



Annual Review

for the year ended 31 March 2022

Company Number:	1507277
Charity Number (England and Wales):	280852
Charity Number (Scotland):	SCO39338

CONTENTS

Message from our Chair	3
Trustees' report	4
Vision, mission, values	4
What we achieved	5
Our plans	14
Financial review	15
Risk management	17
Independent auditor's report	20
Statement of financial activities	25
Balance sheet	26
Statement of cash flow	27
Financial notes	28
Trustees Management and advisors	44

Message from our Chair

As the chair of the board of trustees, I am delighted to introduce The Fostering Network's 2021-2022 annual report.

The year just past has been eventful to say the least. We all continued to navigate fluctuating Covid-19 restrictions for much of the year, with events and activities either limited or changing suddenly according to current conditions. We saw the Independent Review of Children's Social Care in England take place, to which we contributed with and on behalf of our members. And we undertook our State of the Nation's Foster Care 2021 survey - the largest and most comprehensive survey of the UK's fostering sector – which we expanded to include fostering services for the first time this year.

In the following report, you will see how the organisation has continued to deliver the diverse range of high-quality activities it is known for, while still providing effective support and guidance for both foster carer and services members. We have seen further expansion of our successful Mockingbird programme, ensuring that more families can benefit from this model of support. New projects have also been developed, including Fostering Digital Skills training for foster carers to help them support young people in becoming independent digital citizens, and the Start Talking project which aims to help foster carers support children and young people in their relationships and sex education.

We also continued to celebrate the fostering community and all it does to help children and young people fulfil their potential through our annual Fostering Excellence Awards, Foster Care Fortnight™ and Sons and Daughters Month. These opportunities to come together and highlight the value of foster care continue to attract and engage a wide range of audiences, some who may be completely new to fostering, and help us in our aims to educate people about the role of foster care in society.

Finally, it would be remiss not to thank all those people and organisations who support the work of The Fostering Network, from our partners and sponsors to individuals who have raised money or taken part in our activities across the year. Alongside our staff, they ensure our work continues to support our members and contributes to making foster care the best it can be. I hope you will look forward to another year of working together to improve foster care and ensuring children and young people have the care and support they need to thrive.

Mervyn Erskine

Chair of trustees

Trustees' annual report (including strategic report)

About us

The Fostering Network is the UK's leading fostering charity. We are the essential network for fostering, bringing together everyone who is involved in foster care. We support foster carers to help transform children's lives and we work with fostering services and the wider sector to develop and share best practice.

We work to ensure all children and young people in foster care experience stable family life, and we are passionate about the difference foster care makes. We champion fostering and seek to create vital change so that foster care is the very best it can be.

Vision

Our vision is a society where the importance of fostering is understood, recognised, and supported.

Mission

Our mission is to support those who foster, improve opportunities for children and young people in foster care, and provide expert guidance to all fostering services.

Values

We are trusted – expert and independent.

We are together – a network, working in partnership, for community, for members.

We are vital:

- for raising awareness of fostering
- for creating change
- for up-to-the-minute information, advice, and support for foster carers, fostering services and fostered children and young people – the whole fostering community.

What we achieved – some highlights

The Fostering Network brings together everyone involved in the lives of fostered children to make foster care the very best it can be. In the 12 months to 31 March 2022, working with our members and other stakeholders we took significant steps towards meeting our four strategic objectives. Here are some of the highlights from the year.

Objective: Provide opportunities for children and young people that benefit them, make their voices heard and enable them to reach their potential

We worked with children and young people around the UK (United Kingdom) throughout the year.

In Scotland, the Young Advocates group was active in a variety of The Fostering Network's activities. The launch of the Young Advocates education training resource included a webinar which was attended by 90 people and hosted by the young advocates themselves (a group of five aged 17 to 24). The resource is hosted on the Children in Scotland LMS (Learning Management System) platform.

The Young Advocates also contributed to Tick the Box 2021 – our campaign to inform young people about the support available to them during their time at university and how to access it. Members of the group contributed to a review of content in The Skills to Foster training, got involved in Sons and Daughters Month 2021 and spoke at conferences to promote the education resources and highlight the importance of removing stigma for care experienced young people in education.

The Fostering Network in Scotland secured funding through The Promise to develop a Young Person's Advisory Board, and we recruited an implementation manager to ensure we are aligned with the Promise and centre the voice of the child in everything we do.

In Scotland we started the Moving On project, with two young people on the steering group. The focus of this project is transitions through foster care and as part of this work, we hosted two sessions with Independent Living Fund providers, enabling young people with care experience to access funds on an annual basis from ages 16 to 25, empowering them to gain skills for independence.

In Northern Ireland, we continued to provide our commissioned service, Fostering Attainment and Achievement, to children and young people to support their education and learning. Despite ongoing Covid-19 related restrictions, this service made direct provision to more than 1,000 children and young people and provided support to foster and kinship foster carers as primary educators. This included online support, webinars and a major conference with experts Louise Bomber and Kim Golding attended by 350 delegates. We adapted to the restrictions by developing 'Wild about learning', based on forest schools, to great success.

Our award-winning edge of care service, Step Up Step Down, has continued to provide families on the edge of care with wrap around, trauma-centred services which ensured that children and families were kept together during the pandemic despite the huge challenges.

Objective: Promote foster care to ensure society understands, values and recognises how foster carers transform children's lives

Our annual campaign to celebrate fostering, Foster Care Fortnight™, took place from 9-22 May and was based around the theme of Fostering Communities. The campaign theme and activities were informed by an external steering group of The Fostering Network members and a staff working group, with the key aims of raising awareness of foster care and providing services members with support for their foster carer recruitment and retention targets. The campaign on social media brought over 200 new followers to our channels, and the hashtag was seen over 800,000 times, with over 1,200 mentions.

In Northern Ireland, foster carers came together for a Foster Care Fortnight launch event online which was attended by more than 100 people and featured contributions from the Minister for Health, foster and kinship foster carers. Two foster carers from Northern Ireland, who both grew up in foster care, appeared on BBC Northern Ireland online talking about how their experiences in care inspired them to become foster carers themselves. The piece attracted more than 200,000 views. In England, our membership engagement team ran a series of webinars during Foster Care Fortnight all about fostering to engage with existing members and to encourage people interested in fostering to find out more.

Across the year, we achieved around 1,200 pieces of media coverage, with a combined potential reach of 162 million. Highlights included: an exclusive in The Observer in December featuring our State of the Nation's Foster Care 2021 report; Vicki Swain, head of campaigns and policy, appearing on BBC Radio 4's Money Box Live in February and various pieces of regional coverage around the Fostering Excellence Awards and Foster Care Fortnight. All served to highlight the diversity of the foster care community, the challenges and rewards foster care brings and how vital it is in helping transform children's lives.

In addition to this, on social media, we have continued to grow our audiences and see engagement with a range of content across all our communications campaigns, in particular our State of the Nation report launches, Fostering Excellence Awards and Foster Care Fortnight.

The Fostering Network's advice teams dealt with 108 enquiries from prospective foster carers. In handling these enquiries professionally, and with enthusiasm for fostering, we have demonstrated our commitment to promoting foster care and how it can transform children's lives. That people come to us with these enquiries demonstrates that we are seen as leaders in the sector, which means we are well-placed to help society understand, recognise and value foster care.

The Fostering Network Annual Review 2021-22

Objective: We will influence policy and the legislative framework, so it supports and promotes excellence in foster care

Campaigning and influencing policy at every level to ensure foster care is the best it can be for all involved is a key area for the organisation and in 2021-22 we brought foster carer voices to the fore through a range of high profile activities. Around the UK, we regularly meet with ministers and Government departments to share our member's views, and contribute to consultations on the issues that matter to them

In January 2021, the Secretary of State for Education announced an Independent Review of Children's Social Care in England. The Fostering Network launched a programme of work to influence the review and ensure that it delivered for foster care. We responded to the Call for Ideas, the Case for Change and Call for Evidence.

As part of this programme, we ran engagement events with 82 foster carers, 37 fostering service staff members, researchers and health professionals and 18 key national representatives of care experienced children, young people and foster carers, researchers and policy makers. Our submissions also included responses from over 7,000 foster carers who shared their views with us in the 2018 and 2021 State of the Nation's Foster Care surveys.

We launched our State of the Nation 2021 survey of foster carers and fostering services in May 2021. We received responses from 3,352 foster carers and 99 fostering services representing around six per cent of all fostering households and 19 per cent of services.

We published our main report in December 2021, Spotlight on Wales Report in March 2022 and Status Report in February 2022. The reports received widespread coverage including The Observer and Sky News. Our launch event in England included over 300 attendees. The panel included Josh McAlister, chair of the independent review of children's social care in England and was Chaired by David Simmonds MP. We co-presented the findings with a young person with care experience, foster carer and fostering service.

At our Scotland launch event, the panel included Jackie Brock from The Promise and a film from Clare Haughey MSP, the Minister for Children and Young People in Scotland. The event was also co-presented with a care experienced young person, foster carer and fostering service. It was attended by over 90 foster carers, services staff, and other key stakeholders.

We have continued to meet with and present the findings to several key stakeholders including:

- Ofsted inspectors
- Ofsted National Consultative Forum
- Care Review England
- Department for Education
- Shadow Children's Minister, Helen Hayes
- Wales local authority and IFP (Independent Fostering Providers) forum.

Turning to foster carer allowances, The Fostering Network conducted a survey of local authorities and in England, and we found that for 2021-22 there were twenty-two local authorities not paying the recommended level in at least one age category in 2021-22. We contacted the twenty-two local authorities paying below Government rates to challenge their allowance levels. Seven local authorities confirmed in response that they are paying at or above the national minimum allowance. This action by The Fostering Network has therefore resulted in £11,232.34 extra funding per week to directly meet the needs of children in foster care. In Scotland, there is still no national minimum allowance, meaning in some areas there has effectively been a ten-year freeze on rates paid. Sara Smith, head of operations, and a foster carer took

The Fostering Network Annual Review 2021-22

part in media interviews to raise awareness of the issue in Scotland. we continue to meet with COSLA to ensure Scotland implements a recommended minimum fostering allowance as per the Scottish Government commitment.

Our Tick the Box campaign is a week of online activity which took in October, encouraging people with care experience to tick the box on their UCAS application to say they have spent time in care, as well as raising awareness and encouraging more people with care experience to think of higher and further education as an option for them. The campaign ran for five days, and included content from different universities, organisations such as UCAS and NNECL and people with care experience sharing their stories. The campaign was seen by over 57,000 people across social media, with a significant increase in the number of posts across the platforms and reach of the campaign, as well as a 125% increase in the number of universities who supported the campaign in comparison with the previous year.

We continued to work closely with The Promise in Scotland to ensure we support its implementation and encourage our membership to align to it. We met with Government representatives on a regular basis and the Children's Minister in March, to discuss foster care and current issues regarding recruitment, retention and allowances.

As part of our commitment to The Promise, we have contributed to new practice guidance on supporting siblings to stay together and connected through our role on the national advisory group. This guidance launched in July 2021 and supports the implementation of new duties for Scottish local authorities that every looked after child will live with their brothers and sisters, where appropriate to do so. Siblings should be supported to sustain lifelong relationships, if appropriate, even if they cannot live together.

We also contribute to improving foster care through participation in a range of groups, meetings and forums in Scotland:

- Stand Up for Siblings group
- CELCIS Community of Practice foster care group
- Meetings with Care Inspectorate
- IVP forum
- Social Work Scotland.

In Northern Ireland, we have engaged with foster and kinship foster carers consistently to highlight the challenges within foster care to government officials, politicians and policy makers. This included several meetings with Ministers for Health and for Education, and meeting with the education committee and health committee to reflect the concerns of foster carers. This engagement with foster carers was central to changes being made to the temporary modification of fostering regulations and influenced the Adoption and Children Bill which was passed into law into March. We continue to work in partnership with stakeholders and foster carers to raise awareness of children looked after and their carers.

Objective: Support fostering families and the services that work with them to provide the best possible care for children and young people

Our work to support foster carers and services is central to everything we do as a membership organisation. Through advice and information, resources, training, events and programmes, we aim to work with all members of the fostering community to make foster care the best it can be.

Over 1,000 foster carers and 80 staff from services completed our membership survey in 2021, which we are using to inform our plans for improving member services and benefits in the future.

In England, the membership engagement team continued to meet with members in their regions, with a combined audience of around 400 people attending engagement activities and presentations.

We have continued to build on our success in delivering activities digitally following the pandemic, using technology to broaden the scope of our engagement activities, and significantly increasing our reach to our members. We have also worked closely with our partners to deliver relevant and timely information to members on a range of topics. This has included working with Williams Giles Accountants to provide expert advice on tax and national insurance via webinars and workshops (both online and face-to-face) to over 1,000 foster carer members. The Mortgage Brain have helped us to deliver two webinars to 120 members, while we have also started working with The Money Charity to offer financial education to members, with 143 members attending our first joint webinar.

In the 12 months to 31 March 2022, we offered a wide range of training courses and workshops across the UK. In total, The Fostering Network delivered 97 courses to over 1,000 delegates. Our training received an average 4.7/5 rating, with 95% scoring 4/5 or 5/5. We hosted the launch of the 'Out There' foster carer recruitment film with 30 local authorities across the UK, supporting a new approach to foster carer recruitment.

Our team in Wales worked with Internet Matters and the University of East Anglia to develop an innovative new course that will increase understanding across the sector of how supporting foster carers to improve their digital skills can positively impact the digital resilience of children in their care. The course was created in consultation with foster carers and care experienced young people and so far over 100 foster carers have received the training.

Our practice support team delivered the Start Talking project, in partnership with Sex Education Forum, producing guidance around supporting young people with sexual health and identity and encouraging foster carers to be more confident in exploring this with young people.

315 hours of training has been delivered to regions in Wales as part of the Fostering Wellbeing masterclass programme. These have reached over 650 members of the team around the child, including foster carers, social workers, teachers, education support services, and health workers.

We also provided training in partnership with Enquire to ensure foster families understand children's rights in education, hosting two sessions through the Young Advocates project attended by over 87 people.

Over the past year, the advice and information service (comprising the Members' Helpline in England, Fosterline Wales, Fosterline Scotland and our independent advice and information service in Northern Ireland) handled 5,505 enquiries, broken down as follows:

- Members' Helpline (England): 3,988
- Fosterline Wales: 612
- Fosterline Scotland: 759
- Independent advice and information service (Northern Ireland): 146

The Fostering Network Annual Review 2021-22

For the 5,159 enquiries where we have noted the 'origin' of the enquiry, 3,226 came via telephone (62%), 1,887 came via email (36%), 28 came by mail, 12 were face-to-face enquiries, 5 enquiries came in by text and 1 on social media.

Foster Care magazine, sent three times a year to all members of The Fostering Network, continues to provide information and thought-provoking content which links to the issues we know foster carers are interested in. Information about key topics (such as Universal Credit, foster carer review and approval, and making a complaint) has been developed to further support foster carers in providing the best possible care for children.

The practice support team, which provides specialist practice support and expertise to fostering services, responded to 851 enquiries and held 144 forums with a total of 1,500 attendees.

Key developments included work around anti-racist practice in fostering, with anti-racist working groups being established in Yorkshire, The Humber, and the Northwest and learning and approach being rolled out across the country.

We continued to work with the Quality Parenting Initiative in the USA to enable an international exchange between foster carers from the UK and USA, much welcomed by those who took part.

The Independent Support Service has recruited 15 new independent support workers to expand our pool of support workers to 40. This expansion is vital, as referrals for our spot purchase service have increased again this year to over 250.

The Advice and Mediation service provides a quality service to foster carers and fostering services – supporting carers and their families through very difficult situations including de-registration and navigating with advocacy the allegations process. This year the team supported over 400 fostering families and 23 fostering services. We regularly receive positive feedback from foster carers using the Independent Support Service with 100% of responses saying that the support was excellent or good.

“We have been allocated LB as our representative from The Fostering Network and we would just like to take the time to let you know how exceptional she was in supporting us. She has helped us so much over the last four months and has been with us every step of the way. She always responded promptly, picked up the phone when we called and gave us excellent advice.” - comment from a member about the advice and mediation service

In March 2022, the Health Minister for Northern Ireland, Robin Swann, announced an extra £1 million for foster carers to help them with the extra costs they had to face during the pandemic. The Fostering Network was pleased to have worked with the Department to highlight the challenges foster carers were facing and advocating on their behalf to help secure this funding.

In 2021, we realised our ambition to improve how we collect and analyse information with the implementation of our new relationship management system, enabling us to process information more efficiently and leading to improvements in our renewal process, income generation and reducing the time taken to process data updates and customer service enquiries.

From April 2021 to March 2022 Mockingbird continued to sustain and support fostering families as well as to further expand activity across the UK. In September, the Fostering Network partnered with 21 new fostering services through the Department for Education's, Children's Social Care Recovery Fund. As of March 2022, Mockingbird now operates in a total of 63 fostering services with nearly 100 constellations providing the vital extended family model to almost 3000 foster carers and young people. Mockingbird has garnered interest from the Independent Review of Children's Social Care in England and ministers have met with carers, staff, and young people for whom Mockingbird has proved a lifeline.

The Fostering Network Annual Review 2021-22

At The Fostering Network the Mockingbird team continue to support all 63 services through implementation and provide a series of events throughout the year for all the participants; ranging from young people's activity days to forums for foster carers and social workers, to workshops for senior leaders in services. All partners are currently committed to sustaining the model and, once operational can demonstrate outcomes that meet some of the key issues faced within the sector, such as retention and recruitment of carers and the stabilisation and normalisation of children and young people's journeys through the care system.

The evidence is compelling even before considering finances, which demonstrates that once established, Mockingbird is self-sustaining, with each £1 invested in the programme there is a saving of 99 pence. Therefore, Mockingbird provides significant cost savings for the care system, with an estimated £3.4 million estimated costs avoided between May 2018 and March 2021.

Our Fundraising

We are grateful to all the donors, supporters and funders who joined us in our cause and supported us to achieve our mission across the UK.

The Mortgage Brain, Arthur Cox, and Williams Giles continued their support for us through partnerships and from staff fundraising events and activities over the year.

We are grateful to partners The Mortgage Brain and Williams Giles, who chose to sponsor our prestigious Fostering Excellence Awards again this year.

Foster Walk, our flagship fundraising event, saw the largest participation to date with over 350 people taking on walking challenges and raising over £7,500. We thank those member and supporter organisations who fielded teams.

Many community supporters organised their own events or took part in third party challenges. Harriet Minford raised over £2,000 through her London Marathon run; Kevin Williams took on the Snowdon at Night challenge.

We were extremely fortunate to receive a legacy gift during the year of over £61,000. During the year we launched a free will writing service for members and supporters in partnership with Farewill, encouraging others to leave a gift.

We are grateful to all our grant funders, including the National Lottery Community Fund, The Scottish and Welsh Governments, The Corra Foundation and HIVSRH Innovation Fund whose support has enabled us to design and deliver innovative projects that are improving foster care across the UK.

Fundraising practice

Our fundraising activity is focused on organisations and individuals that have an established relationship with The Fostering Network.

We support and adhere to the code of practice of the Fundraising Regulator and pay their levy. During the year we did not receive any complaints related to fundraising, we followed the best practice recommended by the Fundraising Regulator to protect vulnerable people and did not use third parties to raise funds on our behalf. Most of the fundraising expenditure is staff time and a significant proportion of this is spent developing formal bids for major projects and services. During the year the team supported operational staff in winning numerous grants and contracts.

We would like to recognise the enormous contribution that the following funders and supporters have made to our work over the year and to thank them for their vital support, as well as all our generous donors and fundraisers.

Ardea Cares Charitable Trust

Arthur Cox

BBC Children in Need

Child Concern Consortium

Department for Education (England)

Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (Northern Ireland)

Health and Social Care Board, Northern Ireland

The Fostering Network Annual Review 2021-22

HIVSRH Innovation Fund

Lewis Family Charitable Trust

Life Changes Trust

Mrs M A Black's Charitable Trust

Murphy-Neumann Charity

National Institute for Health Research

National Lottery Community Fund

Nominet

Northwood Charitable Trust

PCW

Scottish Government

Sir Jeremiah Colman Gift Trust

Susan Hall Charitable Trust

The Harrison Frank Family Foundation

The Hugh Fraser Foundation

The Mortgage Brain

The Robertson Trust

The W M Mann Foundation

Ulster Garden Villages

Vassiliou Family Charitable Trusts

Waitrose

Welsh Government

Wexbaby

Young Start Fund

Our plans

We look the next 12 months with some significant developments planned, as well as building on the success of our existing projects and programmes.

We will continue our work to address equality, diversity and inclusion within our charity and ensure we are able to play an increasingly positive role in opposing racism and prejudice in the future. We will also continue to develop approaches that enable us to play our part in being an instrument for change in tackling racism in society, especially when these impact on fostering.

As we move into the final year of our current strategic period, we will continue to focus on improving member engagement, developing our evidence-base to inform our work, and ensuring we have the tools and expertise in place to offer effective and efficient support to members and other stakeholders. This will include:

Member engagement

- Continuing our efforts to reach more members to draw out their views on key issues facing the sector, as well as providing support to them in a range of accessible activities. We will build on the success of our online webinars and workshops with partners and move to a blended approach as we increase our face-to-face capacity following the end of Covid-19 restrictions.
- Reviewing and improving our use of digital engagement tools, in particular our website, to ensure members and other stakeholders all have access to the information and support they need.
- We will ensure our members' views are fed into the Review of Children's Services in Northern Ireland.
- Following our member survey, we will continue to identify ways to improve our communications with members and ensure we are seeking members' views to inform our work.
- We will host our Fostering Excellence Awards in person for the first time since the pandemic, to shine a spotlight on the incredible achievements of the fostering community and bring people together in celebration.

Evidenced-based practice

- We will develop our new research strategy, to ensure we are building a robust and reliable evidence base for our work.
- We will launch updated resources on allegations and benefits, along with other key topics relevant to foster carers, to ensure we offer the most appropriate content.
- We will continue to develop our training offer, growing the range and scope of courses and ensuring that our training remains in line with current best practice and legislation.
- We will continue to build new partnerships and improve the range of services and discounts we provide to our members.

The Fostering Network Annual Review 2021-22

Growing our influence

- We will continue to work towards our vision of a society in which the importance of fostering is understood, recognised, and supported.
- We will continue to work to improve the status of foster carers within the team around the child. One key way of doing this will be to push for a central register of foster carers.
- We will respond to The Children, Young People and Education Committee at the Senedd, to help inform the Sixth Senedd (2021-2026)
- The Fostering Network will continue to work closely with The Promise in Scotland to implement change to help align to The Promise by reviewing policies and use of language as well as embedding children's rights across all activities and projects.
- Following the Northern Ireland Executive approval of the Adoption and Children Bill, we will be working to ensure this key piece of legislation is prioritised, appropriately funded, and implemented, as well as pressing for the implementation of fostering regulations and standards.
- Embedding Step Up Step Down service in Northern Ireland, and across the UK, as a model of practice using foster carers to support vulnerable families.
- We will continue to promote our Mockingbird model with the aim of seeing it implemented in every local authority in the UK.
- We will continue as a member of the Alliance for Children in Care and Care Leavers in England.
- We will continue to strive to grow the reach and impact of our awareness raising work through the media, social media, and campaigns such as Foster Care Fortnight, Tick the Box and Sons and Daughters Month.

Key Management Personnel

The Charity's trustees and the senior leadership team comprise the key management personnel of the charity in charge of directing, controlling, running, and operating the charity on a day-to-day basis. The pay of the Chief Executive is reviewed annually and increased when possible following formal approval by the trustees. Key managers and all staff are part of a formal grading system that facilitates fair and transparent comparison of roles. The bands are reviewed each year and salaries are increased when possible following formal approval by the Chief Executive and Trustees.

Financial review

The trustees calculate the reserves required by the Fostering Network based on a risk assessment together with operational needs. The Trustees agreed that we could safely reduce those reserves in 2021/22 and still maintain long term sustainability. The Fostering Network started the year with a deficit budget with the intention to improve member services, to increase our capacity, and to diversify income. The global pandemic continued to place restrictions on face-to-face support while at the same time increasing the demand for our services as we provided our members with advice and information reconciling best care practice with constantly evolving government advice.

Notwithstanding the pressures from increasing inflation and the disruption from the pandemic The Fostering Network has made great progress, increasing investment in member services, developing our Mockingbird consultancy service, and preparing for a new release of The Skills to Foster in 2022/3.

The Fostering Network Annual Review 2021-22

Income from fundraising including a legacy, and gifts in kind and increased by £122K. Continued growth in Membership of £43K and Consulting, £167K has left unrestricted income improved at £5,475K, an increase of £228K.

Income from restricted projects remained constant and overall income has increased from £6,430K to £6,662K.

The combined income from Publishing, Training, Advice, and Consulting has grown 13% from £1,020K to £1,152K, the growth is driven by the successful Mockingbird programme a key part of the range of high-quality services that The Fostering Network provides to support its members. Investment in a new edition of Skills to Foster in the past year and new contracts for Mockingbird secured in early 2022 will ensure growth in these areas in the coming year.

Charitable expenditure on unrestricted activities increased by 7% to £5,513K with expenditure on membership services increasing by 6% to £3,003K. This increase helped The Fostering Network deliver its strategy goal to improve member services particularly through support during the pandemic.

In 2020/21 we made a major investment in IT as part of our digital transformation program. This successful project has been in use throughout the year to improve our understanding of our members needs and to help us plan and develop future activity. Use of services such as Microsoft 365 Teams and SharePoint has enabled staff to continue to work effectively throughout the pandemic whether from the office or from home. The charity has carried some duplicated IT infrastructure costs while improving systems causing a short-term increase in operating costs for IT. Included in IT spend was £50K pro bono support from PwC for improvements to cyber security.

The net unrestricted deficit was in line with budget and plans at £119K.

Cash balances have decreased during the year by £98K due to the planned deficit, improved working capital and a £107K repayment of long-term loans.

In keeping with the charity's policy of holding owned property at market value the Trustees have undertaken a formal valuation of its principal office located at 87 Blackfriars Road, London. The valuation was prepared by Lamberts LLP in March 2022 at £3,300K. At the end of March 2021, it was held at a value of £3,106K guided by advice from Lamberts LLP. The last formal valuation by Lamberts was in December 2018 when the property was valued at £3,550K. This was before London property prices were adversely affected by the pandemic.

Unrestricted reserves have increased by £75K. Restricted reserves reduced by £35K, leaving total reserves improved by £39K at £3,469K.

General reserves policy

In deciding on the level of unrestricted reserves required the board of trustees carries out an annual review to establish the level of reserves necessary to cover future investment, working capital and evaluated risks.

The policy for the level of unrestricted general reserves is now guided by a detailed evaluation of the risks included in the risk register. Each risk is valued and then that value is discounted by a percentage based on the likelihood of that risk occurring. The reserves also provide for any material future investment plans and for specific working capital required to manage large projects.

On this basis, general reserves required are calculated at £1,242K. At the year end, the charity holds general funds £3,167K which is tied up in property with overall cash balances of £626K. Property is held at

The Fostering Network Annual Review 2021-22

market value of £3,300K, which remains a significant asset should there be a need for additional funds. On this basis, reserves are in line with the reserves policy.

Going concern

We have set out above a review of the financial performance during the financial year and our reserves position at the year end. We have adequate financial resources in the form of cash in the bank, the ability to raise financing secured on the charity's property and have the structures in place to manage the business risks. In addition, our annual budgeting and forecasting processes have taken into consideration the current economic climate and its potential impact on our various sources of income and anticipated expenditure.

We have a reasonable expectation that we have adequate resources and control mechanisms to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

Further, we believe that there are no material uncertainties (and this includes the global pandemic and rising inflation rates) that may cast doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. Therefore, we continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the annual financial statements.

Risk management

The trustees have identified and reviewed the major risks to which the organisation is exposed and have established systems and procedures to manage those risks. This involved identifying more than 50 potential risks and then assessing the likelihood of their occurrence and their impact. Where systems are already in place to mitigate these risks, schedules for regular monitoring and reviews have been adopted. Where systems are not already in place, deadlines have been set for their development by staff and approval by trustees.

In managing risk, trustees have considered the following principal areas of risk.

Diversity of income streams and the significance of membership income. We have increased the staff and cost budgets to support members to provide improved services and have continued to strengthen other income such as Mockingbird. In the coming year we will take steps to further strengthen and diversify our income streams.

Ensuring child safety. We ensure staff are trained and supported in their work with Children and that appropriate policies, risk assessments and statutory checks are carried out.

Clarity of long-term strategic plans. The trustees meet each year to review and assess long-term strategic plans.

Inflation. The trustees have reviewed the impact of rising inflation and have provided for the evaluated impact in our reserves required.

Global Pandemic. The trustees have reviewed and evaluated the potential impact of the global pandemic on our short term and long-term income and expenditure. We have provided for the evaluated impact in the total unrestricted reserves required total of £1,242K.

Maintaining adequate reserve levels. We set a reserves level that reflect a financial evaluation of the specific risks that we face together with our fixed asset and working capital plans. We then set annual operating plans to ensure that we maintain enough reserves or so that we build towards the agreed level of reserves if there is a shortfall.

The Fostering Network Annual Review 2021-22

Financial management and financial control. We use professionally qualified staff in our accounts department and have detailed budgets and operating plans that are reported against each month.

The physical condition of the principal property asset at 87 Blackfriars Road. We recognise that this property represents most of our financial reserves and we have an annual maintenance plan to keep it in good condition. In 2018 the building was completely refurbished.

The trustees continue to develop plans to grow unrestricted income, to invest in new income streams, to improve our services to our members and to maintain reserves at our agreed level.

Statement of responsibilities of the trustees

The trustees (who are also directors of The Fostering Network for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' annual report including the strategic 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 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 Charities SORP
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice 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 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 group if group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. In so far as the trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware
- The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Auditor

Sayer Vincent LLP was re-appointed as the charitable company's auditor during the year and has expressed its willingness to continue in that capacity.

The Fostering Network Annual Review 2021-22

The trustees' annual report, including the strategic report, is approved by order of the board of trustees in their capacity as the directors at a meeting on 3 October 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Mervyn Erskine

Independent auditor's report to the members of The Fostering Network

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Fostering Network (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2022 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, 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 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 charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2022 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
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended)

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 Fostering Network'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.

Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, including the strategic 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 the audit:

- The information given in the trustees' annual report, including the strategic report, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- The trustees' annual report, including the strategic 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 trustees' annual report, including the strategic report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) require 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

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities set out in the trustees' annual report, 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 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

We have been appointed as auditor under section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and under the Companies Act 2006 and report in accordance with regulations made under those Acts.

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 are set out below.

Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following

The Fostering Network Annual Review 2021-22

- We enquired of management and the finance committee, which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the charity's policies and procedures relating to:
 - Identifying, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
 - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud;
 - The internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the charity from our professional and sector experience.
- We communicated applicable laws and regulations throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.
- We reviewed any reports made to regulators.
- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

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 or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available 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 company's members as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005. 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.

Joanna Pittman (Senior statutory auditor)

21 November 2022

for and on behalf of Sayer Vincent LLP, Statutory Auditor

Invicta House, 108-114 Golden Lane, LONDON, EC1Y 0TL

Sayer Vincent LLP is eligible to act as auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

The Fostering Network

Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)

For the year ended 31 March 2022

		2022			2021		
	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	2	332,005	-	332,005	209,872	-	209,872
Charitable activities							
Membership subscriptions		2,490,724	-	2,490,724	2,447,893	-	2,447,893
Specific projects		1,435,170	1,186,793	2,621,963	1,492,554	1,183,015	2,675,569
Publishing		79,767	-	79,767	135,721	-	135,721
Training and events		114,055	-	114,055	93,952	-	93,952
Advice services		242,180	-	242,180	241,332	-	241,332
Consultancy		715,773	-	715,773	548,975	-	548,975
Other trading activities		60,091	-	60,091	44,166	-	44,166
Investments		295	-	295	369	-	369
Sundry income		4,954	-	4,954	32,070	-	32,070
Total income		5,475,014	1,186,793	6,661,807	5,246,904	1,183,015	6,429,919
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	5	(81,355)	-	(81,355)	(92,683)	-	(92,683)
Charitable activities	5						
Membership services		(3,002,760)	-	(3,002,760)	(2,842,210)	-	(2,842,210)
Project costs		(1,414,376)	(1,222,119)	(2,636,495)	(1,496,336)	(1,248,680)	(2,745,016)
Publishing		(107,026)	-	(107,026)	(88,859)	-	(88,859)
Training and events		(136,405)	-	(136,405)	(157,132)	-	(157,132)
Advice services		(303,085)	-	(303,085)	(257,844)	-	(257,844)
Consultancy		(549,155)	-	(549,155)	(294,006)	-	(294,006)
Total expenditure		(5,594,162)	(1,222,119)	(6,816,281)	(5,229,070)	(1,248,680)	(6,477,750)
Net income before net gains / (losses) on investments		(119,148)	(35,326)	(154,474)	17,834	(65,665)	(47,831)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	4,824	(4,824)	-
Net income before other recognised gains and losses		(119,148)	(35,326)	(154,474)	22,658	(70,489)	(47,831)
Gains on revaluation of fixed assets		193,750	-	193,750	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		74,602	(35,326)	39,276	22,658	(70,489)	(47,831)
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward as previously		3,092,420	337,095	3,429,515	3,069,762	841,768	3,911,530
Prior year adjustment		-	-	-	-	(434,184)	(434,184)
Total funds brought forward as restated		3,092,420	337,095	3,429,515	3,069,762	407,584	3,477,346
Total funds carried forward		3,167,022	301,769	3,468,791	3,092,420	337,095	3,429,515

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Notes 3 and 19 to the financial statements.

The prior year adjustment shown in the 2021 figures above relate to an adjustment made in the 2021 financial statements. The prior year figures were restated for the Confidence in Care Wales restricted fund as explained in note 20a of the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The Fostering Network

Balance sheet

Company no. 01507277

As at 31 March 2022

		2022		2021	
	Note	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets:					
Tangible assets	12		3,774,978		3,575,503
Investments	13		2		2
			3,774,980		3,575,505
Current assets:					
Stock		10,089		32,313	
Debtors	14	1,872,915		1,443,654	
Cash at bank and in hand		625,611		724,045	
		2,508,615		2,200,012	
Liabilities:					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(2,579,292)		(1,943,856)	
Net current liabilities			(70,677)		256,156
Creditors: amounts falling after one year	16		(235,512)		(402,146)
Total net assets			3,468,791		3,429,515
The funds of the charity:					
Restricted income funds	19		301,769		337,095
Unrestricted income funds:					
Designated funds		-		-	
Revaluation reserve		1,797,509		1,603,759	
General funds		1,369,513		1,488,661	
Total unrestricted funds			3,167,022		3,092,420
Total charity funds			3,468,791		3,429,515

Approved by the trustees on 3 October 2022 and signed on their behalf by

Mervyn Erskine
Chair of the board of trustees

Sophie Massey
Honorary treasurer

The Fostering Network

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 March 2022

	2022		2021
	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	(154,474)		(47,831)
Depreciation charges	97,244		109,121
Investment income	(295)		(369)
(Increase)/decrease in stocks	22,224		4,072
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(429,261)		(191,800)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	576,425		67,694
	<hr/>		<hr/>
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities		111,863	(59,113)
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	295		369
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(102,969)		(403,817)
	<hr/>		<hr/>
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities		(102,674)	(403,448)
Cash flows from financing activities:			
Repayments of borrowing	(107,623)		(100,584)
Cash inflows from new borrowing	-		250,000
	<hr/>		<hr/>
Net cash provided by / (used in) financing activities		(107,623)	149,416
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(98,434)	(313,145)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		724,045	1,037,190
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		625,611	724,045
		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 April 2021	Cash flows	Other non- cash changes	At 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£
Cash and cash equivalents				
Cash at bank and in hand	724,045	(98,434)	-	625,611
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	724,045	(98,434)	-	625,611
Borrowings				
Debt due within one year	107,618	(59,011)	118,022	166,629
Debt due after one year	402,146	(48,612)	(118,022)	235,512
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	509,764	(107,623)	-	402,141
Total	1,233,810	(206,057)	-	1,027,753
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

The Fostering Network

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022

1 Accounting policies

a) Statutory information

The Fostering Network is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office address is 87 Blackfriars Road, London, SE1 8HA

b) 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) - (Charities SORP FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

The subsidiary company did not trade in the year. Therefore the results of the charity and the group are the same.

c) Public benefit entity

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

d) Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern; the charitable company has sufficient reserves and adequate controls to mitigate the risks posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The charity has very stable, regular income and has forecast future activities, balance sheet and operating surplus for three years. It manages working capital with monthly cash flow forecasts.

e) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably. The following specific policies apply to categorise of income:

- Membership subscriptions are recognised over the period of membership (equally over 12 months).
- Publications income is recognised at point of sale.
- Advice, training and consultancy income is recognised on the date the service was provided.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the charity that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably, and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

The Fostering Network

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022

1 Accounting policies (continued)

f) Donations of gifts, services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation 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. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised so refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated gifts, professional services and donated 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.

g) 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.

h) Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

i) 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 relate to the costs incurred by the charitable company in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of delivering member services undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

j) Allocation of support costs

Support and governance costs are re-allocated to each of the activities on the following basis which is an estimate, based on staff time, of the amount attributable to each activity

- Membership	73%
- Specific projects	14%
- Training and events	2%
- Advice services	3%
- Consultancy	6%
- Raising funds	1%
- Publishing	0%

Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity. These costs are associated with constitutional and statutory requirements and include any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities.

k) Operating leases

Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

l) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £1,000. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the use of the related assets in those activities. Assets are reviewed for impairment if circumstances indicate their carrying value may exceed their net realisable value and value in use.

Freehold land and buildings are recognised under the revaluation model under FRS102, and any excess between the revalued amount and the historic cost of the asset will be shown as a revaluation reserve in the balance sheet. Freehold land and buildings are not depreciated as the property is maintained in good condition and therefore the residual value is considered to be in line with the carrying value.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

<input type="checkbox"/> Furniture and equipment	Over four years
<input type="checkbox"/> Computers and software	Over two to ten years
<input type="checkbox"/> Freehold improvements	Over three to seven years
<input type="checkbox"/> Freehold premises	Not depreciated
<input type="checkbox"/> Freehold land	Not depreciated

m) Investments in subsidiaries

Investments in subsidiaries are at cost.

n) Stocks

Stocks consist of publications for resale and materials for use in training courses. They are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. In general, cost is determined on a first in first out basis and includes transport and handling costs. Net realisable value is the price at which stocks can be sold in the normal course of business after allowing for the costs of realisation. Provision is made where necessary for obsolete, slow moving and defective stocks.

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.

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 Fostering Network

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022

1 Accounting policies (continued)

s) Pensions

The Fostering Network operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the amount charged to the SOFA in respect of pension costs and other post-retirement benefits is the contributions payable in the year. Differences between contributions payable in the year and contributions actually paid are shown in either accruals or prepayments in the balance sheet.

t) Management estimates and judgements

In the process of applying its accounting policies the charity is required to make certain estimates, judgements and assumptions. Examples of these are: valuation of freehold property in light of the COVID-19 pandemic (see note 12); where goods and services have been provided but not invoiced to us, we estimate the value of the services; where stock is slow moving we apply a net realisable value if that is lower than cost. Where debtors are materially overdue we reduce their value to zero.

The Fostering Network

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022

2 Income from donations and legacies

	2022 £	2021 £
Donations	149,747	76,291
Gifts in kind	50,000	-
Core grants		
Northern Ireland Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety	43,490	44,813
Scottish Government	88,768	88,768
	332,005	209,872

3 Projects income (current year)

Restricted Projects

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Income 2021 £	Expenditure 2021 £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
England / Headquarters					
Fostering Digital Skills for Life	59,491	-	(18,628)	-	40,863
Jon and Kathy Broad Award	1,600	-	(250)	-	1,350
Mockingbird	15,612	104,887	(117,708)	-	2,791
Quilts for Children in Care	4,846	-	(1,097)	-	3,749
Start Talking	-	39,937	(39,937)	-	-
England / Headquarters	81,549	144,824	(177,620)	-	48,753
Northern Ireland					
Fair Start	-	30,089	(30,089)	-	-
Kinship Care Support	3,542	-	(3,542)	-	-
Step Up Step Down	25,932	133,477	(134,770)	-	24,639
Northern Ireland	29,474	163,566	(168,401)	-	24,639
Scotland					
Capturing the Voice	10,578	-	(10,578)	-	-
Fosterline Scotland	(3,338)	56,232	(52,894)	-	-
Moving On	-	63,909	(35,053)	-	28,856
Scottish Newsletter	3,335	-	1,121	-	4,456
The Promise	-	145,000	(32,836)	-	112,164
Young Advocates	40,270	66,068	(68,906)	-	37,432
Scotland	50,845	331,209	(199,146)	-	182,908
Wales					
Confidence in Care	113,301	-	(113,301)	-	-
Fostering Communities	3,157	264,874	(274,861)	-	(6,830)
Fostering Excellence	8,454	-	-	-	8,454
Fostering Wellbeing	37,026	282,320	(278,291)	-	41,055
Other Welsh Government projects	5,329	-	(5,329)	-	-
Triumph	7,960	-	(5,170)	-	2,790
Wales	175,227	547,194	(676,952)	-	45,469
Total projects	337,095	1,186,793	(1,222,119)	-	301,769

The Fostering Network

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022

3 Projects income (prior year) Restricted Projects

	Balance at 1 April 2020 as restated £	Income 2020 as restated £	Expenditure 2020 £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
England / Headquarters					
Foster Carer Retention	5,211	-	-	(5,211)	-
Fostering Digital Skills for Life	-	59,491	-	-	59,491
Fostering Potential	4,353	-	(4,740)	387	-
Jon and Kathy Broad Award	1,850	-	(250)	-	1,600
Mockingbird	576	291,208	(276,172)	-	15,612
Quilts for Children in Care	7,487	-	(2,641)	-	4,846
England / Headquarters	19,477	350,699	(283,803)	(4,824)	81,549
Northern Ireland					
Kinship Care Support	6,486	34,710	(37,654)	-	3,542
Step Up Step Down	16,532	175,363	(165,963)	-	25,932
Northern Ireland	23,018	210,073	(203,617)	-	29,474
Scotland					
Capturing the Voice	12,153	-	(1,575)	-	10,578
Fosterline Scotland	60	56,232	(59,630)	-	(3,338)
Scottish Newsletter	8,033	-	(4,698)	-	3,335
Young Advocates	31,032	97,969	(88,731)	-	40,270
Scotland	51,278	154,201	(154,634)	-	50,845
Wales					
Confidence in Care	281,553	(78,350)	(89,902)	-	113,301
Fostering Communities	-	247,792	(244,635)	-	3,157
Fostering Excellence	12,947	-	(4,493)	-	8,454
Fostering Wellbeing	-	287,600	(250,574)	-	37,026
Other Welsh Government projects	19,311	-	(13,982)	-	5,329
Triumph	-	11,000	(3,040)	-	7,960
Wales	313,811	468,042	(606,626)	-	175,227
Total projects	407,584	1,183,015	(1,248,680)	(4,824)	337,095

4 Unrestricted Projects (current year)

	Income 2022 £	Expenditure 2022 £
Fostering Achievement	1,435,170	(1,414,377)
Total projects	1,435,170	(1,414,377)

The Fostering Network

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022

4 Unrestricted Projects (prior year)

	Income 2021	Expenditure
	£	2021
		£
Fostering Achievement	1,492,554	(1,496,336)
Total projects	1,492,554	(1,496,336)

Purposes of restricted funds

The restricted funds relate to the following projects:

England

Mockingbird - Mockingbird led by The Fostering Network in the UK, delivers sustainable foster care. It is an evidence-based model structured around the support and relationships an extended family provides. The model nurtures the relationships between children, young people and foster families supporting them to build a resilient and caring community. The model now operates in 62 fostering services, either funded by the Department of Education or self-funded.

Fostering Digital Skills for Life - The Fostering Network is working with Internet Matters and University of East Anglia on the project, Fostering Digital Skills for Life. The project will create and deliver CPD-accredited training, giving foster carers the choice between self-study or facilitator-led learning. The project will also increase understanding across the sector of how supporting foster carers to improve their digital skills can positively impact the digital resilience of children in their care. This project is funded by Nominet as part of the REACH portfolio.

Quilts for Children in Foster Care - This is a long-running project that provides fostered children with their own hand-made quilt. A team of volunteers from Helping Hands Quilters create these bespoke quilts throughout the year and we then distribute these to children and young people across the UK. The quilts, matched carefully to each child, become treasured possessions and part of their life story. This has been supported by a grant from the Cotton Industry War Memorial Trust and The Harrison-Frank Family Foundation.

The Jon and Kathy Broad Award - In memory of Kathy Broad, this is an annual award for foster carers caring for children with special needs and presented as part of the charity's Fostering Excellence Awards.

Start Talking – the Start Talking project aims to increase the knowledge, skills, and confidence of foster carers in supporting the children and young people they care for to have better sexual and reproductive health outcomes. The Fostering Network have worked in partnership with The Sex Education Forum, funded by The Innovation Fund and informed by young people with care experience and foster carers.

Northern Ireland

Fair Start – this funding from the Department of Health aimed to help support children transition back into education and learning environments, both in school and at home, providing therapeutic and grounding strategies so they can settle to learn following the traumatic environment that has surrounded children and families in the last 18 months.

Kinship Care Support - funded by Children in Need and Ulster Garden Villages, this programme supports young people in kinship foster care and their carers to access support to help improve their well-being, build their skills and enable their engagement with the programme.

Step Up Step Down - this is a seven year project, funded by The National Lottery Community Fund for Northern Ireland operating in partnership with the South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust works with families on the periphery of the care system from being taken into care and instead support them to stay within their own homes.

Scotland

Capturing the Voice - This project, funded by The Robertson Trust, Awards for All and Hugh Fraser Foundation, aims to ensure the views of disabled children and young people are heard at decision making meetings and panels and is an extension of the work we carried out as part of our previous Walking Tall project.

Purposes of restricted funds (continued)

Fosterline Scotland - An independent and confidential service providing advice, information, mediation and support to foster carers across Scotland on all aspects of fostering, funded by the Scottish Government.

Moving On - Funded by the National Lottery Community Fund, the Moving On project is a two year project focusing on supporting children and young people and foster families with the complexities and challenges of the transitions made through care and beyond of care.

Scottish Newsletter - This is distributed to all our members in Scotland, including 97% of fostering households across Scotland. This is funded by a variety of grants and donations.

The Promise – funded by Scottish Government and arising from the findings of the Care Review in February 2020, this project aims to deliver 'The Promise' in Scotland. We will implement change, challenge thinking where necessary, and create a young person's advisory board to ensure that children and young people are truly placed at the heart of the work.

Young Advocates - This project, funded by Life Changes Trust and Young Start Fund (delivered by the National Lottery Community Fund), will see young people with care experience create learning opportunities for teachers and trainee teachers around what the day-to-day reality of school or college can be like for them. The young advocates will also train foster carers to help build their awareness of how they can best support the children and young people in their care.

Wales

Confidence in Care - The aim of the project is to improve the life chances of looked after children and young people in Wales by improving placement stability through better interaction and attachment levels, developing a more positive outlook towards education and future career goals, increasing resilience and life skills, and using robust learning and evaluation evidence to influence future policy development in Wales. The Fostering Network is working with Action for Children, Barnardo's, Cardiff University and TACT to deliver this programme. The charity has acted as an agency for our partners, receiving conduit funding from the Big Lottery Fund.

The charity is due to return unspent funds of £102k to the funder (included in creditors) and make a final payment of £34k to partners. □

Fostering Communities (including Fosterline Wales) 2020-2025 - This is a new national programme of improvement and support led by The Fostering Network in Wales and funded by the Welsh Government's Sustainable Social Services Third Sector Grant 2020-2023 (extended to 2025). Embedded within Fostering Communities is a co-production approach, which means we will work in equal partnership with foster carers, children and young people in care and fostering services to plan and deliver the programme. Working together as co-creators and sharing power will enable us to build a strong and resilient fostering community with the aim of improving wellbeing for all. Fostering Communities recognises that everyone in the fostering sector has a vital contribution to make in order to improve the quality of life for children and young people in care and their foster families.

Fostering Excellence (including Fosterline Wales) 2016-2019 - This three-year programme of interventions that will improve the experience of looked after children in Wales, support foster carers to provide permanent, stable and aspiring homes, and ensure that looked after children in Wales are able to make a positive and valued contributions to future generations. Funded by the Welsh Government.

Fostering Wellbeing - This pilot programme is funded by the Welsh Government and delivered by The Fostering Network in Wales. The programme aims to test and evaluate social pedagogy principles (focused on education and the upbringing of children) in a foster care environment. This project operates at regional level across Wales, delivering learning, bringing people together and sharing best practice across service boundaries with an aim to embed a shared approach that will support improved outcomes for children and young people.

Other Welsh Government projects - A number of Welsh Government funded projects including work to develop the recruitment of new local authority foster carers and provide training to existing foster carers in respect of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children.

Triumph (Co-production or adaptation of online interventions for foster care: Promoting the mental health and wellbeing of care-experienced children and young people) - Recently, there has been a move to deliver services online, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. This has highlighted a number of challenges for those working with care-experienced young people.. This project will look at how to best develop online programmes for care-experienced young people, or how to or adapt them from in person to online delivery. From this study the team will develop guidance to support policymakers, practitioners and researchers in developing and adapting programmes for delivery online. These will focus on how to best engage young people, while properly assessing risk and ensuring protection.

The Fostering Network

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022

5 Analysis of expenditure

	Raising funds £	Membership services £	Project costs £	Publishing £	Training and events £	Advice services £	Consultancy £	2022 Total £
Staff costs (Note 8)	62,617	1,723,884	1,173,929	-	86,930	239,895	246,805	3,534,060
Support costs	13,091	838,784	164,651	4,510	18,095	38,314	63,846	1,141,291
Other costs	5,647	440,092	1,297,915	102,516	31,380	24,876	238,504	2,140,930
Total expenditure 2022	81,355	3,002,760	2,636,495	107,026	136,405	303,085	549,155	6,816,281

5 Analysis of expenditure (prior year)

	Raising funds £	Membership services £	Project costs £	Publishing £	Training and events £	Advice services £	Consultancy £	2021 Total £
Staff costs (Note 8)	70,557	1,848,059	1,218,690	-	83,669	223,093	97,532	3,541,600
Support costs	17,184	733,099	227,474	8,078	21,705	23,440	37,378	1,068,358
Other costs	4,942	261,052	1,298,852	80,781	51,758	11,311	159,096	1,867,792
Total expenditure 2021	92,683	2,842,210	2,745,016	88,859	157,132	257,844	294,006	6,477,750

The Fostering Network

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022

6 Support costs

	Raising funds £	Membership services £	Project costs £	Publishing £	Training and events £	Advice services £	Consultancy £	2022 Total £
Facilities	6,546	128,848	6,768	185	6,751	1,575	17,310	167,983
Finance	1,706	185,016	41,146	1,127	2,956	9,574	12,128	253,653
HR	1,079	117,002	26,020	713	1,870	6,055	7,669	160,408
IT	2,598	281,814	62,673	1,717	4,503	14,584	18,473	386,362
Management	998	108,264	24,077	659	1,730	5,603	7,097	148,428
Governance	164	17,840	3,967	109	285	923	1,169	24,457
Total expenditure 2022	13,091	838,784	164,651	4,510	18,095	38,314	63,846	1,141,291

6 Support costs (prior year)

	Raising funds £	Membership services £	Project costs £	Publishing £	Training and events £	Advice services £	Consultancy £	2021 Total £
Facilities	9,949	115,389	9,511	338	8,728	980	12,788	157,683
Finance	2,271	193,929	68,429	2,430	4,074	7,051	7,720	285,904
HR	1,091	93,117	32,857	1,167	1,956	3,386	3,707	137,281
IT	2,671	228,099	80,486	2,858	4,792	8,294	9,080	336,280
Management	1,089	92,956	32,800	1,165	1,953	3,380	3,700	137,043
Governance	113	9,609	3,391	120	202	349	383	14,167
Total expenditure 2021	17,184	733,099	227,474	8,078	21,705	23,440	37,378	1,068,358

The Fostering Network

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022

7 Net income / (expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging / (crediting):

	2022 £	2021 £
Depreciation	97,244	109,121
Operating lease rentals:		
Property	35,611	39,930
Other	1,328	1,418
Rent receivable as lessor		
Property	54,637	39,926
Auditor's remuneration (excluding VAT):		
Audit	14,000	13,300
Other services	954	900
	<u>97,244</u>	<u>109,121</u>

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

Staff costs were as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Salaries and wages	3,075,597	3,096,999
Redundancy and termination costs	30,661	1,838
Social security costs	283,760	297,537
Employer's contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	144,042	145,226
	<u>3,534,060</u>	<u>3,541,600</u>

The following number of employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs and employer's national insurance) during the year between:

	2022 No.	2021 No.
£60,000 - £69,999	1	2
£70,000 - £79,999	1	1
£90,000 - £99,999	-	1
£100,000 - £109,999	1	-
	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>

The total employee benefits (including pension contributions and employer's national insurance) of the key management personnel were £511,047 (2021: £499,631).

The charity trustees were neither paid nor received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2021: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2021: £nil).

Indemnity insurance is provided for trustees at a premium of £1,321 (2021: £1,355).

Trustees' expenses represents the payment or reimbursement of travel costs totalling £219.41 (2021: £102) incurred by 1 (2021: 1) members relating to attendance at meetings of the trustees.

The Fostering Network

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022

9 Staff numbers

The average number of employees (head count based on number of staff employed) during the year was 97, 84 FTE (2021: 99, 86 FTE).

Staff are split across the activities of the charitable company as follows (full time equivalent basis):

	2022	2021
	No.	No.
Cost of raising funds	1	1
Membership services	37	44
Project costs	30	31
Training & events	3	3
Advice services	6	5
Consultancy	7	2
	84	86

10 Related party transactions

There are no donations from related parties which are outside the normal course of business and no restricted donations from related parties.

The Fostering Network received no donations from trustees (2021: £nil). The trustees receive no benefit from the donations made to the charity.

11 Taxation

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

The Fostering Network

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Leasehold improvements £	Furniture £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost or valuation					
At the start of the year	3,106,250	25,277	71,132	539,311	3,741,970
Additions in year	-	-	-	102,969	102,969
Revaluation	193,750	-	-	-	193,750
At the end of the year	3,300,000	25,277	71,132	642,280	4,038,689
Depreciation					
At the start of the year	-	1,474	31,776	133,217	166,467
Charge for the year	-	2,528	17,783	76,933	97,244
At the end of the year	-	4,002	49,559	210,150	263,711
Net book value					
At the end of the year	3,300,000	21,275	21,573	432,130	3,774,978
At the start of the year	3,106,250	23,803	39,356	406,094	3,575,503

Land with a value of £952,817 (2021: £896,875) is included within freehold property and not depreciated. The carrying amount on the cost model would be £1,322,221 (2021: £1,322,221). The purchase price of the freehold building was £450,000 in 1999. The freehold property is not depreciated because the Charity believes that the residual value of the property is in line with the carrying value.

In order to reduce the long term cost to the company of the London office, 23% of the total space is leased to tenants. The property is shown in the accounts at Market Valuation.

The Charity follows the revaluation model for freehold premises. Land and Buildings were revalued as at 31 March 2022 by Lamberts Chartered Surveyors on an existing use open market basis in accordance with Guidance Notes of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. Lamberts are not connected with the charity.

13 Investments

The Fostering Network owns the whole of the issued ordinary share capital of National Foster Care Association Services Ltd, a company registered in England. The subsidiary was dormant in the year.

	2022 £	2021 £
Trading subsidiary (cost)	2	2

The Fostering Network

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022

14 Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade debtors	1,591,370	1,148,946
Other debtors	116,715	121,602
Prepayments	164,830	173,106
	<u>1,872,915</u>	<u>1,443,654</u>

All of the charity's financial instruments, both assets and liabilities, are measured at amortised cost. The carrying values of these are shown above and in note 16.

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors	335,358	645,319
Taxation and social security	324,228	408,431
Other creditors and accruals	506,750	283,589
Deferred income	1,246,327	498,899
Bank loan	107,627	107,618
Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan	59,002	-
	<u>2,579,292</u>	<u>1,943,856</u>

16 Creditors: amounts falling after one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Repayable in 1-5 years	235,512	360,479
Repayable in more than 5 years	-	41,667
	<u>235,512</u>	<u>402,146</u>

This comprises a bank loan and a Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan (CBIL). Both loans are secured over the freehold property and interest on both loans is charged on floating rate basis. The CBIL is for 6 years, with the first year interest free and repayment free. The first repayment is due April 2022.

17 Deferred income

Deferred income comprises of income relating to services to be provided in 2021/22, but have been invoiced prior to 31 March 2022.

	At 1 April 2021 £	Released £	Deferred £	At 31 March 2022 £
Training and events	10,410	(10,410)	4,506	4,506
Advice services	78,318	(78,318)	103,839	103,839
Membership services	277,536	(273,681)	234,802	238,657
Consultancy	132,635	(132,635)	899,325	899,325
	<u>498,899</u>	<u>(495,044)</u>	<u>1,242,472</u>	<u>1,246,327</u>

The Fostering Network

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022

18 Analysis of net assets between funds (current year)

	General unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	3,774,978	-	-	3,774,978
Investments	2	-	-	2
Net current (liabilities)/ assets	(372,446)	-	301,769	(70,677)
Long term liabilities	(235,512)	-	-	(235,512)
Net assets at 31 March 2022	3,167,022	-	301,769	3,468,791

Analysis of net assets between funds (prior year)

	General unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	3,575,503	-	-	3,575,503
Investments	2	-	-	2
Net current (liabilities)/ assets	(80,939)	-	337,095	256,156
Long term liabilities	(402,146)	-	-	(402,146)
Net assets at 31 March 2021	3,092,420	-	337,095	3,429,515

19 Movements in funds (current year)

	At 1 April 2021 £	Income & gains £	Expenditure & losses £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2022 £
General reserve	1,488,661	5,475,014	(5,594,162)	-	1,369,513
Revaluation reserve	1,603,759	193,750	-	-	1,797,509
Total unrestricted funds	3,092,420	5,668,764	(5,594,162)	-	3,167,022

Movements in funds (prior year)

	At 1 April 2020 £	Income & gains £	Expenditure & losses £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2021 £
General reserve	1,205,003	5,246,904	(5,229,070)	265,824	1,488,661
Revaluation reserve	1,603,759	-	-	-	1,603,759
Designated reserve	261,000	-	-	(261,000)	-
Total unrestricted funds	3,069,762	5,246,904	(5,229,070)	4,824	3,092,420

The designated funds were held for the IT development project.

The Fostering Network

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022

20a Operating lease commitments

The charity's total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases is as follows for each of the following periods.

	Property		Other	
	2022	2021	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Less than one year	35,755	30,283	1,075	1,481
One to five years	11,194	14,306	896	-
	46,949	44,589	1,971	1,481

20b Operating lease commitments receivable as a lessor

Amounts receivable under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows for each of the following periods

	Property	
	2022	2021
	£	£
Less than one year	57,542	54,637
One to five years	-	-
	57,542	54,637

21 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1.