserves.

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Trustees' responsibilities statement

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes 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 charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, for that period.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting 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 the charity will continue in business.

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

Auditor

Each of the persons who is a trustee at the date of approval of this report confirms that:

- so far as they are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditor is unaware; and
- they have taken all steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information.

The trustees' annual report and the strategic report were approved on 16 November 2023 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



Mr M McColgan
Trustee