Registered Charity No: SC012285

# WEST SCOTLAND DEAF CHILDREN'S SOCIETY RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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#### **LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

Charity Name:	West Scotland Deaf Children's Society			
Registered Office and Operational Address:	281 Central Cham 93 Hope Street Glasgow G2 6LD	Glasgow		
Charity Registration Number:	SC012285			
Trustees:	P Boyce E Docherty A Donati H Gray S Leggett W Leggett E McCluskey Linda Montgomery Rachel O'Rourke Rebecca O'Rourke K Ryan H Young	,		
Independent Examiners:	AMAS Murrison Li Chartered Account 10 Newton Terrace Charing Cross Glasgow G3 7PJ	tants		
Bankers:	Bank of Scotland Community Banking 38 St Andrew Square Edinburgh EH2 2YR			
Investment Managers:	Barclays Wealth Royal Exchange H 100 Queen Street Glasgow	Royal Exchange House 100 Queen Street		

#### TRUSTEES' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The Trustees are pleased to present their report together with the Receipts and Payments accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The legal and administrative information on page 1 forms part of the report.

#### Co-Chairs' Report

2023-24 has been a positive year for West Scotland Deaf Children's Society (WSDCS) and for the children and families we support. We have been fortunate in securing our main funding from the National Lottery Community Fund and Glasgow Communities Fund to pay our staff salaries, core costs and associate costs. The Agnes Hunter Trust and The Ronald Miller Foundation also contributed grants towards staff salaries, allowing our staff to focus on delivering services to families with deaf children. Better Breaks granted us funding for club activities. We have also received other donations, regular giving and fundraising income acknowledged in the Report of the Trustees. The Trustees are pleased to report that levels of service have been sustained.

The Trustees are also pleased to report that the charity will soon be in receipt of a large legacy in 2024. We are currently taking steps to maximise the potential for long-term investment and short-term much-needed improvements afforded to us by this unexpected and extremely generous windfall. It is likely that WSDCS will receive this legacy in May 2024. Heather Gray, Co-Chair, will take the lead in working with the Finance and HR Committee to put in place the systems required to ensure the money received is protected and the Board is fully involved in decision making about investment of funds.

WSDCS continued its varied and comprehensive programme of activities through its Kids' Club and Youth Group. These groups continue to be positive, building skills, confidence and friendship for deaf children and young people. They will remain a core area of delivery. The online Kids' Club was waning in popularity as children started attending more face-to-face events in other aspects of their lives so the decision was taken to put the online clubs on hold and increase the number of face-to-face clubs on Saturdays. This was definitely the correct decision as attendance has been impressive at the clubs. The Youth Group continues to be online as the older age group prefers this, having less free time at their disposal. The young people have, however, got together at a few face-to-face events.

We have also started in 2023 – 24 our Baby and Toddler Group for parents of newly diagnosed deaf babies and toddlers to come together with their children in a relaxed atmosphere with coffee and biscuits where they can chat to each other, creating their own support networks and letting their little ones play together and make new friends. British Sign Language is also informally introduced at these gatherings as WSDCS has purchased books of BSL signs for babies which parents can borrow to learn from and practise with their children.

We have continued to work with the National Deaf Children's Society (NDCS). We supported them with consultations, held by NDCS and hosted by WSDCS, to garner the opinions of parents of deaf children on the Scottish Government's See Hear strategy and research into the BSL National Plan. Two members of staff also attended the NDCS annual Local Groups meeting in Perth in April 2023.

According to the CRIDE (Consortium of Research in Deaf Education) Report 2023, which covers the academic year 2022 – 23), the number of deaf children in Scotland is 3 418, an increase of 3% from 3 313 in 2022. 14% of this number are pre-school, 42% are of primary school age, 38% are of secondary school age up to 16 years and 6% are aged between 16 – 19 years old. 83% of children attend mainstream school, 9% attend mainstream school with resource provisions, 1% attend schools for deaf children and young people. 7% attend special schools not specifically for

deaf children. 28% of deaf children and young people have additional special education needs and abilities, an increase of 8% from 2021.

Demand for Family Support work has continued to rise, both for deaf awareness and BSL family sign sessions and for support with benefits and other forms. Our Family Support Officer continued to provide practical and emotional support to families.

We have had the support of several funders during 2023 – 24: National Lottery Community Fund, Glasgow Communities Fund, Shared Care Scotland Better Breaks, Agnes Hunter Trust, Ronald Miller Foundation, NDCS, Connect Us Too, Farrans Construction, Pavers Charitable Trust and Virgin Money Foundation. We are thankful to them and to all other funders and individuals who donated to WSDCS. WSDCS thanks everyone who took part in the Kiltwalk in April 2023 and other challenges in 2023 – 24 to raise funds for the charity.

We continue to be proud of our Living Wage Accredited Provider Status and that we pay all staff the real Scottish Living Wage. Staff salaries have been paid by funding, allowing staff to focus on services to families and children instead of fundraising.

The Trustees have now established Board, staff and Annual General Meetings online as a more productive use of everyone's time and a guaranteed way of ensuring that the majority of people can attend meetings.

The Trustees would like to note particular thanks to our hard-working, dedicated staff team of lain Campbell, Charlene Dolan, Lisa Sultana and Lesley Winning and sessional support worker Sunita Shan. We would also like to thank those who give up their own time to volunteer at our clubs and events. Charlene Dolan has, sadly, left the charity as of 31 March 2024 to pursue her career elsewhere. We thank Charlene for her more than 5 years of service to the charity and wish her all the best of luck for the future.

Lisa Sultana joined the staff team in February 2024 as Family Support Officer. We warmly welcome Lisa to the team and are sure she will make a positive difference to the work of WSDCS.

Further thanks are due to The Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland, particularly Janis McDonald, who continued to offer support and guidance to WSDCS.

We would like to thank all our funders and donors who have supported the charity in the past year and particular thanks to all our Trustees who give of their time and talents to support the work of the society.

Heather Gray

Heather Young

Heather Gray Co-Chair of WSDCS Date: 24/09/2024 Heather Young Co-Chair of WSDCS Date: 24/09/2024

#### TRUSTEES' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

#### **Trustees**

The Trustees who served during the year and since the year-end, unless otherwise stated, were as follows:

P Boyce (Vice Chair)

E Docherty

A Donati

H Gray (Co-Chair)

S Leggett

W Leggett

E McCluskey (Resigned 28/11/23)

Linda Montgomery (Appointed 28/11/23)

Rachel O'Rourke

Rebecca O'Rourke

K Rvan

H Young (Co-Chair)

#### Structure, Governance and Management

#### **Governing Document**

West Scotland Deaf Children's Society ("the charity") is established by Constitution as a registered Association of the National Deaf Children's Society and was recognised as a Scottish Charity (no SC012285) on 10<sup>th</sup> December 1992.

#### **Appointment of Trustees**

New Trustees are appointed at the discretion of the Management Committee. There is no fixed term for membership of the Management Committee. New Trustees take part in an induction programme which aims to familiarise them with the charity's values, aims and objectives together with its day-to-day operations, in addition to clarifying their statutory responsibilities as a Trustee of a charity.

#### **Objectives and Activities**

The charity's principal activities are:

- · Providing a unique, empathic service to deaf children and their families
- · Providing social events for all the family
- · Providing a weekly fun/sign/activity club
- · Providing a twice monthly youth club
- · Providing outreach support
- · Providing emotional support to the families from the point of diagnosis

### WEST SCOTLAND DEAF CHILDREN'S SOCIETY (WSDCS) REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

#### **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

#### **Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2023**

West Scotland Deaf Children's Society held its Annual General Meeting on 28 November 2023 on Zoom. There were 46 attendees (Board and members) with 3 members of staff, 2 BSL/English interpreters and 1 electronic notetaker also in attendance. Formal proceedings were conducted, accounts approved and the Board re-elected. Simon Murrison from our accountants Ammu (Amas Murrison Ltd.) attended to present the accounts. Communication at the AGM was supported by BSL/English interpreters Nikki Dunipace and Sarah Forrester with verbatim notetaking and recording of minutes by Electronic Notetaker Paula McGuire. Thank you to all those who attended and demonstrated how important WSDCS is to the families of deaf children in the West of Scotland.

At this meeting, Erin McCluskey's resignation from the Board and Linda Montgomery's application to join the Board were accepted. Thank you to Erin for her service as a Trustee and good luck for her future. A very warm welcome was extended to Linda Montgomery.

We would like to extend our thanks to all Trustees who have served on the Committee for the last year for their faithful service and contributions.

We would like to acknowledge the hard work and commitment of our dedicated WSDCS team.

#### **Activities with Schools and other Organisations**

We collaborated and worked in partnership with primary and secondary schools across the West of Scotland. We also continued our partnership with St Roch's Secondary School, sharing Better Breaks funding with them for another year.

A Deaf Awareness session was delivered to staff and members of the Scottish Federation of Housing Associations.

WSDCS developed partnerships with local community organisations such as Make Do and Grow and continued to work in partnership with Glasgow Life. We also continued to work together with peripatetic Teachers of the Deaf in the West of Scotland and have maintained our relationship with The Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland. Additionally, our children have seen and attended workshops led by deaf role models, such as Moira Ross, deaf actor, promoting a positive deaf identity. We continue to work closely with the National Deaf Children's Society (NDCS), with whom we are affiliated, and are grateful for their support. During this year, we delivered 2 consultations with NDCS to get feedback from families regarding the BSL Act and the Scottish Government's See Hear strategy.

#### **Social Media**

WSDCS uses the following social media to communicate: Facebook (with a private group for families and young people), Twitter (for the wider community), Instagram and Facebook Messenger. Our social media channels continue to be a great way of reaching families and maintaining a strong support network.

#### **Highlights and Activities**

Over the past 12 months, we have provided:

#### Kids' Club

• For pre-school and primary school-aged deaf children and their siblings

- Initially weekly on Zoom then this was put on hold and changed to once weekly (except during school holiday periods) face-to-face
- PVG-certified staff and BSL/English interpreters
- Activities at the clubs have included Hallowe'en party held in the Adelphi Centre and Christmas party held in Sense Scotland Touchbase
- Other club activities have included Christmas cake decorating and crafts, Make Do and Grow arts and crafts, Circus Sensible circus skills, Super Science Party, drama workshop with a deaf actor, Animal Man's Mini Zoo, trips to WonderWorld Soft Play, Hollywood Bowl, Glasgow Science Centre, Vue cinema to see a specially subtitled showing of The Little Mermaid, the Burrell Collection, Kelvin Hall Archives, Pizza Hut to make pizzas, Primary Schools football tournament and Art Space G41 for pottery painting.

#### **Youth Group**

- For secondary school-aged young people and their siblings
- Weekly on Zoom except during school holiday periods
- Activities on Zoom have included Mario Kart, quizzes, baking and a Christmas Bake Off competition, video games, competitions and board games
- Face-to-face activities have included a trip to Level X video games and bowling, mini golf, the cinema, secondary school football tournament and a summer trip to M&Ds theme park
- Prizes and awards for the young people

#### **Football Tournament**

This went ahead in June 2023 at Pro-Soccer Rouken Glen on a very hot day for playing football! Everyone enjoyed the event which was very well attended by schools and individuals all over the West of Scotland. Thanks to Derek Todd and to all the deaf referees for giving up their time to support the young people in this.

#### **Summer Trips**

There were three summer trips in 2023, to Blair Drummond Safari Park, Almond Valley Heritage Park and M&Ds Theme Park. Coach travel was arranged for all 3 trips as they were difficult to access by public transport for those families without a car. The summer trips were well attended, the children and families had great fun, made new friends and even the weather was kind on all 3 days.

#### Cinema Trip

A cinema trip was arranged for the Kids' Club to watch a specially subtitled showing of The Little Mermaid. We have now worked in conjunction with Vue Cinemas on several cinema screenings to allow equal access to the latest films for deaf children and their families.

#### **Glasgow Life Museums**

Two museum trips were organised, one to the Kelvin Hall GL Archives in May 2023 and one to the Burrell Collection in September 2023. Museum tours are followed by a fun arts and crafts activity session and loved by everyone. Thank you again to Rachel Leckie and all the staff at Glasgow Life with whom we continue to work successfully.

#### Hallowe'en and Christmas Events

The Hallowe'en Party was held at the Adelphi Centre. All the children put so much effort into their costumes and the children enjoyed all the ghoulish activities and food on offer.

The Christmas Party was held at Sense Scotland Touchbase. Our Deaf Santa amazed the children by being able to use British Sign Language. He greeted all the children and gave selection boxes to them all. (Thank you to Oliver Kerr)

In the run up to Christmas at the Kids' Club, Christmas cake decorating was delivered by Lynette Daly, parent of a deaf child, alongside Christmas arts and crafts.

The BSL-interpreted Christmas panto at the King's Theatre, Glasgow, was 'Snow White' and tickets were again in demand. The theatre kindly provided free ice cream to all the children.

#### Kiltwalk 2023

A total of £7 402.09 was raised by WSDCS through the efforts of everyone who took part in the Kiltwalk 2023. Fundraisers included staff member Iain Campbell and also Chris and Gillian Carruthers, Nick Reilly and Eilidh Cowie-Reilly, Rachel Docherty, Jennifer Gibson, Kim McMillan, Debbie McShannock, Lynette Ogilvie, Emma Sharp, Nicola Wilson, Heather Young and all their families and friends who walked with them. Thanks to everyone who donated to all the above people.

#### JustGiving 2023 - 24

Donations received in 2023 – 24 via JustGiving totalled £11 727.84 including Gift Aid. This included some Kiltwalk advance donations for Kiltwalk 2024. In addition to the funds raised by those named above for the Kiltwalk 2023, donations were also made via JustGiving by fundraisers David Buchanan, Yasmin Esson, Stewart Leggett, Wilson Leggett, Linda Montgomery, Michael Prentice, Caroline Robertson, Kerry Ryan, Lisa Sultana and Lesley Winning. Thank you to everyone who fundraised for WSDCS in this way.

#### **Grants and Funding from Organisations**

Restricted grants and donations from funders, which funded WSDCS staff salaries, core costs, club activities and BSL classes, were received during the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 from Agnes Hunter Trust (also for FY 2024 – 25), Glasgow Communities Fund, National Lottery Community Fund, Ronald Miller Foundation and Shared Care Better Breaks.

Unrestricted funds were received from Amazon Core Europe, Anne R Jolly Trust, Bearsden Nursery, Farrans Construction, Largs Academy Youth and Philanthropy Initiative, Lyle's Bar, Mitchells Robertson, National Deaf Children's Society, Norlan Trefoil Guild, Scottish Childminding Association, Scottish Federation of Housing Associations, Templeton Bowling Club and Virgin Money Foundation.

Thank you to all these organisations for their generosity.

#### **Donations from Individuals**

Individual donors in 2023 – 24 were Mr/s Aitchison, N Ali, L Cameron, K Campbell, M Chaussat, R Docherty, F Dolan, R Ferguson, D Gillespie, S Grant, A Gregg, A Halpin, D Henderson, S & D Henderson, S Hughes, E & S Hutchinson, C & L Jackson-Jamieson, D Lyon, G May & J Wilson, F McClafferty, K McCulloch, L McDicken, D Morton, Y Nicholl, C Ogilvie, I Omar, N Reilly, C & F Richardson, M H T Robertson, W & I Rutherglen, E Ryan, E Sharp and H Young.

Thank you also to parents and carers who contributed to outings and club activities. This helps the charity to provide more activities for deaf children and is greatly appreciated.

Other anonymous donations are received through Payroll Giving, JustGiving and Charities Aid Foundation. WSDCS is grateful to all who donate to the charity.

#### **Donations in Kind**

Donations of resources for clubs and items for raffles were received from Aurora Kards and Krafts, Etre Belle, LC Hair and MUA, Lynn's Beauty Cabin, Slater Menswear, Tesco and Vivienne Westwood. Thank you very much to these businesses for their generosity.

#### **Awards**

WSDCS awards were presented at the Christmas party. The Pat Clark Volunteer Award 2023 was given to Rebecca O'Rourke and the Frances Dolan Endeavour Award was presented to Emily Low, with Ellie Ryan as runner-up. Well done to all three winners!

#### **Financial Review**

The charity's income for the year amounted to £147,316 (2023 £68,631) which is made up of mainly grants and donations with minimal gift aid and investment income.

#### **Reserves Policy**

All reserves of the charity are unrestricted. It is policy for the charity to aim to maintain 6 months' operating expenditure as unrestricted reserves. Current unrestricted reserves at 31/03/24 are £52,332.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf:

Heather Gray

Heather Gray Co-Chair of WSDCS Date: 24/09/2024 Heather Young

Heather Young Co-Chair of WSDCS Date: 24/09/2024

#### INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE

#### TRUSTEES OF WEST SCOTLAND DEAF CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on pages 10 to 13.

#### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

#### Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

- 1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation
     9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

have not been met, or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Simon A Murrison BA CA AMAS Murrison Limited 10 Newton Terrace Charing Cross Glasgow G3 7PJ

Date: 24/09/2024

#### STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 £	2023 £
Receipts				
Charitable Grants	0	107,408	107,408	20,013
Donations	25,559	2,100	39,544	38,832
Gift Aid	253	0	253	253
Fundraising Income	11,885	0	0	9,005
Interest Income	0	0	0	30
Activity income	111	0	111	0
Other/Misc Income	0	0	0	500
Total Receipts	37,808	109,508	147,316	68,632
Payments				
Staff Costs	0	84,519	84,519	81,870
Operating costs	4,962	23,887	28,848	26,344
Independent examination & bookkeeping fees	2,700	0	2,700	2,592
Total Payments	7,662	108,406	116,068	110,807
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	30,146	1,102	31,248	(42,175)

## WEST SCOTLAND DEAF CHILDREN'S SOCIETY STATEMENT OF BALANCES

#### **AS AT 31 MARCH 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 £	2023 £
Bank and cash in hand		_	_	_	_
Opening balances		22,186	13,586	35,772	77,947
(Deficit)/Surplus for year		30,146	1,102	31,248	(42,175)
Closing Balances		52,332	14,688	67,020	35,772
Debtors	1			2,233	936
Liabilities	2			2,170	2,170
Investments	3			-	-
Other assets	4			3,619	3,619

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf:

Heather Gray

Name: Heather Gray

Date: 24/09/2024

#### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

#### 1. Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Gift Aid	236	253
GCVS	1,997_	683
	2,233	936

#### 2. Liabilities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Rent	1,125	1,125
Telephone	95	95
Independent Examiners Fee	950	950
	2,170	2,170

#### 3. Other assets

	2024	2023
	£	£
Office furniture, fittings & equipment at cost	3,619	3,619

#### 4. Related Party Transactions

No Trustees received any remuneration during the year (2023: Nil).

Travel expenses totalling £0 (2023: £0) were reimbursed to 0 (2023: 0) trustees in the year.

## WEST SCOTLAND DEAF CHILDREN'S SOCIETY NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

#### 5. Funds

	Movement in Funds Balance at					
	1 Apr 2023 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 Mar 24 £	
Unrestricted Funds	00.400	07.000	7 000		50.000	
General funds	22,186	37,808	7,662	-	52,332	
	22,186	37,808	7,662	-	52,332	
Restricted Funds						
Agnes Hunter Trust - 23/24	8,173	-	8,173	-	-	
Better Breaks - 20/21	889	-	391	-	498	
Better Breaks - 23/24	-	10,000	9,909	-	91	
Connect Us Too	4,360	-	1,593	-	2,767	
Farrans Construction	-	1,000	1,000	-	-	
Glasgow Communities - 23/24	-	29,750	24,029	-	5,721	
National Lottery Communities - 23/24	-	66,658	61,095	-	5,564	
NDCS - 23/24	-	500	500	-	-	
Pavers Charitable Foundation	164	-	117	-	47	
Ronald Miller Foundation	-	1,100	1,100	-	-	
Virgin Money Foundation - 23/24		500	500	-		
	13,586	109,508	108,406	-	14,688	
	35,772	147,316	116,068	-	67,020	

Agnes Hunter Trust – Funding towards staff salaries 2023-24

Better Breaks 2020-21 - Child protection training

Better Breaks 2023-24 – Funding towards club outings

Connect Us Too – Deaf mental health training

Farrans Construction - Funding towards pantomime tickets

Glasgow Communities 2023-24 – Funding towards staff salaries 2023-24

National Lottery Communities 2023-24 – Funding towards staff salaries and club resources

NDCS Combined Grant – Funding towards pantomime tickets

**Pavers Charitable Foundation** – Funding towards BSL resources

Ronald Miller Foundation – Funding towards staff salaries 2023-24

Virgin Money Foundations 2023/24 – Funding towards pantomime tickets and club events