



NATIONAL NETWORK FOR THE EDUCATION OF CARE LEAVERS

Charity Registration No. 1180793

Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 July 2023



NATIONAL NETWORK FOR THE EDUCATION OF CARE LEAVERS

Report and accounts

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NATIONAL NETWORK FOR THE EDUCATION OF CARE LEAVERS

Legal and Administrative Information

Trustees

Mx AAJ Pile

Dr R Carr

Ms A Tilley (to 19 May 2023)

Ms P Khambhaita (to 28 March 2023)

Dr F Dunworth (to 18 April 2023) Dr N Harrison

Mr M Bettencourt (to 30 March 2023) Ms E Watson

Mr M Hill

Mr A Benvie

Dr M Sebele

Ms N Turner

Mr J Wakeford (appointed 6 July 2023)

Mrs S Shomai (appointed 6 July 2023)

Miss S Sabapathy (appointed 6 July 2023)

NEECL Director

Ms P Ambrose (to 31 July 2023)

Accountants and Independent Examiner

Alison Cook FCA

AJC Accountancy

Unit 40 Thrales End Business Centre

Thrales End Lane

Harpenden

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Registered office

Capital House

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London

EC1V 2NX

Charity Number

1180793

About NNECL

The National Network for the Education of Care Leavers (NNECL) was first established as a volunteer network in June 2013 by higher education institutions and national organisations committed to the progression and support of care experienced students in further and higher education. Working together we aim to transform the opportunities available by championing the continuous improvement of local practice, multi-agency partnerships and national collaboration.

The National Strategy Group (NSG) forms a link between educational providers, their networks and national organisations and agencies. It includes nominated regional representatives from further or higher education and members of national organisations committed to the progression and support of care experienced students.

Our vision is a world in which care experienced people are empowered and supported to thrive and achieve their full educational potential. Our mission is to support, connect and empower professionals working with care experienced people in different sectors, with the goal of enabling more care experienced people to access and progress successfully through further and higher education. Our values shape our organisation and inform everything we do.

Equality We are working for a fair society which is inclusive and celebrates diversity.

Initiative We seek out effective educational practice and create opportunities.

Collaboration We achieve more by working together to build relationships and provide personalised support.

Making a difference We produce useful, evidence-based work which contributes to systemic change.

Purpose and aims

The trustees' review the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year. This report looks at what NNECL has achieved and the outcomes of its work in the reporting period 1 August 2022 to 31 July 2023. The trustees report the success of each key activity and the benefits the charity has brought to the care experienced people that it is set up to help. The review also helps the trustees ensure the charity's aims, objectives and activities remained focused on its stated purposes. NNECL's strategic objectives are to:

Inform Contributing to the creation and dissemination of new knowledge, research and useful information about care experienced learners.

Connect Providing networking opportunities for member organisations and engagement with key stakeholders.

Support Supporting and developing evidence-based effective practice.

Champion Championing the work of our member organisations through advocacy and communications.

Sustain Ensuring the future sustainability of our organisation.

NATIONAL NETWORK FOR THE EDUCATION OF CARE LEAVERS

Trustees' Report

Patricia Ambrose, our outgoing Director

These are the last Report and Accounts during which Patricia Ambrose has been our Director. She will step down at the end of July 2023. Under Patricia's leadership NNECL built a solid foundation for a sustainable future, increased our membership and successfully launched our NNECL Quality Mark. Patricia combines personal modesty with huge knowledge and talent, her dedication has earned her huge respect across the sector. Our admiration and affection for Patricia is testament to her deep and lasting achievements for NNECL and care experienced students across the nation. We wish Patricia well for the future.

Message from our incoming Director

I am delighted to be joining NNECL, as a care experienced person myself the opportunity to become its Director is an incredible privilege. I am passionate about social mobility and look forward to working collaboratively with the many people who share a vision for a society where those from a care background are empowered and encouraged to realise their educational potential. With the backing of our Trustees and Co-Chairs, I am resolute to build on Patricia's legacy and take the organisation to the next level. This makes for an exciting year ahead, at a time when our partners face incredible challenges. We have not given ourselves an easy task, however, we are determined. One focus is expanding our offer and working closer with those who influence care experienced young people. Our research and evidence is clear on the importance of reaching children from 11 upwards and inspiring them to consider attending college or university, and importantly, knowing how to get there. As we move forward care experienced young people can be sure, NNECL is right behind them.

Denise Rawls, joining NNECL as Director in October 2023

Public Benefit

We confirm the trustees have had due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Volunteers

NNECL values the contribution made by volunteers who actively participate in our work through the National Strategy Group and our network of regional representatives and groups.

Achievements and Performance

Quality Mark

Participation in the Quality Mark continued to grow during 2022/23 with a total of 36 universities and colleges having completed the award by the end of the year. To achieve the Quality Mark, institutions provide evidence of how they support the inclusion and success of care experienced students for review by an experienced assessor. Feedback from participating institutions remained consistently positive on the benefits of the scheme as illustrated by the following comments from our evaluation survey:

It was rewarding to pull everything together in one place and recognise just how much we offer to this group of students, and how far we have come in terms of improvement to support in recent years. It then provided a great space for reflection and to think about plans for improvement, with an institutional commitment through the action plan. It also served as further consolidation in terms of university-wide collaboration and awareness. [Our assessor] was amazing and challenged us to consider how we could develop and improve our provision. It was also extremely helpful to consult with students so we could ensure their priorities were incorporated into our QM action plan.

Learning from, and continuing to develop, the Quality Mark remained an important focus across the year. We worked with the Student Loans Company to build in some more detailed guidance around student finance within the Quality Mark and co-developed a template for institutions to use to record CPD on this topic as part of their evidence for the award. This work was showcased at a webinar in February 2023. The Quality Mark guidance was updated to reflect this and we also added some further content on accommodation support and rent guarantor schemes.

The Office for Students published its new approach to Access and Participation Plans including a new Equality of Opportunity Risk Register. Care experience featured across ten of the twelve risk areas identified and we have begun mapping effective practice from the Quality Mark against those areas to provide further guidance and support for institutions.

Annual conference

A highlight of the year was the return of the in-person NNECL annual conference which had been paused during the Covid-19 pandemic. Under the theme of **Achieving more together**, over 100 delegates joined us in Manchester on 22 November 2022 for a packed programme of plenary sessions and workshops. The keynote speakers were: Charlotte Ramsden OBE, Strategic Director for People at Salford City Council; John Blake, Director for Fair Access and Participation at the Office for Students; and leading researcher and Dr Neil Harrison, from the University of Exeter. The event included an inspiring panel session with a group of care experienced students, reflecting on the key turning points in their education. There was also time to reflect on NNECL's achievements over the past three years and to celebrate all of the Quality Mark awardees.

The content was a really high standard in both the workshops and the keynotes. Thank you for an invigorating event! I look forward to next year.

Delegate feedback rated the conference very highly with a usefulness score of 4.7/5 and an overall satisfaction score of 4.8 out of 5.

Webinars

Our webinar programme ran successfully across the year and remains a highly valued and popular part of our offer. Topics reflect feedback from members on what they would like us to cover, as well as opportunities to discuss new research and policy developments and disseminate effective practice. Webinars are free for NNECL member organisations, with non-members also able to attend for a small fee of £15 per session.

We had 304 webinar bookings across the year (2021/22: 380) and our programme covered the following areas:

- Improving the data on care experience;
- Student finance and the Quality Mark;
- Widening participation activity for care experienced learners;
- Trauma-informed and whole community approaches to supporting care experienced learners; and
- Effective practice in the Culture and Leadership section of the NNECL Quality Mark.

I have particularly enjoyed, found useful and accessible the NNECL webinar programme which has covered some excellent topics over the past year. Please do continue with these as they provide examples of good practice to all institutions and give contacts which can be followed up for further details after the event. We are all different in the type of institution and the resources available to what we are able to offer, but even with this, the webinars and best practice provides ideas and gets us thinking about how we can introduce and incorporate the ideas within our own practices. Thank you to the team for introducing and managing these excellent events.

We continued to collaborate with other organisations on many of these events. The webinar on data included input from UCAS and the Unite Foundation, while the session on Student Finance and the Quality Mark was co-developed with the Student Loans Company (see the Quality Mark section for further details). We were delighted to build a new relationship with the Institute of Recovery from Childhood Trauma, with Dr Jon Reid, IRCT trustee and Senior Lecturer at Oxford Brookes University, delivering an interactive session for us on trauma informed support. Effective practice from universities, colleges and other partners was showcased in the webinars on widening participation and culture and leadership, with presentations from First Star Scholars, the University of East Anglia, the North East Raising Aspiration Partnership, Leeds City College and the University of Exeter.

Membership

We celebrated reaching and exceeding the 100-member milestone in 2023, with 102 member organisations in place by the end of July (2021/22: 90). This figure includes just under 50% of UK universities and other designated HEIs. During the year, we worked on a mapping exercise with our regional representatives to identify potential new member organisations and will continue to undertake targeted recruitment campaigns to grow and further diversify our membership.

Overall member satisfaction with NNECL remains high with an average score of 4.41 out of 5 (2021/22: 4.39/5). All current activities were generally seen as highly useful or useful, with the most highly rated areas being the webinar programme, annual conference and monthly members' newsletters. Members valued engagement with NNECL particularly in relation to keeping up-to-date with innovative practice, research and initiatives, and in providing opportunities to share and develop their own practice.

Respondents rated the extent to which their involvement in NNECL had led to

improvements in their support for care experienced students at an average of 7.83 out of 10. Working on the Quality Mark featured strongly in this regard. Other respondents highlighted the value of hearing about innovative and effective practice from their peers and being able to use this information to influence institutional committees and build a platform for future improvements.

Policy and advocacy

The Department for Education published the long-awaited Government response to the Independent Review of Children's Social Care in England in February 2023. The response built on some of the recommendations relating to further and higher education in the Review report. It included an aspiration to: **narrow the gap in care leaver higher education participation rates compared to the general population year-on year from 2027, with a view to this being minimal by 2030.**

Latest DfE data on widening participation show that current care experienced student participation in higher education stands at around 14% compared to 47% of all 19-year-olds. At present, it is not clear what additional support and interventions will be put in place to achieve this highly ambitious commitment to minimise what remains a significant gap.

Extension of Pupil Premium Plus funding was announced for well-evidenced educational interventions, such as tutoring and mentoring, with clear links to Personal Education Plans and improved pathways to further education and employment. The apprenticeships care leavers' bursary is also set to increase from £1,000 to £3,000 in August 2023.

The Government response committed to introducing a: **gold standard accreditation scheme for further and higher education institutions ... to set a high standard that all institutions will aspire to, including how to drive take-up and retain students ... [with an] expectation of support in areas such as: targeted activities to encourage applications and support transition; bursaries; affordable year round accommodation; pastoral and mental health support; dedicated staff leads on care leaver education; whole staff training.**

DfE has recognised the work already carried out by NNECL through the Quality Mark and we are pleased to be represented on the new HEFE Advisory Board to take this initiative forward. Our view is that any new scheme of this kind could potentially serve as a foundation level to the Quality Mark, which is broader and more developmental in focus.

In response to the DfE report, the NNECL Director published a think piece on the Wonkhe

website on how to achieve the Government's ambition to increase participation of care experienced students in higher education. This would require: comprehensive and inclusive data to enable benchmarking and increase understanding; enhanced partnership working between schools, colleges and universities to improve educational attainment; and greater consistency in the guidance and support provided to care experienced young people at all stages of their education.

Communications

Our reach further broadened over the year with monthly newsletters to member institutions being emailed to over 240 individuals and our quarterly newsletter circulation growing from 623 to 815 contacts. 88% of respondents to the 2023 membership survey found our monthly newsletters either highly useful or useful, with the remainder finding them of some use.

We continued to build our profile on social media with over 1,700 followers, tweeting regularly on events, the Quality Mark and policy developments. For National Care Leavers' Week in October 2022, we commissioned and featured stories from care experienced students about the key decision points which led them to higher education.

In November 2022, we were delighted to be a partner in the UCAS Next Steps publication, 'What is the Experience of Students from a Care Background in Education?' and provided a reflective commentary in the report. This publication included findings from UCAS data alongside qualitative insights from 500 care experienced applicants to higher education. It highlighted the challenges often faced by those with care experience when thinking about, and moving into, higher education, including a lack of specific guidance about the support available to them. Key points from the report are summarised below.

Access to specific guidance about going to HE as a care-experienced student is inconsistent: 60% stated they received no guidance specific to being care experienced during their application journey. Applicants seek advice from a wide variety of sources, not all of whom will have had access to the latest information and resources about UCAS applications or the specific support available in HE for care-experienced students.

The intersectionality of care experience with other personal characteristics presents additional challenges: these applicants are 38% more likely than non-care-experienced applicants to come from the most disadvantaged areas (POLAR4 Quintile 1), twice as likely to be from Mixed or Black ethnic groups, 79% more likely to identify as LGBT+, almost twice as likely to share a disability, and nearly three times as likely to share a mental health condition.

Care-experienced students' journeys are often longer and non-linear: one third of applicants were aged 21 or above, compared to one fifth of UK applicants without a care background. Applicants were also more than twice as likely to take the Access to HE Diploma.

Applicants from a care background are motivated by career prospects, especially in health and social care: they are 179% more likely to apply for health and social care than non-care-experienced students, and 50% more likely to apply for nursing and midwifery.

HE choices are strongly influenced by applicants' individual support needs: over three quarters prioritised access to mental health and wellbeing support, with financial support, accommodation, and pre-entry support also important influential factors.

As a practitioner network, NNECL is committed to continue to work with UCAS, virtual schools, local authorities, fostering agencies and all other relevant organisations to transform the educational landscape for care experienced people.

We were also delighted to write the entry on support for care experienced and estranged students for the UniTaster 2023 Teachers' Guide to University.

NNECL continued to co-chair the Care Leaver, Care Experienced and Estranged Students in HE (CLEES in HE) group, in partnership with the Care Leaver Covenant. The group brings together key organisations and charities with an interest in care experienced and estranged students.

The NNECL team made presentations at a range of external events during the year. These included national conferences, CPD sessions on the Quality Mark and events for care experienced young people, foster carers, teachers and leaving care teams.

Future plans and priorities

NNECL continues to develop its activities in line with the objectives identified in its Strategic Plan:

- Inform: Contributing to the creation and dissemination of new knowledge, research and useful information about care experienced learners
- Connect: Providing networking opportunities for member organisations and engagement with key stakeholders
- Support: Supporting and developing evidence-based effective practice
- Champion: Championing the work of our member organisations

through advocacy and communications Sustain: Ensuring the future sustainability of our organisation

Priorities for the future include: further developing student engagement and co-creation in our work; continuing to campaign for improvements in the public data available about care experienced students to enable better understanding and benchmarking; working in partnership to improve the information, advice and guidance on further and higher education for care experienced young people and their advisers; and creating new training and evaluation materials to support HE/FE practitioners and others who work with care experienced people.

NNECL Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees met on four occasions in 2022/23 and continued to operate effectively and in line with its Terms of Reference. Dr Felicity Dunworth, who had been heavily involved in NNECL from its early days as a volunteer group through its transition to becoming a registered charity, stood down as a trustee and Co-Chair in April 2023. We are immensely grateful for her wisdom, insights and championing of NNECL over the last decade and wish her well for the future. We also said farewell to three other trustees: Michael Bettencourt, Adele Tilley and Priya Khambhaita. All had provided much constructive and helpful support over the past few years.

In Spring 2023, we ran an open recruitment exercise to appoint new trustees, highlighting experience in fundraising and marketing, and particularly seeking to encourage care experienced applicants and to improve further the diversity of the Board. Following a successful campaign, we were delighted to appoint three new trustees at the July 2023 Board meeting: Jon Wakeford (also elected as Co-Chair); Shilla Shomai; and Sandhya Sabapathy.

Financial Review

Total income during the 2022/23 year was £50,719 (2021/22: £75,708), comprising £50,369 in unrestricted funds (2021/22: £67,708) and £350 in restricted funds (2021/22: £8,000). We are particularly grateful to the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation which confirmed a three-year grant extension from 2023/24 to 2025/26 to support core costs as we continue to develop our longer-term sustainability.

Expenditure totalled £89,305 (2021/22: £80,897).

Reserves Policy

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to four month's expenditure

(approximately £30,000 in 2022/23). The trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised.

The charity is working towards consistently maintaining this level of reserves.

Current Free Reserves

As at 31 July 2023 total reserves were £23,799 (2022: £62,385), of which £22,125 (2022: £24,210) was for restricted projects and £16,74 (2022: £38,175) was unrestricted.

Risks

NNECL maintains a risk register which is regularly updated and reviewed at Board meetings. The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

NATIONAL NETWORK FOR THE EDUCATION OF CARE LEAVERS INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE NATIONAL NETWORK FOR THE EDUCATION OF CARE LEAVERS

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of National Network for the Education of care Leavers (the charity) for the year ended 31 July 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared statements in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but which has now been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.

Alison Cook FCA
AJC Accountancy
Chartered Accountants
Unit 40, Thrales End Business Centre
Thrales End Lane, Harpenden, Herts, AL5 3NS.
December 2023

NATIONAL NETWORK FOR THE EDUCATION OF CARE LEAVERS
Statement of financial activities
including income and expenditure account
for the year ended 31 July 2023

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
		2023 £	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £	2022 £	2022 £
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	3	36,708	350	37,058	59,134	8,000	67,134
Charitable activities	4	3,489		3,489	7,500		7,500
Other income	5	10,172	0	10,172	1,074	0	1,074
Total income		<u>50,369</u>	<u>350</u>	<u>50,719</u>	<u>67,708</u>	<u>8,000</u>	<u>75,708</u>
Raising funds	6	490	0	490	0	0	0
Charitable activities	7	<u>86,380</u>	<u>2,435</u>	<u>88,815</u>	<u>79,137</u>	<u>1,760</u>	<u>80,897</u>
Total resources		<u>86,870</u>	<u>2,435</u>	<u>89,305</u>	<u>79,137</u>	<u>1,760</u>	<u>80,897</u>
Net income / (expenditure) for the year/ Net movement in funds		-36,501	-2,085	-38,586	-11,429	6,240	-5,189
Opening fund balances		38,175	24,210	62,385	49,604	17,970	67,574
Closing fund balances		<u>1,674</u>	<u>22,125</u>	<u>23,799</u>	<u>38,175</u>	<u>24,210</u>	<u>62,385</u>

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

All income and expenditure derives from continuing activities.

NATIONAL NETWORK FOR THE EDUCATION OF CARE LEAVERS

Balance Sheet as at 31 July 2023

	Notes	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
Tangible assets			#REF!		-
Current assets					
Debtors	11	410		410	
Cash at bank and in hand		42,549		82,306	
		<u>42,959</u>		<u>82,716</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(19,160)		(20,332)	
Net current assets			<u>23,799</u>		<u>62,385</u>
Net assets			<u>23,799</u>		<u>62,385</u>
Income Funds					
Restricted Funds			22,125		24,210
Unrestricted Funds			1,674		38,175
			<u>23,799</u>		<u>62,385</u>

Ms E Watson

NATIONAL NETWORK FOR THE EDUCATION OF CARE LEAVERS
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 July 2023

1 Accounting policies

Charity Information

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS102.

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

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

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 policies adopted are set out below.

Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Charitable funds

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

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 the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

Income

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 the 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

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.

Expenditure

NATIONAL NETWORK FOR THE EDUCATION OF CARE LEAVERS

Notes to the Accounts

for the year ended 31 July 2023

A liability is recognised when either a constructive or legal obligation is identified. Central costs are apportioned between costs of generating funds and charitable activities on the basis of the specific activities of members of staff. Irrecoverable VAT is allocated to the same expenditure heading as the cost to which it relates. Basic financial liabilities are recognised at transaction cost.

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulative depreciation and any accumulative impairment losses. Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, other than freehold land, at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset evenly over its expected useful life, as follows:

Plant and equipment	over 3 years
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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).

Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 "Basic Financial Instruments" and Section 12 "Other Financial Instruments Issues" of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

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.

Retirement benefits

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

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

NATIONAL NETWORK FOR THE EDUCATION OF CARE LEAVERS

Notes to the Accounts

for the year ended 31 July 2023

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods here the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Donations and legacies	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2023	2023	2023
	£	£	£
<u>Donations and gifts</u>			
Grants receivable	0	350	350
Membership fees	54,414		54,414
Less: deferred income	-17,706		-17,706
	<u>36,708</u>	<u>350</u>	<u>37,058</u>
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£
<u>Donations and gifts</u>			
Grants receivable	30,000	8,000	38,000
Membership fees	46,897		46,897
Less: deferred income	-17,763		-17,763
	<u>59,134</u>	<u>8,000</u>	<u>67,134</u>
Grants receivable for core activities		2023	2022
		£	£
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation		0	30,000
Newcastle College (restricted)		0	7,250
Esmee Fairbairn training (restricted)		350	750
		<u>350</u>	<u>38,000</u>
4 Charitable activities - income		2023	2022
		£	£
Quality Mark fees		3,489	7,500
		<u>3,489</u>	<u>7,500</u>
5 Other Income	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2022
	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£
Consultancy Income	0	0	300
Other income	10,172	0	774
	<u>10,172</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,074</u>
6 Raising funds		Unrestricted funds	

NATIONAL NETWORK FOR THE EDUCATION OF CARE LEAVERS

Notes to the Accounts

for the year ended 31 July 2023

	2023	2022
<u>Fundraising and publicity</u>	£	£
Other fundraising costs	490	0
	<u>490</u>	<u>0</u>
7 Charitable activities - expenditure	2023	2022
	£	£
Staff costs	70,460	68,917
Depreciation	0	254
Website and internet costs	1,501	1,341
Conference costs	5,727	650
Printing, postage and stationery	117	0
Telephone	213	210
Other staff costs	1,185	923
Quality Mark expenditure	3,800	4,200
Quality Mark expenditure (restricted)	2,435	1,760
Sundry expenses	200	0
	<u>85,638</u>	<u>78,255</u>
Share of support costs (see note 8)	1,474	1,361
Share of governance costs (see note 8)	1,704	1,282
	<u>88,816</u>	<u>80,898</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	86,381	79,138
Restricted funds	2,435	1,760
	<u>88,816</u>	<u>80,898</u>
8 Support costs	2023	2022
	£	£
<u>Support</u>		
Insurance	768	768
Subscriptions	706	593
	<u>1,474</u>	<u>1,361</u>
<u>Governance</u>		
Independent Examiner fees	1,170	1,080
Legal and professional fees	0	106
Trustee travel	474	0
Bank charges	60	96
	<u>1,704</u>	<u>1,282</u>
9 Trustees		
No trustees received any remuneration in the year to 31 March 2023 (2022: £nil)		
A total of £474 was reimbursed to 3 trustees during the year for travel expenses incurred in fulfilling their duties as trustees (2022: £nil)		
10 Employees	2023	2022
	Number	Number
Average monthly number of employees during the year was:	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

NATIONAL NETWORK FOR THE EDUCATION OF CARE LEAVERS
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 July 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Employment costs		
Wages and salaries	65,730	65,093
Pension costs	4,729	3,824
	<u>70,459</u>	<u>68,917</u>

No employee received total employment benefits of £60,000 or more during the year (2022: nil)

11 Debtors	2023	2022
	£	£
Other debtors	<u>410</u>	<u>410</u>

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2023	2022
	£	£
Deferred income	17,706	17,763
Accruals	1,453	2,568
	<u>19,159</u>	<u>20,331</u>

13 Deferred income	2023	2022
	£	£
Membership	<u>17,706</u>	<u>17,763</u>

14 Analysis of net assets between funds	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2023	2023	2023
	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 July 2023			
Tangible Assets	-		-
Current assets / (liabilities)	1,674	22,125	23,799
	<u>1,674</u>	<u>22,125</u>	<u>23,799</u>
	<u>1,674</u>	<u>22,125</u>	<u>23,799</u>

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£

Fund balances at 31 July 2022

are represented by:

Tangible Assets	-		-
Current assets / (liabilities)	38,175	24,210	62,385
	<u>38,175</u>	<u>24,210</u>	<u>62,385</u>