



...building a brighter future for  
children with Down Syndrome

# The Downright Special Network

## Annual Report and Accounts

1<sup>st</sup> November 2022 - 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023



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## Foreword from the Chair



Over the past 12 months, the Charity continued to build on its success, providing excellent support to children, young people and their parents/carers.

Downright Special is a successful charity due to the excellent leadership of the Charity Manager, Gillian Bowlas and the brilliant team of teachers, support staff and volunteers who between them have a wealth of expertise and experience across the key phases of children's education and development. The training and development through outreach and partnership work, provided by our team, for practitioners across Hull and the East Riding continues to be a key strength of the Charity's work and the demand for this is growing.

There are several areas of key focus but to choose a few, in 2022/23 we continued to focus on:

- Health, with many achievements including excellent partnership work to update the care pathway; working with local paediatric consultants on an alert system within hospital records; and the creation of a social story to help children, young adults and their parents to navigate the stages of paediatric appointments.
- Social events, with over 20 events organised throughout the year the Charity recognises the importance and benefits for children, young people and their families to get together, have fun and share experiences.
- Each stage of a child's development. With support for new and expectant parents; early development sessions for children from birth to age five; provision for older children; and young adults through the Building a Brighter Future project, the Charity's focus on each stage of a child / young person's development allows for seamless transition and support.

As we look to the future our plans continue to be centred on expanding our range of services in line with the increasing age range of the children we support so we can continue to support their evolving needs and help them reach their potential. You can read more about our future plans on page 25.

These plans and the developments we have been able to achieve to-date would not be possible without the fundraising and grants we receive. These are critical to the success of the charity - thank you to all the individuals and organisations who have supported us this year. You have made this possible!

Finally, thank you to everyone in the Downright Special Family who are a pleasure to work with and make everything achievable - children, parents, grandparents, staff, volunteers, supporters and professionals from other agencies - all of whom have a shared desire to build a brighter future for children with Down syndrome.

I hope, in reading this report, you will agree it demonstrates the outstanding work, innovations and key developments the Charity continues to drive forward, all of which we are incredibly proud of.

Lizann Lowson

Chair of Trustees

## Background

The Downright Special Network was established in June 2007 to:

- Provide and operate such support, materials and events so both parents/carers and professionals in health and education may be assisted in helping children with Down syndrome to achieve the best possible outcomes throughout their education, social, physical and emotional development.
- Produce antenatal support and information to prospective parents and emotional and practical support to new parents.
- Strive to build a brighter future for children with Down syndrome in our area.

The work undertaken by staff, as a result of the fundraising and donations received, allows us to focus on our enduring priorities of:

- Education
- Support
- Advocacy
- Training

## Our Pledge

Downright Special recognises that each individual with Down syndrome is unique and that some may have more complex needs. We pledge to create an environment where all individuals and their families feel welcome and supported, regardless of diagnosis or ability.

## Safeguarding Statement

Downright Special is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and adults with a care and support need, engaged in the breadth of its activities. Downright Special believes that everyone has the right to be safe from harm and should be able to live free from fear of abuse, neglect and exploitation.

Downright Special takes its responsibilities for safeguarding children extremely seriously and we believe safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. We follow safer recruiting guidelines. All Downright Special posts are subject to enhanced DBS disclosure. All our staff and volunteers who have contact with families must attend Level 1 Safeguarding training as a minimum with several of our staff receiving further training including safer recruiting, vulnerable babies and Makaton safeguarding workshop. Our safeguarding policy can be found on our [website](#).

## Meet the Team

### Our Trustees








We had five trustees on the board this year. Trustees Neil and Michelle completed the Smile Trustee Academy this year.

	Lizann Lawson Appointed October 2019 Chair since July 2020		Angela Broekhuizen Appointed June 2016 Treasurer since June 2021
	Gavin Beresford Appointed May 2017		Michelle Marie Appointed April 2022
	Neil Findlay Appointed October 2022		

## Our Staff

We have eight part-time members of staff to ensure the smooth running of the charity, deliver our Friday education sessions, outreach work in schools and training courses for parents and professionals and to develop our work on health and wellbeing.

The team members are:

	Gillian Bowlas Charity Manager		Louise Smith Charity Organiser
	Sam Findlay Health Lead		Katie Bewell Specialist Teacher (KS1) & Designated Safeguarding Officer
	Laura Nichols Early Years Advisor		Dr Nicola O'Riordan Advisory Teacher (KS2 to KS4)
	Sarah Hyde Toddler Group Leader		Susanne Townhill Baby Group Leader & New Parent Contact



**Lauren, Becky and Jess  
Friday Group Volunteers**

## **Our Volunteers**

To keep our costs as low as possible, the Charity uses many volunteers, including several parents, and we owe a huge debt of gratitude to each one of them who helped us this year.

These volunteers assist with running Friday sessions, laminating resources, organising social and fundraising events, designing publications and resources, helping with social media, managing our website and IT systems, running our bookstall, charity tin collections and managing the accounts.

Many thanks to: Lisa Bell, Harry Bewell, Lisa Bloomer, Bob Bloomer, Rachel Bowlas, Angela Broekhuizen, Tone Broomfield, Toni Bullock, Becky Constable, Neil Findlay, Jill Lambert, Jessica Ross, Karl Svenson, Roger Vine, Lauren Ward and all the amazing volunteers who helped at our Christmas, Awareness Week, Easter and summer sponsored walk events.

## Review of our Activities of the Year

### Education

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*OUR PRIORITY WAS TO CONTINUE TO DELIVER WEEKLY FRIDAY EARLY INTERVENTION SESSIONS AND SUPPORT MAINSTREAM SCHOOLS WITH INCLUSION AND DIFFERENTIATION*

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#### Downright Special Early Development Groups



Our Downright Special early development groups run on a Friday during term time and continue to be a great success for children from birth to approximately five years old. We currently have around 16 children who regularly attend Friday mornings and, this year, we delivered 37 sessions. These sessions are a chance for parents to get together, have a coffee, share experiences and provide mutual support. The children get the chance to play and make friends. Most importantly the sessions also incorporate ‘lesson time’ when the children are put in small groups to work on their speech, language and communication skills, numeracy and literacy in a way that is tailored to the

specific learning profile of children with Down syndrome. We provide lots of bespoke visual resources to support the children’s learning and parents are given these to continue the work at home. We use Makaton sign language throughout the morning, helping parents and children learn the signs they need to communicate with each other and help with learning new words. We have established a tried and tested curriculum of activities which is reviewed annually to ensure the latest teaching methods are used. The curriculum also helps us to track progress and record milestones for each child. In September this year we altered how we organise the mornings to increase opportunities for sensory activities, enhance the transition between our different teachers and ensure the sessions are even more child orientated whilst continuing to alter our approach for children with specific social communication needs.



Our baby group continues to be incorporated into Friday mornings, with our youngest children enjoying a range of sensory activities and learning some of the early skills, such as taking turns and making early speech sounds in a relaxed and fun environment. It is also a chance for parents to see a demonstration of some the activities they can do at home to support their child’s development and for parents to learn some of the most useful sign language to help with their baby’s communication skills.

Also, an aspect which is crucially important, Downright Special Fridays offer parents and carers the opportunity to chat over coffee, share their experiences and offer peer-to-peer support whilst the children play in a safe environment. However good a statutory agency may be, there are some things that only another parent will understand and be able to offer the mutual support which is so often needed. The Friday group is striking visual evidence that there is no “type” of parent who will have a child with Down syndrome, and we have a diversity of ages and cultures in the group. New dads can also be reassured it certainly isn’t a “mother and baby” group, as we have several fathers attending regularly.



## Downright Special Education Outreach Work with Schools



Downright Special Education aims to support effective inclusion in mainstream schools. Our three part-time members of staff provide support to 50 children in mainstream nurseries, pre-schools and schools. We have continued to increase our support to mainstream secondary schools as more of our children choose to continue their education this way. We now support ten children in mainstream secondary. The number of schools and nurseries receiving direct support from us is around 45. Our specialist teachers have visited schools to assess children and advise teaching staff, provided training for schools on the learning profile of children with Down syndrome, assisted with formulating effective Individual Education Plans (IEPs), written reports for the Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP) process, and attended annual reviews and transition meetings. We also continue to provide Education Resource Packs for each child we support when they begin their formal education.

“Due to the teacher being shown the learning style of children with Down syndrome, they have been able to plan and resource lessons to allow the child to access the curriculum better. The child has become so confident and engaged in learning thanks to the support given to both teaching staff, support staff and the child.”

Laura Nichols is our Early Years Advisor and, in addition to leading a Friday morning early intervention group, Laura's remit is to provide support and advice on inclusion of a child with Down syndrome in mainstream nursery or pre-school settings. She ensures our children get the best start to their education before they even reach statutory school age. Laura had 14 children on her caseload and provided support to 12 different settings this year.

Katie Bewell is our Specialist Teacher, mostly working with children in Key Stage 1. Katie had 13 children on her caseload this year. The use of colourful semantics for comprehension and speech fluency and incorporating its use in specialist Apps such as Clicker, has continued to be a success this year. Many Teaching Assistants (TAs) are now using it in the classroom and we are seeing our years of work on the use of colourful semantics paying off, with our children making significant progress in this area of development. There continues to be great success with phonological awareness training, using multiphonics bricks with matching boards, which really help children blend and segment 'CVC' words.

Dr Nicola O'Riordan is our Key Stage 2/3 Advisory Teacher. Nicola has been instrumental in providing outreach support to our KS2-KS4 children and supporting the children, staff and parents in the transition to secondary school. Nicola had 24 children on her case load. In the last year, has begun to support children in KS4 (years 10&11). Nicola has continued to develop our INSET training offer for schools, writing and delivering a suite of new courses to suit the requests from schools.



Very importantly, we continue to offer small-group sessions at our Downright Special Friday group for school-age children and their TAs to the end of Key Stage 1. This year, we had 12 children attending these afternoon sessions in four different teaching groups. These structured lessons cover the core elements of the curriculum, including reading, writing, literacy, numeracy, and speech and language development. Having the TAs attend means they can see a demonstration of how to practically apply the

specific teaching techniques which ensure our children's learning is maximised. They are given resources they can take away for use in the classroom and have plenty of opportunity to ask for advice on any issues they may be facing in the classroom, or to get guidance on next steps. It is also useful for them to meet other TAs to share experiences and learn from each other. We also continued monthly groups for children who have recently moved into KS2 and are ready to do some focused work on developing comprehension skills using a heavily scaffolded version of the 'Language for Thinking' speech and language programme. These groups are led by our KS2/4 advisor Nicola O'Riordan.

### Case Study

*T has been coming to the Friday sessions since he was a few weeks old and he is now eight. This year he has come to the end of our curriculum of Friday sessions and will be moving to outreach support in school. When he first came to us his parents felt very frightened about the future for him but now they feel very positive about what the future holds for their son. Over the years T's speech and language skills have improved, his parents have felt very supported and continue to be active members of the Downright Special family. The difference we have made is best described in their own words: "I can't believe that Fridays are officially over. From the first Friday we walked through the doors and became part of this amazing community, you have advocated, taught and become our friends. There will never be enough words to thank you for all the hard work you've put into our son. We are forever in your debt."*

## Support to Families

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*Our priorities during the year were to offer additional support to families and to offer a variety of social events including social event opportunities for older children/ young people*

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### Social Events



We organised 21 social events in total this year.

Parents told us how important it is to them to have social events and chances to meet up with other families. Social events allow our families to get together, share experiences, pass on tips, support each other, and celebrate their children's achievements. The events also give the children a chance to make friends with other children with Down syndrome and develop what we hope will be lifelong friendships and support networks. These events are just as important as our formal activities and this year we made it a priority to offer as many social events as possible with a mixture of events for all ages and the whole family and age-specific events. We knew how much our older children valued events just for them where they could socialise with their peers of the same age.



It was great to be able to have our Christmas party again this year at Lazaat with 70 children plus their families coming along. It is certainly the highlight of everyone's social calendar, with an entertainer, pamper zone, crafts, karaoke and of course a visit from Santa.

We enjoyed a lovely day for our Easter Egg Hunt with 42 children and their families attending. And if that wasn't enough chocolate, 27 of our children and their families attended the Withernsea Bike Easter Egg run at East Park, Hull.

In July, we had a family sponsored walk and picnic at East Park with 56 children and their families enjoying a walk round the park, followed by a picnic. We also organised tickets for Circus Starr for 50 children in May.

In addition to these whole-family events, we ran the following sessions for different age groups with over 50 of our children attending at least one event this year.



#### **Pre-school/Primary age events:**

- Bowling at Superbowl, Hull
- 3 dance sessions with Joanna from The Little Yorkshire Dance Academy
- 2 Soft Play pizza parties at Monkey Bizness



#### **Youth Club Events (12-25)**

- Pizza-making at Ask Italian, Hull
- 3 Dance sessions with Joanna
- 2 Bowling Parties

#### **Events for Parents**



From parents' feedback we had the request to give parent/carers a forum to meet up for a chat, so over the last year we have organised four cuppa and chat sessions! Parents enjoyed the chance to have an uninterrupted catch-up whilst the children were at nursery, school and college. Attendance has been variable so we will monitor and review over the next year.

## Other Support

### New and Expectant Parents



We continued to support families new to parenting a baby with Down syndrome to offer support and information and this year welcomed two new babies to our special family. Through the hospital and health visiting teams, families are usually put in contact with us within a week of the birth or if a parent knows antenatally then we provide support through the pregnancy. We set straight to work not as lone “advisors” but instead using the extensive network we have built up to put the new parents in touch with others. As our database has grown to over 140 local families, we can now go so far as to match new parents to those of similar ages, situations and with babies who have similar medical conditions. For a new parent, there is nothing better than speaking to somebody who knows exactly what they are going through and can give them a glimpse of easier times a couple of years down the road, and there is nothing that our families with older children like better than reaching out to give new parents support, reassurance, advice and hope for the future. Fantastically, our families are working together for mutual benefit, which was always our ambition.

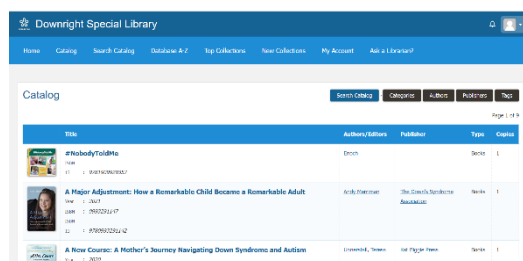
### Advice

Our team are on hand throughout the week to give advice on all aspects of the care and education of children and young people with Down syndrome.

We have a closed Facebook group for parents, giving them a safe place to share useful information, ask questions and provide mutual support.

We have supported several families this year with advice on filling in benefit forms, in providing reports and advice for Education and Health Care Plans, and with support in choosing schools and nurseries. We have been able to help several families with their applications for claiming Disability Living Allowance (DLA) and Personal Independence Payment (PIP) or appealing against decisions.

### Online Library



We have an online library system, where we catalogue all of the books, information and resources we have and make it easy for parents and carers to view the list and arrange to borrow items. The system also makes it easier for us to log the whereabouts of all our resources. We continued to add to the library as new publications become available.

## Downright Special Health

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*To continue to develop the health agenda with a focus on the care pathway, maternity services and understanding best practice around supporting children with dual diagnosis.*

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This year we were delighted to be able to continue to fund the role of our Downright Special Health Lead. Downright Special has always had a strong focus on education and the aim of the Health Lead role is to bring this same level of expertise and knowledge to the understanding of the health needs of children with Down syndrome. Sam Findlay, a registered Learning Disability Nurse started the role in December 2020, working one day a week on a Friday.

Sam has been supporting our families with:

- Signposting and advice about which health services do what, how referral is made and referral criteria. This includes support with referral forms. This also includes where families have found it problematic accessing services or who wish to feedback dissatisfaction with services.
- Advice about specific health issues common to Down Syndrome with signposting to reputable sources of information.
- Advice/support around behaviours, management of behaviours at home, sensory processing difficulties and referral to Sensory Service if relevant.
- Advice to parents about puberty/growing up.
- Advice and support regarding sleep
- Creation of a bespoke Health Passport for a child or young person
- Creation of social stories e.g. to prepare for appointments or about specific issues such as growing up.
- Discussion with parents wondering about a possible additional diagnosis for example autism or ADHD.
- A listening ear for any parent that needs space to talk in confidence.

In addition, this year Sam has:

- **Led the annual update to the Down syndrome care pathway**, contacting relevant professionals, updating the pathway with the latest evidence-based information and working with local NHS commissioners to ensure the updates were included and rolled out. The Down Syndrome Care Pathway can be found here: <https://www.hullccg.nhs.uk/downsyndromehull>. The main changes in this year's review (version 5) included audiology, physiotherapy, occupational therapy and specialist gynaecology. The guidelines for the Annual Paediatric Checklists were also updated to reflect current best practice guidelines. This was made possible by the significant input and expertise of Consultant Community Paediatrician (Neurodisability) Dr Lorna Hight and her team.
- **Worked with the local Emergency Department Paediatric Consultant to set up an alert system** within hospital records so that when a child with Down syndrome arrives at hospital there is a flag on their records that alerts doctors and nurses to the possible differences in how a child with Down syndrome might display symptoms of serious illness. Sam leads on making sure this is updated on an annual basis.

- **Developed a social story** to help support children, young adults and their parents when attending their paediatric appointments at Hull Royal Infirmary. It can be used to help prepare for appointments or used during the visit to help navigate through the stages of an appointment. The resource makes the appointment a positive experience and reduces levels of anxiety. Older ones can use it themselves as an easy read so they can learn to become independent and confident attending appointments.
- **Created an eye condition alert.** Sam and student nurse John created a useful one-page resource that can be saved on your phone and taken to eye test appointments. The resource lists a few of the eye conditions that may be more prevalent in people with Down syndrome and that should be checked for regularly. It also signposts professionals to the Down Syndrome Medical Interest Group evidence-based information on vision.

### Down Syndrome with Complex Needs

Over the last 12-18 months, Health Lead Sam has been meeting and consulting with a small group of parents to better understand the issues facing families whose children have Down syndrome plus other needs such as autism. The input and discussions were written up as a report that has been shared with those involved and with the Trustees. The work was also presented at the annual DSUK Conference.

We have been steadily working our way through the action plan that came from the working group of parents. We have divided the work into four topic areas: Social events, Fridays, Training, and Information & Advocacy. Here's a summary of the actions already done or underway. Other longer-term actions are in the action plan.

#### *Social Events*

- A Complex Needs Checklist for venues was developed and has been used very successfully in planning events.
- Planned repeating events within and across years in safe/familiar places with same routine.
- Social stories have been written in advance of each event.
- Chosen (where possible) venues with multiple rooms for social events to cater for different needs. We did this for dance sessions and the Christmas party, both of which had quiet rooms available.
- Invited parents to assess venues in advance.

#### *Fridays*

- "All about me" forms completed/filed and kept up to date (annually or is something changes).
- Reasonable adjustments made for teaching sessions and info shared/flagged with social event organisers where relevant if adjustments would help there too. For each Friday the teachers jointly plan the themes and activities, making adjustments for each child's individual needs.

#### *Training*

- An audit of all our training courses was started to check the content is inclusive of complex needs. Our Intro to DS training has already been revised over the last few years to make more mention of DS and autism or complex needs.

#### *Information and Advocacy*

- Encouraged families to share top tips/useful opportunities about things that are helpful for their child with complex needs. We have been regularly posting about resources and information in the closed Facebook group for parents and in our newsletter.
- Awareness week – choosing topics that celebrate all children with Down syndrome and ensuring we have a range of children represented in our posts.

## Supporting Young People – Building a Brighter Future Project

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*Our priorities were to continue the Building a Brighter Future project, looking at Downright Special's role in supporting young people with Down syndrome post-16.*

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Between June 2022 and January 2023, we invited parents/carers to join a working party to look at the needs of families as their young people prepare for adulthood. We had nine parents participate in a series of meetings where we explored issues around preparing for adulthood including Health, Independent Living, Employment and Relationships.

The group identified five themes: lack of clarity about what happens at each stage of the transition to adulthood; worries about the legal implications of becoming an adult; safety of their young person; wellbeing of parents/carers; social opportunities for their young person; the need for ongoing speech and language therapy.

The group then identified actions that could be taken in the short, medium and long term for services the charity could provide or support with signposting.

The information gathered was written up into a report which was been shared with Trustees, along with a series of recommendations for how the charity could support young people and their families at this stage in their lives.

We were able to take some immediate actions this year including adding more information within the DS Care pathway on transition to adult services, training and information sessions organised on: Wills & Trusts; Mental Capacity; Deputyships & Lasting Power of Attorney, Puberty.

In addition, the feedback told us how much the young people and families valued regular social events. This year we provided six social events specifically for this age group with an average of fourteen young people attending each one, enjoying dance sessions, bowling and pizza-making.

Next steps are to feed the information into our next strategy review and plan to address some of the longer-term actions.



## Advocacy

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*Our priorities during the year were to work collaboratively with our NHS partners to review and communicate the Down Syndrome Care Pathway, to actively participate in Down Syndrome Awareness Week and to raise the profile of the charity.*

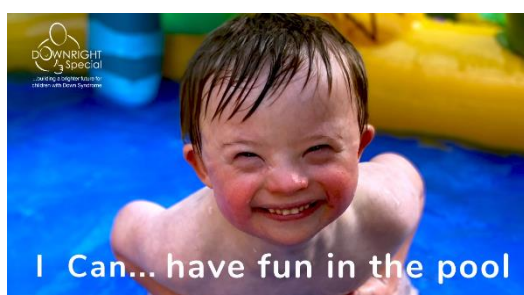
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### Awareness Week

Part of our mission is to act as a voice for the children and parents we support. We aim to change perceptions and raise awareness of what it really means to have Down syndrome.



For Awareness Week this year we had a successful social media campaign, along the theme of #ICan to raise awareness and celebrate the individuality of each of our children/young people. People with Down syndrome, like everyone else, have a wide range of personalities and abilities and we wanted to celebrate the big variety of the things they can do just in the same way we have a huge variety of fabulous children and young people at Downright Special!



We had some great videos and photos of our children of all ages showing all the things they can do. Huge thanks to, Anya, Arthur, Charlie, Emma, Frankie, Hermione, Jack, Jaeden, Jake, Jesse, Megan, Mia, Millie, Raphie, Sol, Thomas, Tia and Toby. You can view it here: [https://fb.watch/pE\\_FKJWnM-/](https://fb.watch/pE_FKJWnM-/)



We also had several schools and other supporters wearing their #LotsofSocks on World Down Syndrome Day to raise awareness or hosting coffee morning and bakes sales.



A highlight for Awareness Week was our coffee morning. Families, friends, and supporters were all invited to celebrate World Down Syndrome Day.

There was entertainment from the Sunshine Strummers Ukulele band, soft play, biscuit-decorating, crafts and lots and lots of cake! Over 100 people came along, and it was brilliant to see some of our young people working so hard to help on the day.



We ended Awareness week with a Charity Football Match, organised and led by First Touch UK / head coach Karl Southwick, dad to Mia.

A team of Downright Special friends and families played a full match against a team of parents from the football academy in a fun but competitive game that everyone enjoyed whilst raising funds for the charity and awareness.



## New Parent Packs



Our new parent packs continue to be available on the maternity and neonatal wards. Midwives can give these packs out to parents knowing they are receiving up-to-date information on parenting a child with Down syndrome. A version of these packs is also available for those with an antenatal diagnosis. The packs available to download from our website <https://www.downrightspecial.co.uk/expectant-parents> and <https://www.downrightspecial.co.uk/new-parents>.

We raised awareness of these packs with maternity staff through the training we delivered this year to the labour ward midwives.

## Networking

We have continued to build networks with groups nationwide, through the DSUK-led Facebook group for those running parent support groups with the aim of making a difference by sharing support, services, knowledge and expertise, making sure we are delivering the best service possible to our families and running our groups as efficiently as possible. This year we presented our work on Down syndrome with complex needs at the annual DSUK parent support group leaders conference.

We continue to be affiliated to the Down's Syndrome Association. We work closely with the local Parent Carer Forums to feedback views from parents of key issues affecting them. We have a presence at the East Riding Learning Disability Partnership Board. We participated in the stakeholder reference group for the local NHS neurodiversity service development.

## Communication with parents and carers

Making sure we hear the issues facing parents so that we can properly represent their voices is very important to us. We regularly review and update communications and engagement action plan, and we have two parents on our board of trustees, ensuring that we are continuing to deliver services that maximise the benefit to the families we support. We send regular emails to parents, send a half-termly update newsletter to parents and communicate frequently via our social media channels and closed Facebook group. We send out a biannual survey for parents and respond to any feedback.

## Training

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*Our priority during the year has been to continue to offer a range of training for parents, schools, and health professionals.*

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### **Advisory Teacher Nicola**

#### **delivering online training via Teams**

One of our aims is to promote the awareness of Down syndrome and support successful inclusion. One of the ways we do this is providing training which is accessible to schools, parents and professionals working with our children. We minimise how much we charge for these courses to ensure no child is disadvantaged.

We have had a successful year delivering a comprehensive programme of training to over 200 parents and professionals. During lockdown and the pandemic we very successfully switched to delivering our training online via Zoom or Teams, managing to reach more education staff than ever before and have continued to deliver training in this way.

We delivered 19 training courses for schools this year including: Introduction to Working with Children with Down Syndrome; Maths using Numicon; Teaching Vocabulary; differentiating the curriculum, Supporting Speech, Language and Communication Needs, Developing Language and Reading, Growing, Changing and Keeping Safe, Working Memory, Coordination Difficulties, Promoting Positive Behaviour, Sensory Processing Difficulties and Social, Emotional, Mental Health and Wellbeing.

We organised four training sessions / workshops specifically for parents on Wills & trusts, Safe & Healthy Puberty, Toilet Training and Mental Capacity, LPA & Deputyships

This year, we continued to offer our INSET training and delivered six INSET training sessions on colourful semantics, working memory, curriculum differentiation, introduction to Down syndrome and signing.

Training for professionals in health is also important to us. Susanne and Gillian delivered three training sessions on delivering the news that a baby has Down syndrome, to around thirty midwives.

## Fundraising

The work of Downright Special is only made possible by the generosity and efforts of many people who have supported us by awarding us a grant, raising funds, or donating goods and services. Our plan in this year was to continue to have a broadly based fundraising strategy, rather than relying on one type of income. The pandemic's impact on community fundraising remained a risk this year and this was reflected on our risk register. Our targets for this year were: grants/trusts (65%), community (30%), training (3%), other (2%). These targets are monitored at trustee meetings. Our continued focus on grants has reaped rewards in 2023, with successful grants received from:

<b>Grants</b>	<b>Amount</b>	
Matthew Good Foundation	£	10,000
Brownless Trust	£	200
Ironmongers	£	13,447
The Beacon Lodge Charitable Trust	£	8,000
Hull + ER Charitable Trust	£	2,500
James Reckitt Charity	£	5,000
WO Street Charitable Foundation	£	3,000
National Lottery Awards For All	£	9,900
HEY Smile Foundation	£	2,000
KCOM	£	1,000
Joseph+Annie Cattle Trust	£	5,000
Tesco Bags for Good (Groundworks)	£	1,125
HEY Smile Foundation	£	6,580
Players of People's Postcode Lottery	£	25,000
Help For Health	£	3,672
Masonic Charitable Foundation	£	5,000
	<b>£</b>	<b>101,424</b>

We were delighted that The Matthew Good Foundation awarded us a grant of £50,000 to be paid over 5 years, with the first £10,000 paid to us in this year. They also supported us by working with Big Picture Charity Films to make a short new film about the charity to be used to showcase what we do to supporters and to help welcome new families. The film was completed and launched in January 2023. You can view it here: <https://vimeo.com/790811879>

Our income from grants was 130% of our target this year. Based on successes to date, we have once again invested £1,200 in paying for 30 hours of a bid-writer's time to help us with our grant applications and paid for a further 30 hours to cover our needs in 2023/2024.

Our community fundraising & donations income saw a 37% decrease compared to last year. We have continued to work very hard to raise funds through our bookstall, raffles, auctions and encouraging families to take part in our Down Syndrome Awareness Week activities. We raised around £5,000 during Awareness Week through families and friends taking part in a number of challenges, including a sponsored football match, hair dye, bake sales, dance schools wearing Lots of Socks, Facebook donate buttons, Lots of Socks in schools and nurseries, donations and matched funds and raffles.

In March 2023 our time as Charity of the Year for **Victory Leisure Homes** came to an end. We are so grateful for the support. We continue to be the charity of the year for Hercules House at South Hunsley Secondary School and this year Portia House, Hessle High have chosen us as their Charity of the Year too.

Overall, our income this year increased by 16% compared to last year (from £108K to £126K), surpassing our expectations. This gives us confidence for 2023-2024 that we will be able fund the charity in line with our budget of £131k for covering increased cost due to inflation, cost of living increases whilst continuing to grow the charity's offer to families.

It is important to highlight we receive no statutory funding, and do not currently charge our parents or the schools and early years settings we support for the majority of the services we offer. The only charge was a heavily subsidised rate for school staff to attend training courses.

Every penny goes towards building a brighter future for children and young people with Down syndrome and making a huge difference to their lives today. **Our heartfelt thanks go to those who supported us by raising funds or providing goods and services between November 2022 and October 2023. These include:**

Asda Foundation	Harrison & Symonds Cigar Group	Kerry Farmery	Robert Jubb
Bob Bloomer	Hessle High	Kim Thorpe	Roger Coates
Braham and Dixon	Hornsea Primary	Kingspan	Sandhills Garden Centre Café
Bridbeat Charity Singers	Hull United FC	Laser Renew	South Holderness Ladies Probus
Capgemini	Humber Bridge Half Marathon	Lesley Grant	South Hunsley School - Hercules House
Charlotte Rowley	Inkwerx Tattooing	M L Tuffnell	Sproatley Syndicate
D3 Workwear	J Cowell	Michael Walker	St Andrews (kirkella) primary
Don Bremner	J Oliver	Mike East Funeral Services	St Paul's Boxing Academy
Edenthorpe Hall Primary	Jennie & Emma Smith	Mrs Bruce	Sunshine Strummers
Genesis Pre-school	Jo Thompson	Paul Knight	Swanland Primary
Gill Foster	Joanna Harker	Phil Lamb, Sculcoates Church	The Little Yorkshire Dance Academy
Gillian Svenson	Judy Sugden	Premier, Beverley	The One Point
Gosschalks Solicitors	Karl and Kerli Southwick	Preston Primary	Tone Broomfield
Hall Road Academy	Karyn Elgie	Redwood Glades	Victoria Ross
Harris, Lacey & Swain	KCOM	Rhona Kirk	Victory Leisure Homes

Thanks also to everyone who:

- Supported us during Awareness Week
- Hosted a collection tin
- Set up a [Facebook Fundraiser](#) for us this year
- Donated via TicketSource when booking an event
- Set up regular giving via their Payroll or via our Just Giving Page <https://www.justgiving.com/downright-special>
- Gave us a one-off donation via Just Giving, Paypal, or direct to the charity
- Donated a raffle or auction prize
- Donated goods for our eBay shop
- Supported us by using <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk> for their online shopping
- Sent e-cards using [Don't Send Me A Card](#).
- Supported us by using Amazon Smile [www.smile.amazon.co.uk](http://www.smile.amazon.co.uk) to do their Amazon shopping
- Bought us resources from our Amazon Wish List <https://tinyurl.com/2p87d64b>
- Everyone else who donated or supported us in any way, big or small. We couldn't do it without you!

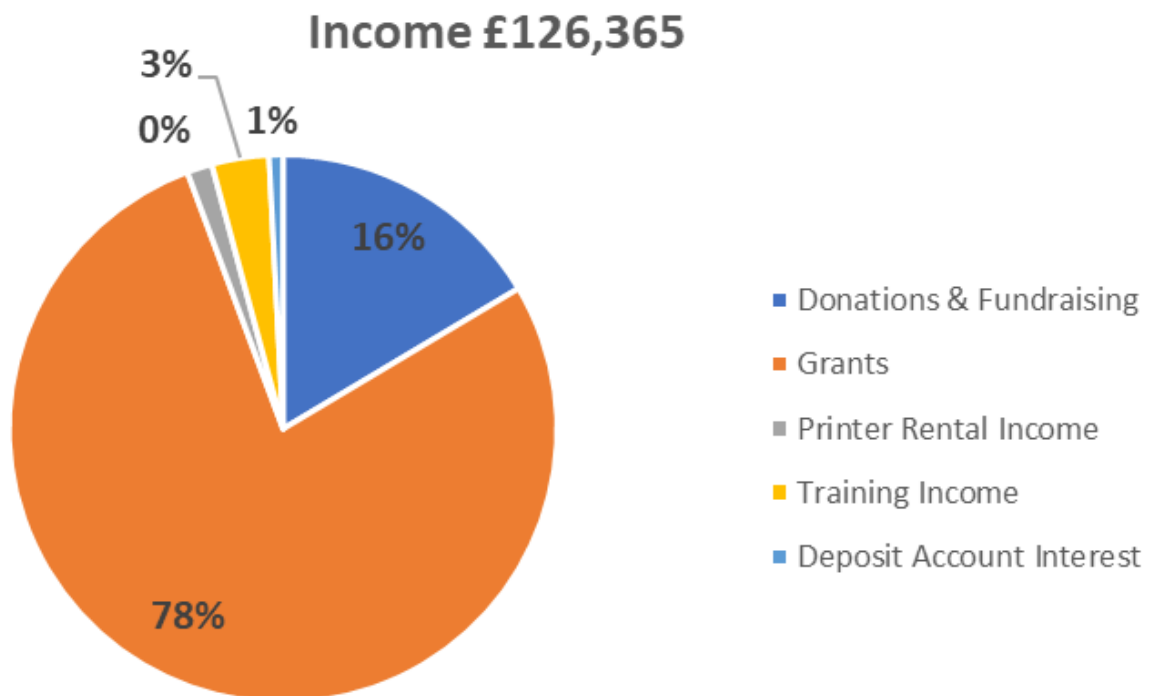
## Financial Review

### Income

Our levels of income saw a 16% increase compared to last year. This was mainly due to increases in grants (up 45%) due to our focus on this income stream. The pandemic had a devastating impact on our community fundraising in 2020 and 2021 and income from this funding stream has continued to decline and is 36% lower than last year.

We continue to fundraise ourselves with our bookstall at Sandhill Garden Centre Café, and income from sharing the use of our printer. Our campaigns for World Down Syndrome Day generated around £5000 and we ran a number of raffles and auctions.

Fundraising from individuals taking part in sponsored events continues to play a vital role in securing sufficient income to run the charity, although income from this continues to be much reduced compared to before the pandemic and we continue to look for innovative ways to encourage individuals to fundraise for us.



## Expenditure

Our overall expenditure was similar to last year although lower than planned. This was mostly due to wages being lower than budget as we had one person leave the organisation whose role was only partly replaced.

We continue to invest in specialist resources and making bespoke materials which can be used in our education sessions or given to families and schools to support the development of the children. This year we invested in updating our 'See and Learn' resources, the evidenced-based programme that is recommended for working on our children's speech sounds, vocabulary and sentence building.

This year our spend on social events increased in part due to the increase in costs of events in line with the cost of living increases this year and due to the number of events we were able to organise.

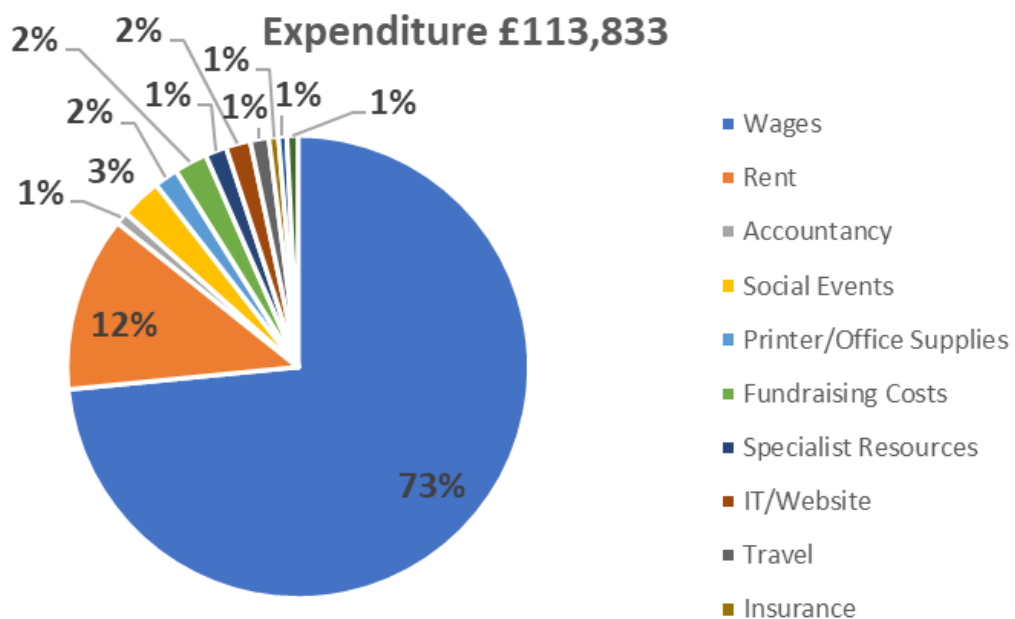
Following the renegotiation of our printer contract with our supplier KRL our printing costs decreased this year.

We are very grateful to the many individuals who purchased office supplies and specialist resources from our Amazon Wishlist, helping to keep these costs as low as possible.

We have invested in new IT equipment including two iPads (with thanks to funding from grants) and have had to replace one of our aging laptops.

We keep our costs as low as possible through gifts in kind from local businesses, such as reduced accountancy costs from Harris Lacey and Swain, employment law advice from Gosschalks solicitors, website hosting / telephony support from The One Point and many more. The One Point also very kindly continue to donate their time free of charge to support us with our IT systems following our migration to Office 365 this year, keeping us working safely, securely and efficiently.

We are hugely thankful for the incredible efforts from our team of volunteers, who have enabled us to continue to be so cost effective.



A full summary of the accounts is appended to this trustees' report.



## Looking to the future

Our plans for the next 10 years continue to be centred on expanding our range of services in line with the increasing age range of the children we support so we can continue to support their evolving needs and help them reach their potential. Our goal is to support children and young people through their secondary school years and beyond to further education and employment. We also want to ensure that we continue to be sustainable in the short term whilst we continue to deliver our core, current activities.

Some of our plans are:

- **To review and refresh our five-year strategy.**
- **To continue to develop the health agenda with a focus on the care pathway, maternity services and implement the recommendations from the Down syndrome with complex needs project.**
- **Embed the new format for Friday morning sessions into our ways of working, reviewing and amending as necessary.**
- **To implement the recommendations from the Building a Brighter Future project to support young people with Down Syndrome post-16.**
- **To continue to strengthen communication and engagement strategies** with a particular focus on updating our website.
- **To increase our training offer for parents** and continue to offer a range of training for schools and health professionals.
- **To find long term sustainable funding** for our specialist staff and our building costs.
- **To continue to develop our social event opportunities** for the whole family and older children / young adults.
- To continue lobbying on the regional and national stage.

We actively encourage as many people as possible to get involved in whatever way they can. If you would like to do something 'Downright Special', please contact [office@downrightspecial.co.uk](mailto:office@downrightspecial.co.uk)

## Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees,



Lizann Lowson (Trustee)

## Appendix: Unaudited Financial Statements

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1175863

**Report of the Trustees and  
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2023  
for  
The Downright Special Network**

Harris Lacey and Swain  
Suite 1  
The Riverside Building  
Hessle  
East Yorkshire  
HU13 0DZ

**The Downright Special Network**

**Contents of the Financial Statements  
for the Year Ended 31 October 2023**

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<b>Independent Examiner's Report</b>	3
<b>Statement of Financial Activities</b>	4
<b>Balance Sheet</b>	5
<b>Notes to the Financial Statements</b>	6 to 15
<b>Detailed Statement of Financial Activities</b>	16

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**The Downright Special Network**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 October 2023**

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The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 October 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Public benefit**

The charity trustees have complied with their duty to have regard to public benefit published by the Commission in exercising their power of duties.

**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

**Charitable activities**

For a full review of the Charity's reporting year including its objectives and aims and plans for the future please see the Charity report to which these accounts are attached.

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

**Reserves policy**

The charity's policy is to hold nine months of running costs in reserves. The reserves policy is reviewed annually and is available on request.

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Governing document**

The charity is controlled by its governing document as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (foundation model). The objects of the charity and the day to day running of the charity were unchanged when the conversion to a CIO took place in 2017.

**Recruitment and appointment of new trustees**

Trustees are appointed by existing trustees.

**Organisational structure**

For a full explanation of the organisational structure see the Charity's report.

Day to day responsibility has been delegated by the trustees to the Charity Manager Gillian Bowlas.

**Policies and Procedures**

The following policies and procedures were written or reviewed and updated: children's safeguarding policy and procedures, adult safeguarding policy, photography and filming policy, health and safety policy, employee handbook, equal opportunities policy, reserves policy, lone working policy, financial operating procedures, risk register, strategy, fundraising strategy, complaints procedure, GDPR policy, volunteer handbook, static collection tins policy.

**Induction and training of new trustees**

Trustees are required to familiarise themselves with the charity's governing document, safeguarding policy and employee handbook. The handbook covers a range of policies applicable to trustees or employees including confidentiality, data protection, health and safety, expenses and use of charity telephones and IT. All trustees were issued with Charity Commission's 'The Essential Trustee'. New trustees are also given the latest annual report and statement of accounts.

Six Trustee meetings were held during this reporting period and all meetings were quorate. Minutes are available for all meetings on request.

**Related parties**

The Charity is affiliated to the Down's Syndrome Association, a national organisation.

**The Downright Special Network**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 October 2023**

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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Registered Charity number**  
1175863

**Principal address**  
Bodmin Road Church Office  
Padstow Close  
Hull  
HU7 4HE

**Trustees**  
A Broekhuizen  
G D Beresford  
L Lowson  
M Marie  
N Findlay

Lizann Lowson was appointed Chair of the charity in June 2020 for a term of three years from that date.

**Independent Examiner**  
Harris Lacey and Swain  
Suite 1  
The Riverside Building  
Hessle  
East Yorkshire  
HU13 0DZ

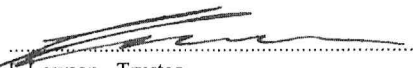
**Solicitors**  
Goschalks  
Queens Gardens  
Dock Street  
Hull  
East Yorkshire  
HU1 3DZ

**Bank**  
CAF Bank Ltd  
25 Kings Hill Avenue  
Kings Hill  
West Malling  
Kent  
ME19 4JQ

**COMMENCEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**

The Downright Special Charity (registration number 1128178) converted to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 22 November 2017 and all the funds were transferred from the charity to the CIO.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 7<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 24 and signed on its behalf by:

  
L Lowson - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of  
The Downright Special Network**

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**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Downright Special Network**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Downright Special Network (the Trust) for the year ended 31 October 2023.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under Section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Richard D Lacey

Harris Lacey and Swain  
Suite 1  
The Riverside Building  
Hessle  
East Yorkshire  
HU13 0DZ

Date: .....4/3/24.....

**The Downright Special Network**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**for the Year Ended 31 October 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Donations and legacies		17,258	2	17,260	20,672
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Charitable		29,306	78,724	108,030	87,891
Investment income	2	1,075	-	1,075	119
<b>Total</b>		<u>47,639</u>	<u>78,726</u>	<u>126,365</u>	<u>108,682</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Charitable		54,362	58,474	112,836	113,233
Other		997	-	997	487
<b>Total</b>		<u>55,359</u>	<u>58,474</u>	<u>113,833</u>	<u>113,720</u>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		(7,720)	20,252	12,532	(5,038)
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
Total funds brought forward		83,551	8,285	91,836	96,874
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u>75,831</u>	<u>28,537</u>	<u>104,368</u>	<u>91,836</u>

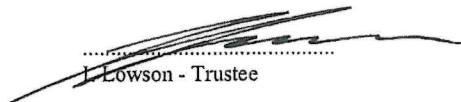
The notes form part of these financial statements

The Downright Special Network

Balance Sheet  
31 October 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	6	1,540	-	1,540	990
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	7	328	-	328	2,436
Cash at bank		77,105	28,535	105,640	91,419
		<u>77,433</u>	<u>28,535</u>	<u>105,968</u>	<u>93,855</u>
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(3,140)	-	(3,140)	(3,009)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>74,293</u>	<u>28,535</u>	<u>102,828</u>	<u>90,846</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>75,833</u>	<u>28,535</u>	<u>104,368</u>	<u>91,836</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>75,833</u>	<u>28,535</u>	<u>104,368</u>	<u>91,836</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>	9				
Unrestricted funds				75,833	83,551
Restricted funds				28,535	8,285
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>				<u>104,368</u>	<u>91,836</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 7<sup>th</sup> February 24 and were signed on its behalf by:

  
L. Lawson - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements



## The Downright Special Network

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2023

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#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

##### **Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

##### **Income**

Income received for services provided is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Cash donations, gifts and legacies are included in full in the income and expenditure account as they are received. Any significant non-cash donations are included in the income and expenditure account at the trustees' estimate of their market value when received. The value of voluntary help is not included in the accounts.

Grants and other funding of a revenue nature are deferred and released to the income and expenditure account over the period to which they relate.

Bank interest is included in the income and expenditure account on an accruals basis.

##### **Expenditure**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

##### **Tangible fixed assets**

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Computer equipment - 33% on cost

##### **Taxation**

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

##### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

##### **Estimates and judgements**

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Although these estimates are based on the Trustees best knowledge of the amount, events or actions, actual results ultimately differ from these estimates. The Trustees do not consider there to be any material estimates and judgements.

**The Downright Special Network**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 October 2023**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**

**Estimates and judgements**  
**Financial instruments**

The company only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments, including trade and other debtors and creditors, are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

**2. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Deposit account interest	1,075	119
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

**3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 October 2023 nor for the year ended 31 October 2022.

**Trustees' expenses**

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 October 2023 nor for the year ended 31 October 2022.

**4. STAFF COSTS**

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2023	2022
General Staff	8	9
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

Total staff costs in the year came to £83,618 (2022 - £84,498).

**5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and legacies	20,647	25	20,672
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Charitable	47,913	39,978	87,891
Investment income	119	-	119
<b>Total</b>	<u>68,679</u>	<u>40,003</u>	<u>108,682</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Charitable	71,104	42,129	113,233

The Downright Special Network

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 October 2023

<b>5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued</b>			
	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Other	487	-	487
<b>Total</b>	<u>71,591</u>	<u>42,129</u>	<u>113,720</u>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>	(2,912)	(2,126)	(5,038)
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
Total funds brought forward	86,463	10,411	96,874
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<u>83,551</u>	<u>8,285</u>	<u>91,836</u>
<b>6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS</b>			
			Computer equipment £
<b>COST</b>			
At 1 November 2022			1,477
Additions			1,547
At 31 October 2023			<u>3,024</u>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>			
At 1 November 2022			487
Charge for year			997
At 31 October 2023			<u>1,484</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>			
At 31 October 2023			<u>1,540</u>
At 31 October 2022			<u>990</u>
<b>7. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR</b>			
		2023	2022
		£	£
Other debtors		-	2,186
Prepayments		328	250
		<u>328</u>	<u>2,436</u>

**The Downright Special Network**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 October 2023**

8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	2023	2022	
	£	£	
Taxation and social security	1,940	994	
Other creditors	1,200	2,015	
	<u>3,140</u>	<u>3,009</u>	
9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	At 1.11.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.10.23 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	83,551	(7,718)	75,833
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Help for Health	2,048	1,950	3,998
Children In Need	67	-	67
MCF Masonic	(1,201)	2,730	1,529
Hospital Saturday Fund	467	(467)	-
Rank Foundation	1,000	(1,000)	-
Ironmongers	-	683	683
Two Ridings	1,645	(1,645)	-
Arnold Clark Community Fund	992	(992)	-
Dynamix	1,232	(1,232)	-
Players of People's Postcode Lottery	-	14,356	14,356
The National Lottery Community Fund	735	997	1,732
Toy Trust	1,300	(1,300)	-
KCOM	-	998	998
Tesco	-	894	894
Transforming Care (HEY Smile)	-	4,278	4,278
	<u>8,285</u>	<u>20,250</u>	<u>28,535</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>91,836</u>	<u>12,532</u>	<u>104,368</u>

**The Downright Special Network**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 October 2023**

**9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	47,639	(55,357)	(7,718)
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Help for Health	3,672	(1,722)	1,950
MCF Masonic	5,000	(2,270)	2,730
Hospital Saturday Fund	-	(467)	(467)
Rank Foundation	-	(1,000)	(1,000)
Ironmongers	13,448	(12,765)	683
Two Ridings	-	(1,645)	(1,645)
Arnold Clark Community Fund	-	(992)	(992)
Dynamix	2,000	(3,232)	(1,232)
Players of People's Postcode Lottery	25,000	(10,644)	14,356
The National Lottery Community Fund	9,900	(8,903)	997
Toy Trust	-	(1,300)	(1,300)
Beacon Lodge	8,000	(8,000)	-
KCOM	1,000	(2)	998
Tesco	1,125	(231)	894
Transforming Care (HEY Smile)	6,581	(2,303)	4,278
WO Street Charitable Foundation	3,000	(3,000)	-
	<u>78,726</u>	<u>(58,476)</u>	<u>20,250</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u><u>126,365</u></u>	<u><u>(113,833)</u></u>	<u><u>12,532</u></u>

**The Downright Special Network**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 October 2023**

**9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.11.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.10.22 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	86,463	(2,912)	83,551
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Help for Health	1,379	669	2,048
Brelms Trust	2,083	(2,083)	-
Children In Need	1,615	(1,548)	67
MCF Masonic	(1,201)	-	(1,201)
Barbara Ward Childrens Foundation	3,012	(3,012)	-
Boshier Hinton Foundation	74	(74)	-
Hospital Saturday Fund	-	467	467
Rank Foundation	-	1,000	1,000
Ironmongers	1,930	(1,930)	-
Magdalen Trust	1,519	(1,519)	-
Two Ridings	-	1,645	1,645
Arnold Clark Community Fund	-	992	992
Dynamix	-	1,232	1,232
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	735	735
Toy Trust	-	1,300	1,300
	<u>10,411</u>	<u>(2,126)</u>	<u>8,285</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>96,874</u>	<u>(5,038)</u>	<u>91,836</u>

The Downright Special Network

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 October 2023

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	68,679	(71,591)	(2,912)
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Help for Health	3,275	(2,606)	669
Brelms Trust	-	(2,083)	(2,083)
Children In Need	(1)	(1,547)	(1,548)
Barbara Ward Childrens Foundation	4,000	(7,012)	(3,012)
Boshier Hinton Foundation	-	(74)	(74)
Hospital Saturday Fund	2,000	(1,533)	467
Rank Foundation	1,000	-	1,000
Scientific Lab	530	(530)	-
Ironmongers	(1)	(1,929)	(1,930)
Magdalen Trust	-	(1,519)	(1,519)
Two Ridings	2,000	(355)	1,645
Arnold Clark Community Fund	1,000	(8)	992
Dynamix	2,025	(793)	1,232
Players of People's Postcode Lottery	12,628	(12,628)	-
The National Lottery Community Fund	9,547	(8,812)	735
Toy Trust	2,000	(700)	1,300
	<u>40,003</u>	<u>(42,129)</u>	<u>(2,126)</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>108,682</u>	<u>(113,720)</u>	<u>(5,038)</u>

**The Downright Special Network**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 October 2023**

**9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.11.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.10.23 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	86,463	(10,630)	75,833
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Help for Health	1,379	2,619	3,998
Brelms Trust	2,083	(2,083)	-
Children In Need	1,615	(1,548)	67
MCF Masonic	(1,201)	2,730	1,529
Barbara Ward Childrens Foundation	3,012	(3,012)	-
Boshier Hinton Foundation	74	(74)	-
Ironmongers	1,930	(1,247)	683
Magdalen Trust	1,519	(1,519)	-
Players of People's Postcode Lottery	-	14,356	14,356
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	1,732	1,732
KCOM	-	998	998
Tesco	-	894	894
Transforming Care (HEY Smile)	-	4,278	4,278
	<u>10,411</u>	<u>18,124</u>	<u>28,535</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>96,874</u>	<u>7,494</u>	<u>104,368</u>



**The Downright Special Network**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 October 2023**

**9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	116,318	(126,948)	(10,630)
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Help for Health	6,947	(4,328)	2,619
Brelms Trust	-	(2,083)	(2,083)
Children In Need	(1)	(1,547)	(1,548)
MCF Masonic	5,000	(2,270)	2,730
Barbara Ward Childrens Foundation	4,000	(7,012)	(3,012)
Boshier Hinton Foundation	-	(74)	(74)
Hospital Saturday Fund	2,000	(2,000)	-
Rank Foundation	1,000	(1,000)	-
Scientific Lab	530	(530)	-
Ironmongers	13,447	(14,694)	(1,247)
Magdalen Trust	-	(1,519)	(1,519)
Two Ridings	2,000	(2,000)	-
Arnold Clark Community Fund	1,000	(1,000)	-
Dynamix	4,025	(4,025)	-
Players of People's Postcode Lottery	37,628	(23,272)	14,356
The National Lottery Community Fund	19,447	(17,715)	1,732
Toy Trust	2,000	(2,000)	-
Beacon Lodge	8,000	(8,000)	-
KCOM	1,000	(2)	998
Teseo	1,125	(231)	894
Transforming Care (HEY Smile)	6,581	(2,303)	4,278
WO Street Charitable Foundation	3,000	(3,000)	-
	<u>118,729</u>	<u>(100,605)</u>	<u>18,124</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u><u>235,047</u></u>	<u><u>(227,553)</u></u>	<u><u>7,494</u></u>

**10. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 October 2023.

**The Downright Special Network**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 October 2023**

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**11. UNRESTRICTED GRANTS**

Unrestricted grants of £22,700 were received in the year. These were from the following:

	£
Matthew Good Foundation	10,000
Brownless Trust	200
Hull and ER Charitable Trust	2,500
James Reckitt Charity	5,000
Joseph and Anne Cattle Trust	5,000
	<hr/>
	22,700
	<hr/> <hr/>

**The Downright Special Network**  
**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities**  
**for the Year Ended 31 October 2023**

	2023 £	2022 £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>		
<b>Donations and legacies</b>		
Donations	17,260	20,672
<b>Investment income</b>		
Deposit account interest	1,075	119
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Fundraising events	4,159	13,240
Printer rental income	(1,938)	701
Training income	4,385	3,972
Grants	101,424	69,978
	<u>108,030</u>	<u>87,891</u>
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	126,365	108,682
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Wages	83,618	84,498
Building rental	13,952	14,452
Insurance	762	499
Telephone	154	165
Printing and office supplies	1,909	2,344
Specialist resources	1,709	747
Social and fundraising events	5,884	4,071
Marketing	216	288
Training and education	673	602
Travel expenses	1,476	825
Miscellaneous expenses	514	912
Website and computer expenses	961	655
	<u>111,828</u>	<u>110,058</u>
<b>Other</b>		
Computer equipment	997	487
<b>Support costs</b>		
<b>Governance costs</b>		
Accountancy and legal fees	1,008	3,175
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<u>113,833</u>	<u>113,720</u>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>	<u><u>12,532</u></u>	<u><u>(5,038)</u></u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements