

Charity registration number 1045617 (England and Wales)

Charity registration number SC039170 (Scotland)

Company registration number 03036802 (England and Wales)

AFASIC

**ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

AFASIC

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	C Hammond (Treasurer) J Emin (Chair) J Perry C Everingham G Drewitt (Appointed 25 November 2022) J Butcher (Appointed 25 November 2022)
Corporate Management Team	L Lascelles (Chief Executive) M Thompson (Director Fundraising & Support Services)
Secretary	L Lascelles (Chief Executive)
Charity number (England and Wales)	1045617
Charity number (Scotland)	SC039170
Company number	03036802
Registered office	St Margaret's House 15 Old Ford Road London E2 9PJ
Independent examiner	Lee, Dicketts & Co 3 East Point High Street Seal Sevenoaks Kent TN15 0EG
Bankers	Lloyds 4 High Street Dartford Kent DA1 1BY

AFASIC

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AFASIC

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

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

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)".

Objectives and activities

Afasic is a UK parent-led charity, established in 1968, that supports and provides information for families with children and young adults who have Speech Language and Communication Needs (SLCN), with a focus on Developmental Language Disorder (DLD).

Afasic's vision is that every child and young person with SLCN, including DLD, should be enabled to overcome the challenges they face and become the best they can be.

Afasic's core purpose is to provide information and support for parents, other carers and also to health, education and care professionals, to enable them to better understand, help and advocate for children with SLCN, including DLD; and to enable children and young adults to develop key skills, improve social integration and gain access to educational and legal entitlements.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

Achievements and performance

A summary of our main areas of work and achievements during the past year is given below.

"My son wasn't even 2 when we realised he had a developmental disorder and delayed speech... The fact sheets and information you provided were invaluable in educating us and helping us understand the difficulties he faced... Last month aged 26 he moved into his own rented place and is making a real go of it... You have been there for our family for 25 years and we will never forget the support you have provided. Thank you to all at Afasic, you do a wonderful job."

Transition Courses:

Following some challenging years due to the impact of Covid-19, we are delighted that this year we were able to increase the number of transition courses, the number of children benefiting from them and that most courses took place face to face. A total of 16 courses took place during the school summer holiday benefiting 155 children, with positive outcomes for both children and parents. This year we were able to expand the reach of the courses to new areas, including Scotland and Wales as well as in the North and South of England.

The overall aims for pupils continued to be providing opportunities to practice pragmatic social, communication and independence skills while working with unfamiliar young people and staff. Groups were designed to be fun and informative based on educational SLT games, and to follow verbal and visual instructions.

Feedback from the courses showed that most children attending enjoyed the transition courses and increased their confidence, raised their understanding of the requirements of secondary and learnt strategies to assist them with introducing themselves and interacting with unfamiliar peers and adults. Courses were viewed as a positive experience for both the children and their families. Over 75% of pupils rated their enjoyment of the course as 5 stars out of 5.

- *"My favourite part of the course was making new friends."*
- *"I learnt how to be more confident and comfortable in a new school."*
- *"Thank you for having him on this course. It has been brilliant. In a short week, it has shown me that 'J' can make new friends!"*

AFASIC

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Parent training:

The 'DLD Together' project has been developed by Afasic and the charity NAPLIC to fill a gap in support for families who have a child (or children) affected by DLD, which has been identified by both parents and professionals.

NAPLIC and Afasic have created a seven-week course that is targeted at parents/carers to help them understand about DLD. Over 150 professionals in total have now been trained to deliver these online courses across the country at local and national levels. A total of 36 courses took place during the year, with 173 parents taking part in these, benefiting from the information provided, and the mutual support of other parents facing up to the same challenges.

"This course proved invaluable and right from week 1 I knew it would be beneficial. The information given was so worthwhile and was delivered in an understanding, compassionate and clear way. I particularly enjoyed speaking with other parents, sharing experiences, frustrations and ideas."

Helpline & Support for Parents:

Providing information and support for parents is at the heart of all that we do and was the driving force behind the establishment of the charity 55 years ago. The Afasic helpline provides an essential source of one to one tailored information, support and advice for parents to enable them to better understand, help and advocate for their child.

The service educates parents about how best to support their child at home and enables them to navigate the complex education and health systems to get the support their child needs. This is a highly regarded and low cost service that provides often life changing information and support for families affected by a little known disability.

"Thank you so much for all the information you have provided. In the short space of time you have been more help than years with other services have been."

"I've had a lot of help from Afasic. You have been fantastic with your advice on the helpline and your leaflets are very informative"

Website & Information:

Our website, social media and monthly email updates provide a key point of access to vital information about speech, language and communication needs with a wide range of free downloadable resources. Printed publications offer more detailed information on accessing benefits, therapy, practical activities for parents to do with their child, and their legal rights.

We have re-developed and re-launched our website (in September 2022) to ensure that it is more user friendly and provides more freely accessible information and resources for parents and families. You can view this here: <https://www.afasic.org.uk/>

"I would like to say thank you. I use your site for information when working with parents. Most parents have no idea that there is a language/communication issue starting to show itself in their child. By accessing the website, they can start to recognise it for themselves."

Collaboration:

Afasic works in collaboration with several organisations, including the Council for Disabled Children, the Special Education Consortium (SEC), the Disabled Childrens Partnership (DCP), the Communication Consortium, the National Association of Professionals concerned for Language Impaired Children (Naplic), the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists (RCSLT) and Speech and Language UK (formally ICAN). We also collaborate on specific research initiatives with Bristol University, and others. We have collaborated on some parent information with Moor House Specialist School and College's research centre.

Developing a DLD vision: Developmental Language Disorder (DLD) is still an under-recognised condition, and Afasic, RCSLT, Naplic and Speech and Language UK have held several online sessions with adults and young people with DLD and their families to pull together five key visions which will help guide everyone's work, and although this project has had a long gestation period, the aim is to launch it in time for DLD Awareness Day on the 20th October 2023.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Financial and business review

This has been a difficult year for income, with donations from individuals down by £47,670 and grants from trusts, foundations and companies down by £44,500 compared to the previous year. These demonstrate the impact that the economic uncertainty and cost of living crisis is having on levels of donations, along with the increasing competition for funding that exists.

Unrestricted general fund income for the financial year was £124,106 (2022: £196,357) with unrestricted expenditure of £152,303 (2022: £128,626), leaving a net deficit for the year of £28,197 in the unrestricted general fund (2022: net surplus of £67,731).

Restricted income totalled £57,495 for the year (2022: £82,468), with restricted expenditure at £79,372 (2022: £56,822), which has resulted in a net deficit of £21,877 for the year in restricted funds (2022: net surplus of £25,646). Designated funds have reduced by £1,013.

Total expenditure has increased by £48,913 compared to the previous financial year. This is mainly due to the one-off costs associated with re-developing our website and increases in staff costs. During the year we took on a part time social media officer with a view to raising the profile and reach of Afasic and awareness of SLCN and DLD; in addition to which staff were given a salary increase, after many years with no increases, to recognise their continuing hard work and dedication.

Total income has reduced by £91,964 and overall there is a net deficit of £51,087 for the year, compared to a net surplus the previous year of £89,790. However, the previous two years showed healthy surpluses and means that despite this years deficit, we are still well placed to maintain our services and projects at existing levels for the coming year.

General unrestricted funds available for general charitable purposes as at the 31st March 2023 were £146,697, which is within the level of unrestricted funds required by the trustees (see reserves policy below).

The trustees continue to take a cautious approach to expenditure and will concentrate on generating income to cover core operating costs and fund key projects and services.

However, these remain difficult times and the economic uncertainty and cost of living crisis have had an impact on our income this year, whilst operating costs have increased due to inflationary pressures. The trustees will keep a careful watch on the financial position to ensure that the important work of the organisation can continue into the future.

Reserves policy:

The trustees have an agreed reserves policy that takes into account the main risks to the organisation highlighted through the risk management policy.

The policy of the trustees is to maintain unrestricted reserves at a level sufficient to support the core activities of the organisation for a minimum of six months and up to twelve months. This level of reserves is deemed prudent by the trustees, to ensure that the work and services of the organisation can be planned with some certainty. This policy is reviewed by the trustees on an annual basis.

At the year end, unrestricted reserves (excluding the designated fund) provided 11.6 months cover for budgeted unrestricted expenditure (previous year 11 months). This is therefore within the level of cover required by the trustees under this policy.

The trustees will continue to monitor the reserves position closely over the coming year.

Going concern:

These accounts are prepared on the going concern basis. The trustees have a reasonable expectation that Afasic will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. However, the general economic environment means it is difficult to project with any certainty the likely level of unrestricted funding that will be received over the next 12 months.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The cost of living crisis and economic uncertainty is having a continuing impact but overall the income of the organisation has held up well given all that has happened over the past two years and work undertaken to reduce overheads in previous years means that Afasic is comparatively well placed to sustain its work and support for children and families that need it now more than ever.

Principal funding sources:

We are very grateful to the many individuals who have contributed towards the work of Afasic through membership fees, individual donations and taking part in a range of events during the year. These are all vital sources of income for us and help ensure that we can maintain and develop our key services. In addition to these, major funding contributions and significant grants have been very gratefully received during the year from the following:

Trusts & Foundations:

The Albert Hunt Trust, Anton Jurgens Charitable Trust, Borrows Charitable Trust, the Communication Consortium, Four Acre Trust, Kingsgrove Trust, Masonic Charitable Foundation, PF Charitable Trust, Schroder Charity Trust, Sir James Roll Charitable Trust, Sylvia Adams Charitable Trust, and the Weinstock Fund.

Companies:

Akira Financial Ltd, Oxed & Assessment Ltd, Seveer Media Ltd.

Individuals & Events:

We greatly appreciate the continued generous support for our work from our members and individual donors, without which much of what we do would not be possible. In particular, we greatly appreciate the very kind legacies left to us during the year by long term supporters Clive Craigmile, John Richards and Anthony Sparshott.

In December 2022 we had our first ever 'Big Give Christmas Challenge' where all donations received were doubled. This was to raise funds for our transition courses and amazingly we reached our target of £12,000! Many thanks to all those who donated, the people who 'matched' their donations – The Four Acre Trust, Dorothy Bishop, Mike McGonigle, Jon Emin and Stewart Clark, and of course the Big Give for the opportunity to take part in their Christmas Challenge Campaign.

We are also very grateful to everyone who took part in one of our fundraising events during the year, including our second 'Dash for DLD' that had over 30 people involved, our London marathon runners, all the cyclists who took part in one of our bike rides during the year, all those taking part in our first 'sponsored walk', and everyone 'doing their own thing' to help raise funds for us. Thanks to all of you – you are amazing!

As a small specialist charity dealing with a little-known condition it is very hard to raise funds to maintain the ongoing delivery of our work, made even more difficult by the cost of living crisis and other more 'visible' and 'urgent' calls for support. Given this, and the continuing difficult economic climate, the trustees would like to sincerely thank all of our supporters who have contributed towards our work during the year. This is greatly appreciated and has helped to make a real difference to the daily lives of the children, young adults and families that we help.

Investment policy:

The Memorandum and Articles of Association give the charity the power to invest moneys not immediately required for its purposes as it sees fit. The Trustee Board agreed an investment policy in December 2004 that states:

- An amount of cash for working capital of up to £150,000 is to be maintained in the organisation's current and accessible deposit accounts at any one time.
- Balances above this figure that are not required to cover short / medium term liabilities are to be available for investment.
- There are currently no funds held in investments.

Risk management:

AFASIC

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The Board of Trustees adopted a risk management policy in December 2004 and established a risk register, both of which are reviewed and updated as necessary on at least an annual basis. The policy and register have identified the major risks to which the organisation is exposed and outline strategies, systems and procedures to manage these.

Afasic has policies in place including a health and safety policy, child protection policy, equal opportunities policy, and data protection policy as well as procedures laid down in a staff handbook to ensure that all staff and volunteers comply with these.

Financial risk management is an integral part of the operational framework of the business and strategic planning, project management and financial reporting procedures are in place.

Plans for the future:

Our key aims for the coming year are outlined below:

- To continue developing our website content and resources to ensure that it provides an accessible source of key information and resources for parents and families, whenever they need it.
- To continue to organise and develop our summer transition courses for children facing the key move to secondary school, subject to funding, with courses able to be delivered either virtually or face to face as the need arises.
- To continue collaborating with partners, professionals, key researchers, voluntary sector (e.g. NAPLIC, CDC, SEC, DCP, the Communication Consortium) and professional bodies such as the RCSLT.
- To maintain the Afasic parents' helpline service and information provided through our social media feeds.
- To secure funding to enable us to expand the reach of the 'DLD Together' parent training programme and to help support and develop a parent support network.

Structure, governance and management

The organisation is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. The organisation was registered as a charity on 4 July 1968, and incorporated on 23 March 1995. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association, which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association, as amended to allow for current governance arrangements on 6 November 2004. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

The organisation was registered with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator on 17th January 2008 under number SC039170.

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

M Scales (Chair)	(Resigned 25 November 2022)
C Hammond (Treasurer)	
J Emin (Chair)	
J Perry	
C Everingham	
G Drewitt	(Appointed 25 November 2022)
J Butcher	(Appointed 25 November 2022)

Recruitment and appointment of trustees:

The trustees are all volunteers. The board comprises both elected and co-opted members. In addition to the Honorary Officers, up to six board members can be elected at the AGM.

To ensure that the work of the charity is informed by a mix of business, financial and technical advice, the Board also has four co-opted places designated for individuals with an interest in and the potential to offer valuable contribution to the effectiveness of the organisation. The Chair and Vice Chair must be parents of a child with a speech and language impairment. All members are circulated with invitations to nominate trustees and Honorary Officers prior to the AGM, along with details and nomination forms.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) *FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023*

Organisational structure:

The Board of Trustees, which can have a maximum of 13 members, administers the charity and meets on at least a quarterly basis. The day-to-day management of the organisation is in the hands of the Chief Executive.

AFASIC

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Trustee induction and training:

Each new trustee receives induction from the Chair and / or Chief Executive as to their role and responsibilities and the work of the organisation. They are provided with a copy of "The Good Trustee Guide" published by NCVO, along with a copy of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, latest audited accounts and annual review, strategic and business plans, and details of major projects and services.

Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events where this will help them in their role, in addition to internal training provided by staff and trustees.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

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

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

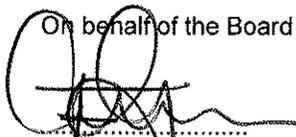
In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- 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 charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

On behalf of the Board of Trustees



J Emin (Chair)

Trustee

Dated: 31/10/2023

AFASIC

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF AFASIC

We report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Afasic (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 (the 2005 Act), the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act). You are satisfied that the financial statements of the charity are not required by charity or company law to be audited and have chosen instead to have an independent examination.

Having satisfied ourselves that the financial statements of the charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, we report in respect of our examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 44 (1) (c) of the 2005 Act and section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out our examination we have followed the requirements of Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity is required by company law to prepare its accounts on an accruals basis and is registered as a charity in Scotland your examiner must be a member of a body listed in Regulation 11(2) of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). We confirm that we are qualified to undertake the examination because we are a member of Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

We have completed our examination. We confirm that no matters have come to our attention in connection with the examination giving us cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of Regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
- 4 the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

We 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 financial statements to be reached.

Lee, Dicketts & Co



3 East Point
High Street
Seal
Sevenoaks
Kent
TN15 0EG

Dated:

13/11/2023

AFASIC

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Current financial year

		Unrestricted funds general	Unrestricted funds designated	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	Notes	2023 £	2023 £	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £
<u>Income and endowments from:</u>						
Donations and legacies	2	73,926	(917)	18,730	91,739	139,409
Activities in furtherance of the charity's objects	3	45,742	-	38,760	84,502	128,954
Investments	4	2,171	-	5	2,176	1,340
Other income	5	2,267	-	-	2,267	2,945
Total income		<u>124,106</u>	<u>(917)</u>	<u>57,495</u>	<u>180,684</u>	<u>272,648</u>
<u>Expenditure on:</u>						
Raising funds	6	<u>16,007</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,007</u>	<u>24,260</u>
Charitable activities	7	<u>136,296</u>	<u>96</u>	<u>79,372</u>	<u>215,764</u>	<u>158,474</u>
Other	12	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>124</u>
Total expenditure		<u>152,303</u>	<u>96</u>	<u>79,372</u>	<u>231,771</u>	<u>182,858</u>
Net (expenditure)/income for the year/ Net movement in funds		<u>(28,197)</u>	<u>(1,013)</u>	<u>(21,877)</u>	<u>(51,087)</u>	<u>89,790</u>
Fund balances at 1 April 2022		<u>174,894</u>	<u>205,248</u>	<u>116,666</u>	<u>496,808</u>	<u>407,018</u>
Fund balances at 31 March 2023		<u>146,697</u>	<u>204,235</u>	<u>94,789</u>	<u>445,721</u>	<u>496,808</u>

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

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

AFASIC

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Prior financial year		Unrestricted funds general 2022 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
	Notes				
<u>Income and endowments from:</u>					
Donations and legacies	2	129,417	(7,218)	17,210	139,409
Activities in furtherance of the charity's objects	3	64,556	-	64,398	128,954
Investments	4	299	1,041	-	1,340
Other income	5	2,085	-	860	2,945
Total income		196,357	(6,177)	82,468	272,648
<u>Expenditure on:</u>					
Raising funds	6	24,195	-	65	24,260
Charitable activities	7	104,307	(2,590)	56,757	158,474
Other	12	124	-	-	124
Total expenditure		128,626	(2,590)	56,822	182,858
Net (expenditure)/income for the year/ Net movement in funds		67,731	(3,587)	25,646	89,790
Fund balances at 1 April 2021		107,163	208,835	91,020	407,018
Fund balances at 31 March 2022		174,894	205,248	116,666	496,808

AFASIC

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	14		2,957		3,627
Current assets					
Debtors	15	113,601		125,704	
Cash at bank and in hand		334,694		397,616	
		<u>448,295</u>		<u>523,320</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	<u>(5,531)</u>		<u>(30,139)</u>	
Net current assets			442,764		493,181
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>445,721</u>		<u>496,808</u>
Income funds					
Restricted funds	18		94,789		116,666
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>					
Designated funds	19	204,235		205,248	
General unrestricted funds		<u>146,697</u>		<u>174,894</u>	
			350,932		380,142
			<u>445,721</u>		<u>496,808</u>

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on

 31-10-23.

.....
C Hammond (Treasurer)
Trustee

Company registration number 03036802

AFASIC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Afasic is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is St Margaret's House, 15 Old Ford Road, London, E2 9PJ.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

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

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

1.2 Going concern

These accounts are prepared on the going concern basis. The trustees have a reasonable expectation that Afasic will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, however the general economic environment continues to make it difficult to raise unrestricted funds to cover core services and costs. It remains difficult to project what the likely receipt of unrestricted funding will be over the next 12 months.

1.3 Charitable funds

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

Designated funds comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the trustees for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in note 19 of the financial statements.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in note 18 of the financial statements.

1.4 Incoming resources

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

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

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

Where it is clear that the donor has specified a grant to be related to a fixed period for a specified use, these funds will be treated as deferred income and released to the Statement of Financial Activities to match the related expenditure.

AFASIC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.5 Resources expended

The accruals basis is applied to all expenditure.

Expenditure has been allocated according to the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" and is shown under the appropriate sub-heading. Items of expenditure which involve more than one charitable activity, are allocated appropriately between the charitable activities involved on the basis of estimates made by the charity's management.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

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

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

Fixtures, fittings & equipment	25% reducing balance
Computers	33.3% reducing balance

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

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

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

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

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

1.9 Basic financial instruments

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any loss arising from impairment is recognised in the profit and loss account in other administrative expenses.

1.10 Employee benefits

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

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

1.11 Retirement benefits

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

AFASIC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

3 Activities in furtherance of the charity's objects

	2023 £	2022 £
Events	26,108	25,953
Literature	2,594	2,701
Grants receivable for charitable activities	55,800	100,300
	<u>84,502</u>	<u>128,954</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds - general	45,742	64,556
Restricted funds	38,760	64,398
	<u>84,502</u>	<u>128,954</u>

AFASIC

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

4 Investments	Unrestricted funds general		Restricted funds		Unrestricted funds general		Unrestricted funds designated		Total	
	2023	£	2023	£	2023	£	2022	£	2022	£
Interest receivable	2,171	£	5	£	2,176	£	299	£	1,041	£
	<u>2,171</u>		<u>5</u>		<u>2,176</u>		<u>299</u>		<u>1,041</u>	
										<u>1,340</u>

AFASIC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

5 Other income

	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds general 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Royalties	249	346	-	346
Management and administration services	2,018	1,739	860	2,599
	<u>2,267</u>	<u>2,085</u>	<u>860</u>	<u>2,945</u>

6 Raising funds

	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds general 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
<u>Fundraising and publicity</u>				
Other fundraising costs	3,121	10,624	65	10,689
Staff costs	12,886	13,571	-	13,571
	<u>16,007</u>	<u>24,195</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>24,260</u>
Fundraising and publicity	16,007	24,195	65	24,260
	<u>16,007</u>	<u>24,195</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>24,260</u>

AFASIC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

7 Charitable activities	Information awareness		Parents and families		Children and young people		Total	
	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	34,839	54,046	23,505	17,107	35,094	21,741	112,390	73,942
Depreciation and impairment	446	446	450	542	542	546	1,342	1,630
Services	3,722	5,213	16,549	2,493	1,694	19,298	25,484	23,485
Property costs	8,096	10,795	8,096	8,253	12,380	6,878	26,987	27,511
Administrative costs	2,103	7,517	2,225	2,626	3,493	2,329	11,845	8,448
Other staff costs	668	920	945	51	51	280	2,533	382
	<u>49,874</u>	<u>78,937</u>	<u>51,770</u>	<u>31,072</u>	<u>53,254</u>	<u>51,072</u>	<u>180,581</u>	<u>135,398</u>
Share of support costs (see note 9)	9,832	11,712	10,161	6,825	8,605	7,331	31,705	22,761
Share of governance costs (see note 9)	1,115	1,204	1,159	69	124	122	3,478	315
	<u>60,821</u>	<u>91,853</u>	<u>63,090</u>	<u>37,966</u>	<u>61,983</u>	<u>58,525</u>	<u>215,764</u>	<u>158,474</u>
Analysis by fund								
Unrestricted funds - general	57,851	49,200	29,245	37,047	43,205	24,055	136,296	104,307
Unrestricted funds - designated	32	32	32	(863)	(863)	(864)	96	(2,590)
Restricted funds	2,938	42,621	33,813	1,782	19,641	35,334	79,372	56,757
	<u>60,821</u>	<u>91,853</u>	<u>63,090</u>	<u>37,966</u>	<u>61,983</u>	<u>58,525</u>	<u>215,764</u>	<u>158,474</u>

AFASIC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

8 Description of charitable activities

Information and awareness

Providing and disseminating information on speech, language and communication needs and raising awareness of this hidden disability.

Parents and families

Supporting and empowering parents and families of children and young people with speech, language and communication needs, enabling them to advocate for their child.

Children and young people

Enabling children and young people with speech, language and communication needs to develop their communication, social and life skills.

9 Support and governance costs

	Support costs	Governance costs	2023 Support costs	Governance costs	2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	16,896	-	16,896	16,908	16,908
Information technology	14,354	-	14,354	5,370	5,370
Finance costs	455	-	455	483	483
Accountancy	-	3,076	3,076	-	2,740
Legal and professional	-	96	96	-	(2,590)
Trustee and AGM expenses	-	306	306	-	165
	<u>31,705</u>	<u>3,478</u>	<u>35,183</u>	<u>22,761</u>	<u>23,076</u>
Analysed between					
Charitable activities	<u>31,705</u>	<u>3,478</u>	<u>35,183</u>	<u>22,761</u>	<u>23,076</u>

10 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration during the year, but they were reimbursed a total of £32 travelling expenses (2022 - £110).

11 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

2023	2022
Number	Number
<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>

AFASIC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

11 Employees	(Continued)	
Employment costs	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	134,736	99,207
Social security costs	4,312	2,969
Other pension costs	3,124	2,245
	<u>142,172</u>	<u>104,421</u>

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

12 Other	Total	Unrestricted funds general
	£	£
	2023	2022
Net loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	124
	<u>-</u>	<u>124</u>

13 Taxation

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

AFASIC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

14 Tangible fixed assets	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Computers	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 April 2022	26,770	15,354	42,124
Additions	-	672	672
At 31 March 2023	<u>26,770</u>	<u>16,026</u>	<u>42,796</u>
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 April 2022	25,676	12,821	38,497
Depreciation charged in the year	274	1,068	1,342
At 31 March 2023	<u>25,950</u>	<u>13,889</u>	<u>39,839</u>
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2023	<u>820</u>	<u>2,137</u>	<u>2,957</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>1,094</u>	<u>2,533</u>	<u>3,627</u>

15 Debtors	2023	2022
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Other debtors	7,294	17,183
Prepayments and accrued income	106,307	108,521
	<u>113,601</u>	<u>125,704</u>

In the 2022 accounts, debtors included a legacy of £104,550 which represents the outstanding balance of a considerably delayed distribution of the estate due to issues outside the control of Afasic. The expected outstanding balance, after receipt of the first tranche in March 2022, was shown as an amount falling due within one year. The remaining legacy balance was in fact received just outside this reporting period in April 2023.

16 Loans and overdrafts	2023	2022
	£	£
Other loans	-	25,000
Payable within one year	-	25,000

During the year to 31 March 2018 an interest free loan of £25,000 was made to Afasic by a key supporter as part of a special appeal to supporters. A specific condition of this was that it would be repaid from the distribution of the outstanding legacy due to Afasic. The loan was repaid in full in April 2022 after receipt of the first instalment of the outstanding legacy money by Afasic.

AFASIC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

17 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Loans	-	25,000
Other taxation and social security	2,097	2,054
Trade creditors	3,206	2,857
Other creditors	228	228
	<u>5,531</u>	<u>30,139</u>

18 Restricted funds

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

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Movement in funds		Balance at 31 March 2023 £
		Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	
Works across the nations				
CYMRU	908	-	(11)	897
Northern Ireland	253	-	(11)	242
Supporting parents and professionals				
Parent Support Service	885	16,727	(12,210)	5,402
Local Groups	33,965	2,154	(11,709)	24,410
Supporting children and young people				
Summer School	51,818	17,854	(27,216)	42,456
Bryony Walker Fund	5,378	-	-	5,378
West Midlands	276	-	(31)	245
Derby	2,500	-	(2,500)	-
DLD Together	20,683	20,760	(25,684)	15,759
	<u>116,666</u>	<u>57,495</u>	<u>(79,372)</u>	<u>94,789</u>

Details of certain restricted funds, including income from grants and donations are as follows:

Works across the nations:

CYMRU

Our projects in Wales came to an end in March 2018 as funding bids were unsuccessful and we were unable to find the funds necessary to maintain and develop our work there beyond this period.

Northern Ireland

Previously funded by a grant from the Big Lottery Fund for work with young people in Northern Ireland. This project has now been completed.

AFASIC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

18 Restricted funds

(Continued)

Supporting parents and professionals:

Parent Support Service

This service provides support to parents through a telephone helpline, social media feeds, production and distribution of literature and development of resources on the Afasic website. Support for this work has been provided by The Schroder Charity Trust £5,000, the Anton Jurgens Charitable Trust £3,000, Oxed & Assessment Ltd £3,000, and the Albert Hunt Trust £1,000.

Local Groups

Members who come together to form groups at a local level to provide mutual support, organise activities for children and young people and work in partnership with local authorities. Funds are raised and spent locally.

DLD Together

A programme of remote training courses for parents of a child who has been diagnosed with Developmental Language Disorder. We are delighted that further funding for this highly regarded project has come from a grant of £30,000 from the Communication Consortium.

Supporting children and young people:

Transition Summer Schools

This is a programme of innovative courses for children facing the move from primary to secondary school. The week long courses aim to prepare the children for this move, arm them with strategies for dealing with things like bullying, and develop their social and language skills. We are very grateful to the main funders during the year, which included: The Weinstock Fund £5,000, Borrows Charitable Trust £1,000 and the Big Give Christmas Challenge £11,854.

Bryony Walker Fund

A fund set up with donations made in memory of our Trustee and Vice Chair Bryony Walker who sadly passed away in 2014 to be used for work with young people.

West Midlands Funds

Funds to be used for our work in the West Midlands areas.

Derby Area

A donation of £2,500 from the Zochonis Charitable Trust for work in the Derby & NW England area, which has now been fully utilized.

Afasic is very grateful to all the donors mentioned above for their support of our work during this period.

AFASIC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

19 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes:

	Balance at 1 April 2021		Movement in funds		Movement in funds		Balance at 1 April 2022		Movement in funds		Balance at 31 March 2023	
	£	£	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	£	Incoming resources	Resources expended	£	£	Incoming resources	Resources expended
Legacy income - strategic plan	208,835	(6,177)	(6,177)	2,590	(71,000)	£	(917)	(96)	134,248	(917)	(96)	133,235
Parent support service & helpline	-	-	-	-	15,000	£	-	-	15,000	-	-	15,000
Summer Transition Courses	-	-	-	-	38,000	£	-	-	38,000	-	-	38,000
DLD Together parent training project	-	-	-	-	18,000	£	-	-	18,000	-	-	18,000
	<u>208,835</u>	<u>(6,177)</u>	<u>(6,177)</u>	<u>2,590</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>(917)</u>	<u>(96)</u>	<u>205,248</u>	<u>(917)</u>	<u>(96)</u>	<u>204,235</u>

The first tranche of the long awaited legacy monies was received in March 2022 and this totalled £101,040.

The trustees have agreed to allocate £71,000 of these funds towards the ongoing maintenance and development of the three main projects and services of the organisation as follows:

Parent support service & helpline - £15,000
 Summer Transition Courses - £38,000
 DLD Together parent training project - £18,000.

A further £25,000 of the proceeds was used to repay the loan liability as described in note 15 above. The remaining balance due from the outstanding legacy was received outside this reporting period and the trustees intend to invest these further funds in the future development of Afasic and its charitable activities.

AFASIC

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

20 Analysis of net assets between funds	Unrestricted funds		Designated funds		Restricted funds		Total Unrestricted funds		Designated funds		Restricted funds		Total	
	2023	£	2023	£	2023	£	2022	£	2022	£	2022	£	2022	£
Fund balances at 31 March 2023 are represented by:														
Tangible assets	2,955		-		2		3,622		-		5		3,627	
Current assets/(liabilities)	143,742		204,235		94,787		171,272		205,248		116,661		493,181	
	<u>146,697</u>		<u>204,235</u>		<u>94,789</u>		<u>174,894</u>		<u>205,248</u>		<u>116,666</u>		<u>496,808</u>	

AFASIC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) ***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023***

21 Related party transactions

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