

**Action for
Stammering
Children**



Annual Report

2023/24

Charity no. 801171

Company no. 02328627

**Action for Stammering Children
is the UK charity for children and
young people who stammer, their
families, and the communities
who support them.**



**We're here to make sure that every
child who stammers has the support,
respect and confidence to live the
life they want to lead.**

**We support and empower parents,
caregivers and professionals;
facilitate and champion research;
and campaign for changes in
policy and societal attitudes.**



Contents

2 THE YEAR IN REVIEW

- 4 Message from the Chair
- 6 The Year in Numbers
- 8 A Strategic Approach to Charity Activity

10 OUR IMPACT

- 12 Introduction
- 14 Information, Community & Support
- 22 Championing Research
- 26 Changing Policies & Attitudes

32 LOOKING AHEAD TO 2024-25

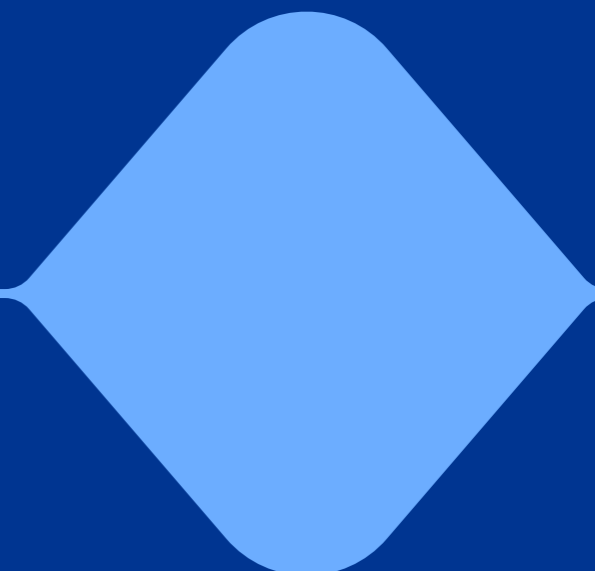
- 38 Priorities for 2024-25

40 FINANCIAL REVIEW

- 42 Breakdown of Charitable Income
- 44 Breakdown of Charitable Expenditure
- 46 Trustee's Report
- 50 Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Action for Stammering Children

52 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

- 54 Statement of Financial Activities
- 55 Balance Sheet
- 56 Statement of Cash Flows
- 58 Notes to the Financial Statements
- 74 The Charity, Trustees and Advisers



The Year in Review



Message from the Chair

I am pleased to report that 2023/24 was a year of consolidation and strengthening of Action for Stammering Children's organisation so that we were in a position to accelerate progress on our ambitious plans.

We launched our new national strategy with its three strands: providing information, community and support; championing research; and changing policies and attitudes. A great deal of thought had gone into this strategy as a result which ASC made substantial progress in the year.



We exist in order to achieve our charitable objectives and with key projects in each of the three strands of the strategy, we did indeed go a considerable way towards those objectives. The Stammering Support Hub, laying the foundations for our ambitious Schools' Project, the Service Mapping Report, and the Research Priority Setting project with the James Lind Alliance are just some of the highlights of the year. There is plenty more, as you'll see in this report!

All of this activity was underpinned by a new visual identity and narrative, launched in October around International Stammering Awareness Day. October is always full of activity around this special day, but it was crowned in 2023 by Colin Firth, our Vice-President, presenting the BBC Lifeline Appeal on our behalf and the immense response to the appeal.

I am continually astonished by how much ASC, a small charity, does and the impact that it has. We have a long way still to go in order for childhood stammering to be recognised, understood and effectively supported but we are certainly on the right path. A great tribute to our tiny team led by Dr Ria Bernard. My thanks to them, to my fellow trustees, and to all of those who fund and support us. It would simply not be possible without you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Jane Roberts'. The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal line.

Dame Jane Roberts
Chair of Board of Trustees

The Year in Numbers

3,000

contributors to the
Top 10 Research
Priorities in Childhood
Stammering



1 doctoral thesis
published

3,000

visitors to the Stammering
Support Hub

64

children and young people
accessed direct support



completion of the first Priority Setting
Partnership in Childhood Stammering

Two

research
publications in
international
journals



map of local stammering
services for children in
England

A Strategic Approach to Charity Activity

To achieve its mission, the Charity undertakes activities and projects across the following three key areas:

Information, community & support

Championing research

Changing policies & attitudes

The three key areas align with our six strategic goals:

1

To increase access to effective therapy services for children and young people across the UK who stammer.

2

To empower children and young people who stammer by giving them a voice within our organisation and in society.

3

To assist the parents of children and young people who stammer, so that they are better able to support their child.

4

To improve the ability of speech and language therapists to provide effective services to children and young people who stammer.

5

To promote research into the most effective treatment of stammering in children and young people.

6

To promote awareness of stammering and the impact it has on children and young people's lives, and to change public perceptions.

Our impact



Introduction

It has been a busy year at Action for Stammering Children as we unveiled our rebrand and laid the foundations for our new national strategy, which will help us to reach more of the 8% of children who stammer, and their families, living across the UK.

After ten months of working with beneficiaries and stakeholders, we were delighted to launch our national strategy and new visual identity in October to coincide with International Stammering Awareness Day and the release of our BBC Lifeline Appeal. Behind the scenes, the staff team have been busy putting in place the infrastructure to deliver on our ambitious plans as the national charity for children and young people who stammer, their families, and the communities who support them. This has meant that much of the team's time has been spent on preparing for the launch of two exciting nationwide initiatives that are at the core of ASC's new strategy: the Stammering Support Hub and the

Schools' Project. At the same time, we have continued to deliver for children and families through long-standing and new partnerships; offering access to therapy courses and support that would otherwise be unavailable through public funding.

There's plenty more to do but we are pleased to be in a position to expand on our offer for families in 2024/25 thanks to the continued support, collaboration and generosity of our funders, partners and families.



Key Area 1

Information, Community & Support

We provide resources, advice and guidance for children and young people who stammer, their families, and the professionals who support them.

Project

Stammering Support Hub

In the Autumn 2023, we launched our new Stammering Support Hub, one of the two key projects that underpin our nationwide strategy. While much of this year has been focused on getting the infrastructure in place, we were delighted to launch the Support Hub in October.

Over the summer, we offered two internships to undergraduate students who spearheaded a project to develop a database of speech and language therapy services available to families living in different regions of England. More about this in the next section. We have generated over 40 knowledge articles to answer some of the most frequently asked questions from parents/carers, health and education professionals and schools.

Since launching in October, we have already had 3,000 visitors to the Support Hub. Our new Support Hub Advisor will be joining us in April 2024 to handle enquiries in real time from our beneficiaries.

Key Outcomes



Stammering Support Hub launched



Over 3,000 visitors to the Hub since it's launch in October

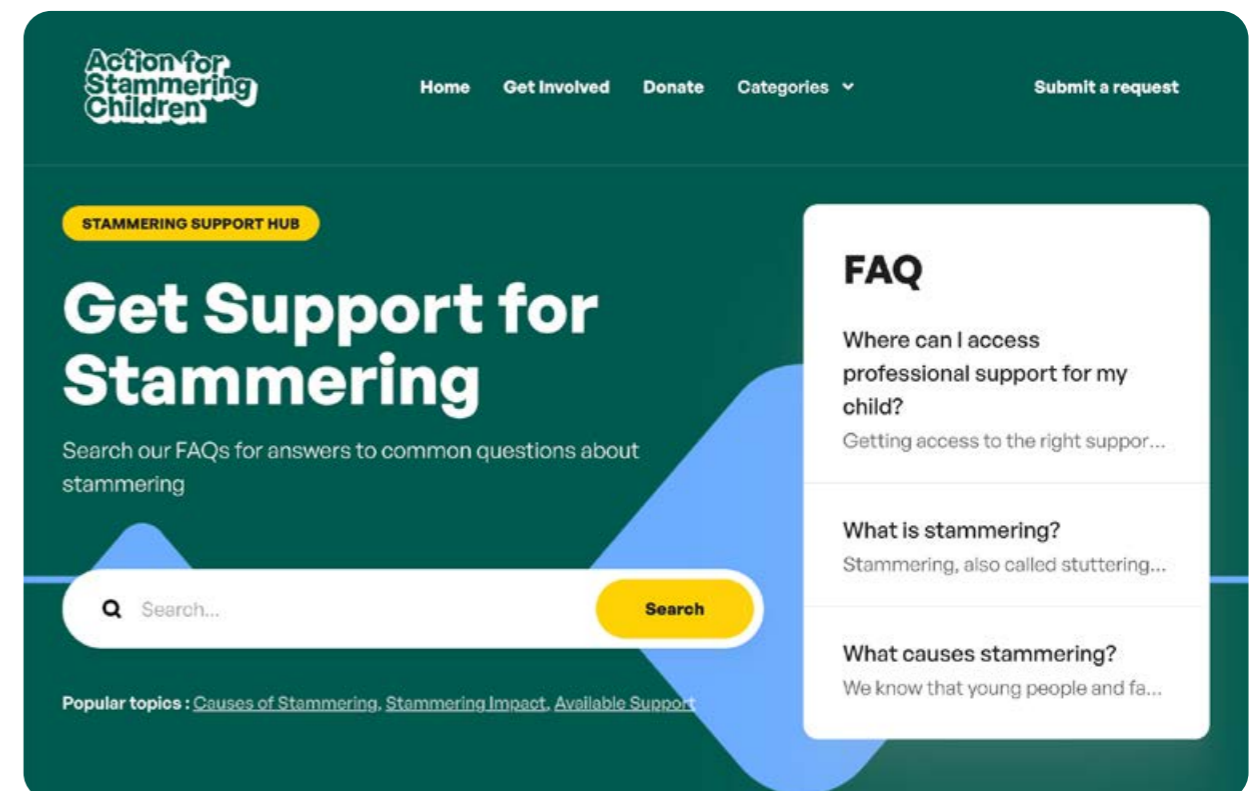
Project

We have developed the content for an exciting new resource for schools

Schools Project

The second project underpinning our nationwide strategy is an ambitious schools' project that aims to equip education professionals with the knowledge and resources to better support pupils who stammer in the classroom.

This year, we have been focusing on the scoping phase of this project and have been busy working with stakeholders to determine the most beneficial content for this initiative. Over the summer, we held a series of focus groups with young people, parents and teachers to find out how schools could better support pupils who stammer. Through this piece of work, we have developed the content for an exciting new resource for schools. We will be rolling out the project in 2024/5 and look forward to reporting back to supporters in our next annual review.



ASC Stammering Support Hub

Project

“It helped me not worry about the way I speak but pay attention to the message that I am delivering”

Talking Out

We continue to partner with non-profit speech and language therapy practice, Talking Out Ltd, to fund access to specialist courses for teenagers who stammer living anywhere in the UK. This year, we funded three courses:

- A one-week online course for teenagers in May-June 2023
- Two one-week residential courses for teenagers in July – August and October – November 2023.

Both online and residential courses aim to promote the following skills amongst participants:

- Confidence in communicating.
- A more positive attitude to speaking.
- Decreased sensitivity to stammering.
- Problem solving and self-help skills.
- Positive thinking skills.
- A peer support network.

The week-long residential courses integrate dedicated therapy sessions with outdoor activities that encourage the young people to challenge themselves.

In addition to the direct work with teenagers, the course offers support to parents/carers who attend online evening sessions throughout the week to promote carry-over of skills and help young people to maintain what they have learnt when they return home.

The Talking Out stammering courses also provide an opportunity for student speech and language therapists to gain experience in working with young people who stammer, which not only contributes to their professional development but encourages them to consider specialising in this clinical area once qualified.

In line with our commitment to achieving national reach as a charity, we were pleased to see that teenagers living across England were able to participate in the course. Of those participants who provided this information, half lived outside of the Yorkshire and Humber region where the residential course takes place.

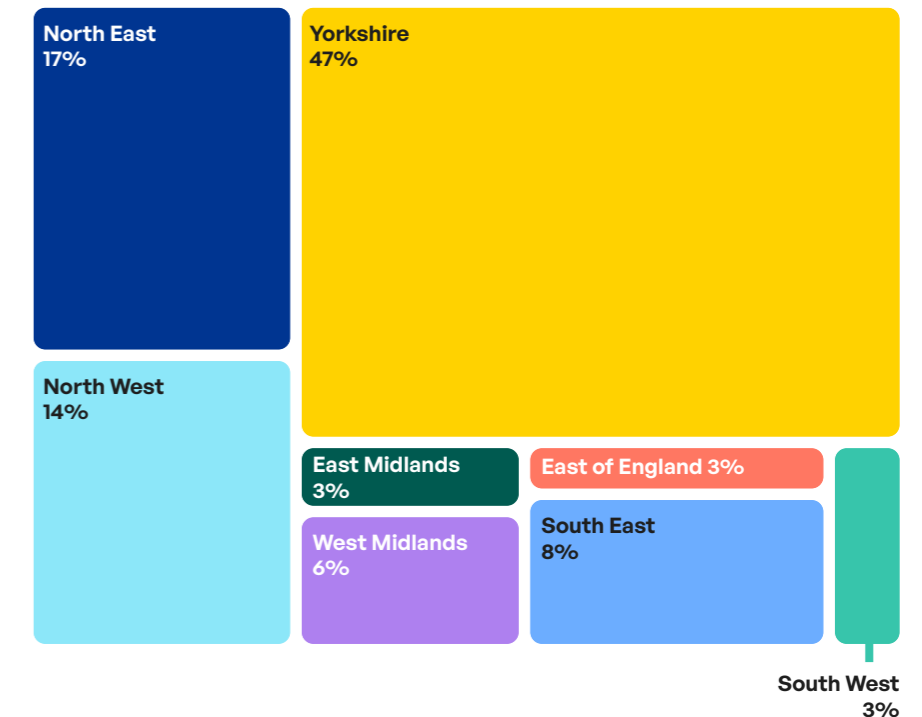
What has changed? “My overall mindset. I went from being anxious to being confident in groups”

What has changed? “I don’t think I’m as sensitive to stammering and I don’t feel alone with my stammer anymore.”



Funding permitting, we are intending to develop bursaries for those families who may struggle with the associated costs of attending the course, such as travel and luggage costs. This should encourage more families living outside of Yorkshire and the North East to refer to the course.

Beneficiaries attended the course from all over England



“It helped me to build my confidence to push myself beyond my limits to do what I wouldn’t normally do”

Key Outcomes

- 41 teenagers aged between 11 and 16 accessed specialist support
- 41 parents/carers accessed expert support and guidance from specialist speech and language therapists
- 8 student speech and language therapists gained experience in working with children who stammer

Project

ASC Mentoring Scheme

The ASC Mentoring Scheme ran from February to September 2023 in partnership with Iain Wilkie and Sam Simpson. A total of six mentee-mentor pairs were enrolled on the scheme. Although this was a smaller number than the year before, we were pleased to receive positive feedback from both mentees and mentors again this year.

Having taken on board feedback from this second cohort of mentees and mentors, we plan to run the programme again next year to offer young people entering that tricky transition into early adulthood the chance to receive 1-to-1 career mentoring from a professional with lived experience of stammering.

“I found my mentoring experience to be really beneficial and amazing. It allowed me a rare space in my life where I had someone who really properly understood the challenges and I was able to discuss pretty much anything with.”

Key Outcomes

- Six young people benefited from one-to-one career mentoring
- Six professionals with lived experience of stammering developed skills and experience in mentoring a young person

Project

City University intensive course

We have worked with the speech and language therapy team at City University for a number of years, providing financial assistance to those families who are unable to meet the costs of the week-long summer intensive course. Thanks to our supporters, we now offer a bursary scheme to a larger number of families living across London. The bursary scheme covers the cost of transport for the young person and their parent as well as the small course fee and subsistence.

We now offer a bursary scheme to a larger number of families living across London

Unfortunately, the course scheduled for July 2023 had to be cancelled due to a series of national rail strikes. We will continue to offer the bursary scheme next year and are in discussion with our partners about funding a higher number of bursaries.

Project

Michael Palin Centre

Although we now work with a diverse range of partners to fulfil our mission, we maintain the historic association with our longest-standing partners based at the Michael Palin Centre for Stammering. The speech and language therapy service provided by Whittington Health NHS Trust runs out of the Pine Street Building, which is owned by the charity. We are proud to be in a position to support the incredible work undertaken by the clinical team through this arrangement and by funding clinical activity not otherwise funded by the NHS.

This year, we have provided funding for 17 children and young people to access expert clinical services at the Michael Palin Centre for stammering children. Nine of these children received a specialist assessment and eight children benefited from therapy programmes delivered by the highly specialist speech and language therapists at the Centre. Due to the nature of the service provided at the Michael Palin Centre, our funding facilitates access to highly specialised therapy programmes. We are delighted that our funding has enabled children and young people to access the following therapy programmes:

- Two preschoolers accessed 20 sessions of Palin Parent-Child Interaction Therapy
- Three school-aged children accessed 30-sessions of Palin Stammering Therapy for School Children
- Two school-aged children accessed a one week intensive course with a one-year follow-up
- One teenager accessed the two-week intensive course involving a one-year follow-up

Key Outcomes

- 17 children and young people, and their parents/carers, accessed specialist assessments or therapy at the Michael Palin Centre

Event

The first time that many of our supporters heard directly from the young people we support

Desert Challenge Appeal launch

On 10th July, at the October Gallery in Central London, we launched our Desert Challenge Appeal. The appeal aimed to raise funds for future Talking Out courses through our partnership with the Nefud Expedition Team who plan to cross the harshest part of the Arabian Peninsula in Electric Vehicles. By partnering with us, they hope to attract sponsorship that can be used to support our projects and raise awareness about stammering.

The event was attended by over 60 guests who heard from four beneficiaries of previous Talking Out courses as well as the Nefud Expedition Team. It was the first time that many of our supporters heard directly from the young people we support and we are grateful to all those who spoke, attended and supported the Appeal. We will be sharing more updates about the Appeal next year.



Launch of the Desert Challenge Appeal at the October Gallery in London

Key Area 2

Championing Research

Project

JLA Research Priorities

We are proud to have led the very first Priority Setting Partnership into Developmental Childhood Stammering in partnership with the prestigious James Lind Alliance (JLA). Working with representatives from across the stammering community, this project aims to identify the most important questions to be addressed by future research as selected by those with lived experience of stammering.

In November, we held a one-day workshop at Coram with 22 participants, including children and young people who stammer, parents and caregivers and professionals. Through a series of small group workshops facilitated by JLA advisers, participants identified the Top Ten Priorities from a short-list of 25. The Top Ten will be released next year with the intention of influencing the research priorities of academics, institutions and funders moving forward.

Project

Doctoral Research Programme

The Doctoral Research Programme that we have co-funded with the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) at University College London (UCL) was completed in September 2023. Over the course of the studentship, PhD researcher, Ria Bernard, undertook three projects to investigate risk for anxiety and depression in children who do and do not stammer.



JLA Research Priorities Workshop

In addition to her doctoral thesis, this research has been published in two highly reputed international journals in the field.

- Bernard, R., Hofslundsengen, H, & Norbury, C. F., (2022). Anxiety and Depression Symptoms in Children and Adolescents Who Stutter: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis. *Journal of Speech, Language & Hearing Research*, 65(2), p624-644.
- Bernard, R. F. L., & Norbury, C. F., (2023). Factors associated with symptoms of anxiety and depression in children who stutter. *Language, Speech & Hearing Services in Schools*, 54(2), p535-549.
- Bernard, R. F. L., (2023). Investigating risk for elevated anxiety and depression symptoms in children who stutter relative to non-stuttering peers. Doctoral thesis (Ph.D), UCL (University College London).

Project

This project aimed to gather information about the local NHS speech and language therapy services available for children across England

Service Mapping Project

The ASC Team welcomed two interns over the summer to support our research and policy projects. Their primary responsibility was to complete the service mapping project, which aimed to gather information about the local NHS speech and language therapy services available for children who stammer living across England. The objectives of this project were two-fold; firstly we aimed to generate a database of local services that would inform the Stammering Support Hub; and secondly we wanted to better understand barriers and facilitators to families accessing local services.

Over the course of the three months they were with us, Charis and Maria executed a comprehensive research proposal that gathered information from NHS service providers (speech & language therapists) and users (parents/carers, young people). This project was delivered in collaboration with the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists (RCSLT) and the King's Fund. The report will be made available next year.



Event

Travers Reid Award

For many years, we have sponsored the Travers Reid Award in honour of our late President, Travers. The award recognises the contribution of research to the lives of children and young people who stammer and comprises a £300 prize for the winning entry. Usually, this would be awarded at the Oxford Dysfluency Conference, however this was not possible due to postponement of the conference this year.

Instead, we held a special online session permitting candidates to present their research to the Travers Reid sub-committee. We received nine nominations from early career researchers based in seven countries worldwide. We felt particularly fortunate that such an esteemed panel of academics agreed to sit on the sub-committee, including Professor Kari-Anne Bottegård Næss from the University of Oslo, Professor Peter Howell from UCL, and Dr Charlie Wiltshire from Bangor University.

The 2023 winner of the Travers Reid Award was Sarah Horton of the University of Melbourne for her research into executive function, stuttering severity and subjective impact on people who stutter.

Impact

- One Doctoral Thesis published
- Two publications accepted by international journals
- Map of speech and language therapy services available to families living in England
- Completion of the Priority Setting Partnership into Developmental Stammering

Key Area 3

Changing Policies & Attitudes

Project

About my Stammer Poster Campaign

This year, we teamed up with speech and language therapists at South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust to create a series of school posters. The posters were designed by children who stammer and made freely available for schools to download with the aim of raising awareness about stammering in the classroom.



Phoebe and Thomas on the BBC Breakfast Sofa with Naga Munchetty and Charlie Stayt

Project

Youth Panel

The ASC Youth Panel comprises a group of 15 – 25 year olds who inform the charity’s strategy and work with the staff team to advocate for greater awareness of stammering in the UK. This year, the Youth Panel established a new committee structure with dedicated roles to help fulfil their mission of raising awareness about the impact of stammering and challenging common misconceptions.

Throughout the year, members of the Youth Panel have continued to feed into our projects and have been instrumental in development of our new initiatives, such as the Schools’ Project and Support Hub.

What have the Youth Panel been up to this year?

- ASC Ambassador and founder of *Stammer Stories* Podcast, William Laven invited youth panel members, Georgie, Thomas and Sam, to talk all things stammering on his podcast.
- In November, Thomas and Mike shared their experiences of stammering at a special UCL Giving Voice Society workshop for student speech and language therapists.
- Thomas was invited to the Buckingham Palace Garden Party to receive his Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award. As part of this award, Thomas volunteered with Action for Stammering Children, helping the staff team further the charity’s objectives.
- Thomas was amongst 100 winners globally of the Rise Challenge for his idea of creating a targeted app to provide speech and language therapy for young people living across the world with limited access to support.
- Phoebe continues to advocate and spread awareness about stammering through her social media activity.

International Stammering Awareness Day 2023

October is always a busy time of year for Action for Stammering Children and this year was no different! A key date in the calendar for the whole stammering community, we were thrilled to play our part in shining a light on childhood stammering.

This year, the main event was our BBC Lifeline Appeal, which broadcast on BBC1 on 15th October. Presented by Academy-Award winning actor and ASC Vice-President, Colin Firth, our Lifeline Appeal featured three of the young people we have supported through our projects. We were overwhelmed by the response to the Appeal and the local and national media engagement surrounding the broadcast. Two of the young people featured in the Appeal appeared on the BBC Breakfast sofa alongside Naga Munchetty and Charlie Stayt. Phoebe, a student at the University of Leicester appeared in Leicestershire Live, while Thomas' story was shared in local paper, Your Harrogate.



Colin Firth presented our BBC Lifeline Appeal in October

Advocacy

In addition to the direct work we do with families, we also raise awareness about the impact of stammering on children and young people. One of the ways we do this is by making sure stammering is part of the conversation.

This year, we had a number of opportunities to shine the spotlight on stammering – changing attitudes and challenging misconceptions by talking about the impact stammering can have on a child's development.

- ↑ In May, our Chief Executive chatted with co-producer of *A Blind Date with Knowledge* podcast, Steven Liggett, about the status of stammering research.
- ↑ To mark Mental Health Awareness Week, CEO, Ria Bernard, spoke at the City of London Corporation event about the association between childhood stammering and risk for adverse mental health.
- ↑ In November, Youth Panel members, Thomas and Mike, shared their experiences of stammering at a special UCL Giving Voice Society workshop for student speech and language therapists.
- ↑ Two beneficiaries from this year's mentoring scheme joined the South East and London Clinical Excellence Network to share their experiences of the ASC mentoring scheme as part of their Study Day focusing on transitions.

Awards & recognition

- ✗ Our Award Winning film, *Me & My Stammer*, was nominated for a Third Sector Award. Although we didn't win, we were thrilled to be shortlisted!
- ✗ ASC Stambassador, Megan Tomkies, won an RCSLT Giving Voice Award in recognition of her brilliant initiative of creating M&S name badges for employees with speech difficulties.

A few highlights from 2023/24



Looking Ahead to 2024-25



This year, we have been busy working behind the scenes to get new projects off the ground ready for launch in 2024/25. The two major initiatives we will be focusing on in the coming year are the **Stammering Support Hub** and our **Schools' Project**, which underscore our strategy to reach a greater number of families living across the four corners of the UK.

We intend to maintain and extend our existing partnerships to expand our offer to families. We are committed to reaching those families and communities who can often go unsupported, and we will be working with organisations in the stammering community and beyond to meet the needs of every family of a child who stammers.



Case Study

Elliot (mentee)

My name is Elliot and I have a stammer. I don't remember exactly when I realised it, but I do remember that as I became more conscious of my stammer, I withdrew from most social interactions and kept to myself more. My words became fewer. Instead, I focused on what I could do, draft short stories with characters who always felt out of place.

When I made a conscientious effort to understand my stammer, my journey to self-acceptance began. More so because at this point, I was in the university and had become tired of never expressing myself out of fear of the reactions of others.

I joined the Ghana Stammering Association, took part in online meetings and felt this barrier I had built slowly start to disintegrate. I moved out of my comfort zone and was able to speak without fear of reactions and talk about my stammer with my close friends and family. However, right after my undergraduate studies, I moved to the U.K for my PhD and here, it felt like all the progress I had made had vanished. My research required that I give weekly presentations, take part in networking events and the culture shock had an effect on me as well.

Looking back now, I am grateful for

these challenges because it was through my need to overcome them that I discovered the Action for Stammering Children (ASC) Mentoring Scheme. I was a bit hesitant when the scheme started and thought it would just be a generic meeting where we were told every week what to do and what not to do. However, when I was paired with Steven, a fellow individual with a stammer and with far more experience than I, we hit it right off. Steven became not just a mentor but a friend I could go to anytime and he would always listen to me. Through the Scheme, Steven and I planned our 6-month sessions and once every fortnight we met over zoom to discuss many topics including dealing with stammering in the workplace and social life, how stammering is

portrayed in the media, stammering pride movement and the future of stammering. It was even through our meetings that I got to know about the Stammering Flag! My mental health improved, and I found myself gradually be accepting of my new environment.

Each fortnight, I looked forward to our chat and even though the scheme has ended, we still have our catchups. I am now able to speak freely about my stammering with new friends here and have added the STAMMA logo to my email signatures. I entered this scheme looking for a way to just overcome a challenge, however, now I understand myself so much more and look for any opportunity to spread stammering awareness.

Priorities for 2024-25

Information, Community & Support

We will continue to fund access to expert therapy and support that would otherwise be unavailable via the NHS. Over the next year we intend to:

- Fund three one-week stammering courses delivered by our partners at Talking Out Ltd for 60 teenagers who stammer living in the UK;
- Provide 6-month mentorships to at least eight young people who stammer in collaboration with our partner, Sam Simpson;
- Fund specialist assessments and therapy programmes for 14 London families through our partnership with the Michael Palin Centre.
- Provide bursaries for up to 8 children who stammer and their families to access stammering courses run by City University.
- Establish a dedicated fund for children of service personnel to access our tangible therapy projects.
- Appoint a dedicated Support Hub Advisor to handle enquiries from beneficiaries and manage the Stammering Support Hub.
- Launch the Schools' Project resource.

Championing Research

A priority next year will be establishing relationships with research and policy stakeholders to encourage more robust research into childhood stammering and influence policymakers. We plan to do this by:

- Launching the Top Ten Research Priorities as identified by the stammering community through our James Lind Alliance Priority Setting Partnership.
- Collaborating with at least one academic or institution on a research project.
- Launching a new process for promoting ongoing research studies within the ASC community and communicating the findings of recent research studies.

Changing Policies & Attitudes

- Release our report into the barriers and facilitators to accessing local speech and language therapy services.
- Work with our Youth Panel to recruit more young people to the panel and drive forward campaigns.
- Contribute evidence and/or recommendations to at least one policy process.

Financial Review



Breakdown of Charitable Income

Sources of income 2023/24



Income

Section 162a of the Charities Act 2011 requires charities to make a statement regarding fundraising activities.

The year to 31 March 2024 has continued to be challenging and total income for the year to 31 March 2024 amounted to £208,248, down from £388,275 in the year ended March 2023. This was due largely to the charity focusing on spending restricted and designated funding received in prior years to get new projects and initiatives off the ground.

The Charity has complied with the relevant codes of practice. We have received no complaints in relation to fundraising activities. (2023: none)

Reserves

Total general funds of £662,729 consists of £250,000 designated funds and unrestricted free reserves of £412,729. Designated funds of £250,000 have been earmarked for expenditure on key strategic projects in 2024/25 to enable the charity to evidence the impact for beneficiaries, whilst the charity actively seeks longer term funding.

Unrestricted free reserves of £412,729 represents approximately 11 months of budgeted expenditure, in line with current policy.

Reserves policy & going concern

The Trustees have considered the desired level of unrestricted funds, not designated for specific purposes or otherwise committed (free reserves). Given the nature of the Charity's work, we have determined that the level of free reserves should be equivalent to nine to twelve months of budgeted expenditure. In our judgement, this provides sufficient flexibility to cover any temporary shortfalls in incoming resources and ensures that the Charity is able to continue its work, and also able to respond immediately to a reasonable range of unforeseen adverse circumstances, before remedial plans can be implemented. This policy will be kept under constant review.

Breakdown of Charitable Expenditure

Project expenditure 2023/24



Expenditure

Following the unveiling of the charity’s new nationwide strategy, Trustees made the decision to invest in the implementation of this ambitious new strategy by designating funding to core projects underpinning it.

Expenditure of £311,935 in the year ended 31 March 2024 was marginally up from £305,583 in the year ended 31 March 2023. The total expenditure of £311,935 comprised the cost of raising funds (£49,401) and expenditure on charitable activity (£262,534). Expenditure on our long-term partnership with the Whittington Health NHS Trust was higher than last year as this reflects accrued funding related to previous activity.

Expenditure continued to be closely monitored, with much of the reported expenditure coming from restricted or designated funds. Key expenditure that reflects implementation of the charity’s UK-wide strategy include:

- ➔ Expenditure on Project Elevator Pitch was necessary to permit redevelopment of the charity’s visual identity, reflecting the ambitious national strategy agreed by the Board of Trustees.
- ➔ Expenditure on the James Lind Alliance Priority Setting Partnership (PSP) enabled this project to reach it’s conclusion and identify the very first Top 10 priorities in future stammering research informed by those with lived experience.
- ➔ The Stammering Support Hub is one of two flagship projects underpinning this new strategy, which will enable us to provide support and signposting to hundreds of families, young people, professionals and schools nationwide.
- ➔ Talking Out and the ASC Mentoring Scheme are two projects delivered in collaboration with existing partners, which are core to our tangible offer to families.

Investment powers and policy

The Board of Trustees’ policy is to invest in low risk, liquid investments. Accordingly, Action for Stammering Children invests its funds in cash deposits.

Trustee's Report

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

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 Article of Association, the Companies Act 2006 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)".

Objectives and activities

Public benefit

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

Achievements and performance

Significant activities and achievements during 2023/24 include:

- Launching the UK Stammering Support Hub to empower families with the information and knowledge to choose the most appropriate support for their child.
- Scoping out of the second UK-wide initiative aimed at raising awareness of stammering amongst educators working with pupils.
- Completing the first Priority Setting Partnership into Developmental Childhood Stammering to inform the future research agenda.
- A comprehensive investigation into the availability of NHS speech and language therapy services for children who stammer in England.

Financial review

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 between nine to twelve months of budgeted expenditure (£347k to £462k). Actual unrestricted free reserves of £412,729 at 31 March 2024 represented approximately 11 months of budgeted expenditure. 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. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year.

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

The Charity is registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee and was set up by a Memorandum of Association on 15 December 1988, which was last revised in September 2014, and as a charity on 21 March 1989. 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.

The members of the charitable company include the Trustees. Members of the charitable company guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charitable company in the event of winding up.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The management of the Charity is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Articles of Association.

The Board of Trustees seeks to ensure that the interests of children who stammer are appropriately represented in the Trustee body. Prospective board members are appointed by the board either after an external recruitment or, less often, having been nominated by a board member. The Trustees also aim to maintain a broad mix of backgrounds and business skills on the Board.

The Board of Trustees is committed to being a diverse and inclusive body. The skills and experience of Trustees are reviewed regularly, which also informs recruitment of new Trustees. New Trustees take part in a full induction programme covering all aspects of the work of the Charity, its governance and finances.

The Trustees are directors for the purpose of company law and trustees for the purpose of charity law. 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:

- Dame J E Roberts
- Archana Rahulan
- Anya Paul
- Richard Murray
- Stephen Mcateer
- Juliet Leach
- Zain Ghani
- Natalie Carver
- David Broom
- Joseph Allen
- Felicity Baker

None of the trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All of the trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

The company's current policy concerning the payment of trade creditors is to follow the CBI's Prompt Payers Code (copies are available from the CBI, Centre Point, 103 New Oxford Street, London WC1A 1DU).

Organisational Structure

The Charity's Board of Trustees meets in person or online, at least five times per annum. At the end of March 2024, the Board comprises 13 members from a variety of professional backgrounds, many of whom have experience of stammering, either personally or through a family member. Trustees retire by rotation after three years, but are eligible for re-election for up to three terms of office. The Chief Executive of the Charity implements the strategy set by the Trustees and has a prime responsibility for fundraising.

Relationship with Related Parties and cooperation with other organisations

The work of Action for Stammering Children is centred around three key action areas: (i) information, community and support; (ii) championing research; (iii) influencing societal attitudes and public policy. Direct work with beneficiaries is largely delivered through our partnership projects to ensure that children receive expert support that would not be available through the NHS, for example, specialist stammering courses. This year, we have collaborated with a number of project partners to deliver effective support to our beneficiaries, including Talking Out Ltd., the Michael Palin Centre, City University, 50 Million Voices, and Redefining Stammering.

In addition, Action for Stammering Children has worked with the Hear in Hull team, the James Lind Alliance, South Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, UCL Giving Voice Society, and the Stammer Stories Podcast to meet its strategic objectives around advocacy and promoting research.

The Charity has a strict conflict of interest policy and declarations are made at the start of every trustee meeting.

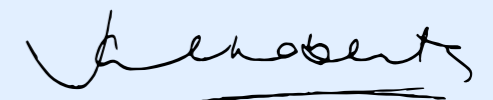
Pay Policy for Senior Staff

All Trustees give their time freely and no Trustee received remuneration in the year. The Board has overall responsibility for the pay policy and the salaries of staff. The Chair, Treasurer and Company Secretary oversees the administration of the pay policy, evaluates employee performance and decides on any changes to pay.

Our general principles are to pay our employees a fair salary that is competitive within the charity sector, proportionate to the complexity of the role, and responsible in line with our charitable objectives.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Dame Jane Roberts
Chair of Board of Trustees



19th September 2024

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Action for Stammering Children

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Action for Stammering Children (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

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 Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself 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, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (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

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 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

3. the financial statements 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).

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.

Katherine Wilkes FCA DChA

**Critchleys Audit LLP
First Floor, Park Central
40-41 Park End Street
Oxford
OX1 1JD**

Dated:

Financial Statements



Statement of Financial Activities

(including income and expenditure account)

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2024			Total 2024	Unrestricted Funds 2023			Total 2023
		General Designated	Restricted Funds 2024	General		General Designated	Restricted Funds 2023	General	
Income from:		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income from:									
Donations and legacies	3	133,960	-	60,922	194,882	285,183	-	97,980	383,163
Charitable activities	4	2,759	-	-	2,759	1,689	-	-	1,689
Investments	5	10,606	-	-	10,606	3,423	-	-	3,423
Total Income		147,325	-	60,922	208,247	290,295	-	97,980	388,275
Expenditure on:									
Raising funds	6	49,401	-	-	49,401	71,435	-	-	71,435
Charitable activities	7	92,605	65,527	104,402	262,534	125,239	-	108,909	234,148
Total expenditure		142,006	65,527	104,402	311,935	196,674	-	108,909	305,583
Net income/(expenditure)		5,319	(65,527)	(43,480)	(103,688)	93,621	-	(10,929)	82,692
Transfer between funds		(15,527)	15,527	-	-	(150,200)	150,000	200	-
Net movement in funds	10	(10,208)	(50,000)	(43,480)	(103,688)	(56,579)	150,000	(10,729)	82,692
Reconciliation of funds									
Fund balances at April 1 2023		422,937	300,000	736,604	1,459,541	479,516	150,000	747,333	1,376,849
Fund balances at 31 March 2024		412,729	250,000	693,124	1,355,853	422,937	300,000	736,604	1,459,541

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 March 2024

	Note	£	£	£	£
			2024	2023	
Fixed assets:					
Tangible assets	14		592,000		592,000
Current assets:					
Debtors	15	1,579		455	
Cash at bank and in hand		822,160		945,026	
			823,739	945,481	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(59,886)		(77,940)	
Net current assets			763,853	867,541	
Total assets less current liabilities			1,355,853	1,459,541	
Net assets excluding pension liability			1,355,853	1,459,541	
Funds					
Unrestricted funds - designated	20		250,000	300,000	
Unrestricted funds free reserves			412,729	422,937	
Restricted fixed asset funds	19		592,000	592,000	
Restricted funds	19		101,124	144,604	
			1,355,853	1,459,541	

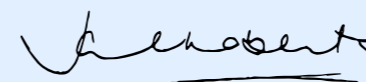
The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2024.

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 19th September 2024.



Dame J E Roberts

Trustee

Company registration number 02328627 (England and Wales)

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 31 March 2024

		2024		2023	
	Note	£	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
<i>Cash (absorbed by)/generated from operations</i>	24		(133,472)		153,864
Investing activities					
<i>Invested income received</i>		10,606		3,423	
Net cash generated from investing activities			10,606		3,423
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents			(122,866)		157,287
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			945,026		787,739
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			822,160		945,026

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 March 2024

1. Accounting policies

Charity information

Action for Stammering Children is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales.

The registered office is The Michael Palin Centre for Stammering Children, 13 - 15 Pine Street, London, EC1R 0JG.

In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the Charity.

1.1. Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's articles of association, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "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 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

The Trustees consider that the resources available to the Charity will be sufficient for it to be able to continue as a going concern. The financial statements do not contain any adjustments that would be required if the Charity were not able to continue as a going concern.

1.3. Charitable funds

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each

designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4. Income

All income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Grant income is recognised when there is a firm commitment and certainty that the funds will be received.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation. Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

1.5. Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular activities they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

Support costs are those costs incurred directly

in support of expenditure on the objects of the Charity. Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the Charity and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

1.6. Tangible fixed assets

All assets costing more than £1,500 are capitalised. Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following basis:

- Freehold land and buildings: Over 50 years to an estimated residual value of £592,000
- Office Equipment: 3 years on a straight line basis

1.7. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1.8. Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value. Fixed assets are recorded at depreciated historical cost.

Basic financial assets

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Accrued income and tax recoverable is included at the best estimate of the amounts receivable at the balance sheet date.

Basic financial liabilities

Creditors are recognised as soon as there is legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay our resources.

1.9. Retirement benefits

The Charity operates a defined pension scheme for employees.

The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Charity. The annual contributions payable are charged to the statement of financial activities.

2. Critical accounting estimates and judgements

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The Trustees make estimates and assumptions concerning the future.

The resulting estimates and assumptions will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. There are not deemed to

be any estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

Key sources of estimation uncertainty

Depreciation

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives. Expected useful life in this calculation is an estimate. A review is required annually to ensure no assets are being depreciated by more than cost, and that consumption is appropriate.

Deferred income

Income for projects is deferred where milestones have not been met by the year-end, which is entitlement and where project income is received in advance of contracted date.

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds 2024	Restricted Funds 2024	Total 2024	Unrestricted Funds 2023	Restricted Funds 2023	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Donations and gifts</i>	133,960	60,922	194,882	261,620	97,980	359,600
<i>Legacies receivable</i>	-	-	-	23,563	-	23,563
	133,960	60,922	194,882	285,183	97,980	383,163

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2024	Unrestricted Funds 2023
	£	£
<i>Book and DVD sales</i>	1,742	1,689
<i>Raffle</i>	1,017	-
	2,759	1,689

5. Income from investments

	Unrestricted Funds 2024	Unrestricted Funds 2023
	£	£
<i>Bank interest receivable</i>	10,606	3,423

6. Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted Funds 2024	Unrestricted Funds 2023
	£	£
Fundraising and publicity		
Events and fundraising	3,770	10,125
Voluntary income staff costs	45,631	61,310
	<u>49,401</u>	<u>71,435</u>

7. Expenditure on charitable activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Direct costs		
Costs relating to charitable projects	29,165	45,851
Assessments / clinical work	39,117	52,374
Returners	-	6,215
'Talking Out' residentials	58,095	53,102
JLA research project	11,885	3,435
ASC stammering support hub	6,078	-
Youth panel	142	-
Stambition mentoring project	6,198	6,084
Schools project	1,234	-
Stammering tap project	-	3,955
ASC elevator pitch project	29,987	26,533
Other charitable expenditure	336	1,023
	<u>182,237</u>	<u>198,572</u>
Share of support and governance costs (see note 9)		
Support	60,561	29,904
Governance	19,736	5,672
	<u>262,534</u>	<u>234,148</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds - general	92,605	125,239
Unrestricted funds - designated	65,527	-
Restricted funds	104,402	108,909
	<u>262,534</u>	<u>234,148</u>

8. Expenditure by charitable activity

	Unrestricted 2024	Designated 2024	Restricted 2024	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
Michael Palin Centre (MPC)	10,946	-	39,117	50,063
'Talking Out' residentials	10,946	58,095	-	69,041
ASC elevator pitch project	21,893	-	29,987	51,880
JLA research project	21,893	-	11,885	33,778
Stambition mentoring project	10,946	6,198	-	17,144
ASC stammering support hub	16,419	523	5,556	22,498
Schools project	7,662	1,234	-	8,896
Youth panel	5,473	-	142	5,615
Other charitable expenditure	3,284	335	-	3,619
	<u>109,462</u>	<u>66,385</u>	<u>86,687</u>	<u>262,534</u>

Previous year	Unrestricted 2023	Designated 2023	Restricted 2023	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Michael Palin Centre (MPC)	21,455	-	67,937	89,392
JLA research project	10,728	-	3,435	14,163
Stambition mentoring project	13,236	-	-	13,236
ASC elevator pitch project	14,304	-	26,533	40,837
'Talking Out' residentials	57,296	-	6,534	63,830
Stammering tap project	3,631	-	3,900	7,531
Other charitable expenditure	4,589	-	570	5,159
	<u>125,239</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>108,909</u>	<u>234,148</u>

9. Support costs allocated to activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Staff costs	46,174	18,421
Staff expenses	3,022	3,013
Website costs	1,177	1,296
Youth panel	-	1,097
Miscellaneous	4,233	5,396
IT costs	2,955	681
Accountancy	3,000	-
Governance costs	19,736	5,672
	<u>80,297</u>	<u>35,576</u>
Governance costs comprise:		
Staff costs	13,263	-
Audit fees	4,500	4,794
Legal and professional	1,973	878
	<u>19,736</u>	<u>5,672</u>

10. Net movement in funds

	2024	2023
	£	£
<i>The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):</i>		
Fees payable for the independent examination of the charity's financial statements	4,500	4,794

11. Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

Trustee expenses reimbursed in the year totalled £142 (2023: £Nil)

12. Employees

	2024	2023
	Number	Number
<i>The average monthly number of employees during the year was</i>	3	3
	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>
	2024	2023
	£	£
Employment costs		
Wages and salaries	124,161	115,430
Social security costs	7,606	7,676
Other pension costs	2,466	2,476
	<u>134,233</u>	<u>125,582</u>

The number of employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000 is as follows:

	2024	2023
	Number	Number
£60,000 to £70,000	1	1

Remuneration of key management personnel

The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension and national insurance contributions) received by the key management personnel for their services to the Charity was £74,034 (2023: £76,598)

13. Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

14. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Office equipment	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 April 2023	592,000	60,814	652,814
At March 2024	592,000	60,814	652,814
Depreciation and impairment			
At April 2023	-	60,814	60,814
At 31 March 2024	-	60,814	60,814
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2024	592,000	-	592,000
At 31 March 2023	592,000	-	592,000

15. Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year		
Prepayments and accrued income	1,579	455

16. Creditors

		2024	2023
	Note	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year			
Other taxation and social security		4,111	1,864
Deferred income	17	10,668	10,668
Trade creditors		469	-
Other creditors		3,188	726
Accruals		41,450	64,682
		59,886	77,940

17. Deferred income

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other deferred income	10,668	10,668

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Deferred income is included within		
Current liabilities	10,668	10,668
Movements in the year		
Deferred income at 1 April 2023	10,668	10,668
Released from previous periods	(10,668)	-
Resources deferred in the year	10,668	-
Deferred income at 31 March 2024	10,668	10,668

18. Retirement benefit schemes

	2024	2023
	£	£
Defined contribution schemes		
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	2,466	2,476

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund. The amounts payable at the year end were £481 (£2023: £Nil)

19. Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Freehold Pine Street (fixed asset)	350,000	-	-	-	350,000
Training room extension (fixed asset)	242,000	-	-	-	242,000
Assessments / clinical work	40,361	60,922	(43,790)	-	57,493
ASC stammering support hub	34,210	-	(18,598)	-	15,612
JLA research project	22,464	-	(11,885)	-	10,579
ASC elevator pitch project	42,967	-	(29,987)	-	12,980
Stammering tap project	400	-	-	-	400
ASC youth panel	1,030	-	(142)	-	888
Michael Palin Centre	3,172	-	-	-	3,172
	736,604	60,922	(104,402)	-	693,124

Previous year	At 1 April 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Freehold Pine Street (fixed asset)	350,000	-	-	-	350,000
Training room extension (fixed asset)	242,000	-	-	-	242,000
Assessments / clinical work	48,426	93,882	(67,937)	200	74,571
'Talking Out' residential	2,534	4,000	(6,534)	-	-
JLA research project	25,899	-	(3,435)	-	22,464
ASC elevator pitch project	69,500	-	(26,533)	-	42,967
Stammering tap project	4,300	-	(3,900)	-	400
ASC youth panel	1,600	-	(570)	-	1,030
Michael Palin Centre	3,074	98	-	-	3,172
	747,333	97,980	(108,909)	200	736,604

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

Specialist Assessments and Therapy →

Funds are being used to provide access to specialist consultations provided by the Michael Palin Centre (MPC).

Stammering Tap Project 🎬

Funds were used to create a new animation film aimed at parents in partnership with Hear in Hull.

ASC Elevator Pitch Project ↑

Funds are being used to refine and develop the charity's brand strategy and visual identity.

Talking Out Ltd. 📣

Funds contributed towards the cost of delivering the residential stammering courses in North Yorkshire.

Youth Panel 🗣️

Funds are being used to support the advocacy work of the ASC Youth Panel.

ASC Stammering Support Hub 🔍

Funds are being used to establish a new omni-channel support service.

JLA Research Priorities Project 📄

These funds are being used for the James Lind Alliance Priority Setting Partnership into Developmental Childhood Stammering.

20. Unrestricted funds - designated

These are unrestricted funds which are material to the charity's activities.

	At 1 April 2023	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
Michael Palin Centre	50,000	-	(50,000)	-
'Talking Out' residential	75,000	(58,095)	58,095	75,000
Mentoring programme	25,000	(6,198)	(3,802)	15,000
ASC stammering support hub	50,000	-	-	50,000
Schools project	50,000	(1,234)	1234	50,000
Capacity building	50,000	-	-	50,000
Forces fund	-	-	10,000	10,000
	300,000	(65,527)	15,527	250,000

Previous year	At 1 April 2022	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
Michael Palin Centre	150,000	-	(100,000)	50,000
'Talking Out' residential	-	-	75,000	75,000
Mentoring programme	-	-	25,000	25,000
ASC stammering support hub	-	-	50,000	50,000
Schools project	-	-	50,000	50,000
Capacity building	-	-	50,000	50,000
	150,000	-	150,000	300,000

Talking Out Residential



Funds are designated to running two residential stammering courses and one online course for teenagers who stammer.

ASC Stammering Support Hub



Designated funds will be used to support the first year of the new omni-channel support service.

Schools Project



Funds will be used for the scoping and design phases of the schools project.

Capacity Building



Funds designated for an income-generating post for one-year.

Mentoring Programme



Designated for a third cohort of adolescents who stammer

Michael Palin Centre



Designated for activity not otherwise funded by the NHS

21. Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£		£
General funds	422,937	147,325	(142,006)	(15,527)	412,729
Previous year	At 1 April 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£		£
General funds	479,516	290,295	(196,674)	(150,200)	422,937

22. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024		Restricted funds 2024	Total 2024
	General	Designated		
	£	£	£	£
At 31 March 2024				
Tangible assets	-	-	592,000	592,000
Current assets / (liabilities)	412,729	250,000	101,124	763,853
	412,729	250,000	693,124	1,355,853
	Unrestricted funds 2023		Restricted funds 2023	Total 2023
	General	Designated		
	£	£	£	£
At 31 March 2023				
Tangible assets	-	-	592,000	592,000
Current assets / (liabilities)	422,937	300,000	144,604	867,541
	422,937	300,000	736,604	1,459,541

23. Related party transactions

During the year the charity received donations of £466 (2023: £7,644) from Trustees and related parties of the charity.

24. Cash generated from operations

	2024	2023
	£	£
(Defecit) / surplus for the year	(103,688)	82,692
Adjustments for		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(10,606)	(3,423)
Movements in working capital		
(Increase) / decrease in debtors	(1,124)	13,814
(Decrease) / increase in creditors	(18,054)	60,781
Cash (absorbed by) / generated from operations	(133,472)	153,864

25. Analysis of changes in net funds

The charity had no material debt during the year.

The Charity, Trustees and Advisers

For the year end 31 March 2024

Trustees

Dame Jane Roberts – Chair

David Broom – Honorary Treasurer & Vice-Chair

Alison Lowton – Company Secretary

Anya Paul

Archana Rahulan

Felicity Baker

Joe Allen

Juliet Leach

Natalie Carver

Richard Murray

Stephen McAteer

Vicky Slonims (retired – March 2024)

Zain Ghani

Independent Examiners

Critchleys

First Floor, Park Central

40-41 Park End Street

Oxford

OX1 1JD

Company Registered Number

02328627

Charity Registered Number

801171

Company Status

A company limited by guarantee

Day-to-Day Management

The trustees delegated day-to-day management to the Charity's Chief Executive Ria Bernard

Registered Office

Action for Stammering Children

Michael Palin Centre for

Stammering Children

13-15 Pine Street

London EC1R 0JG

Bankers

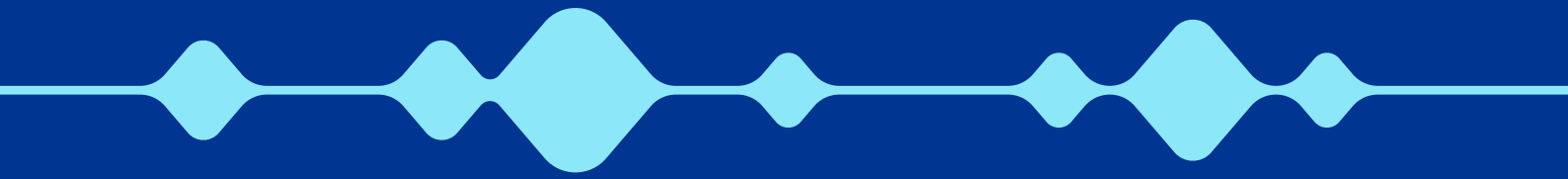
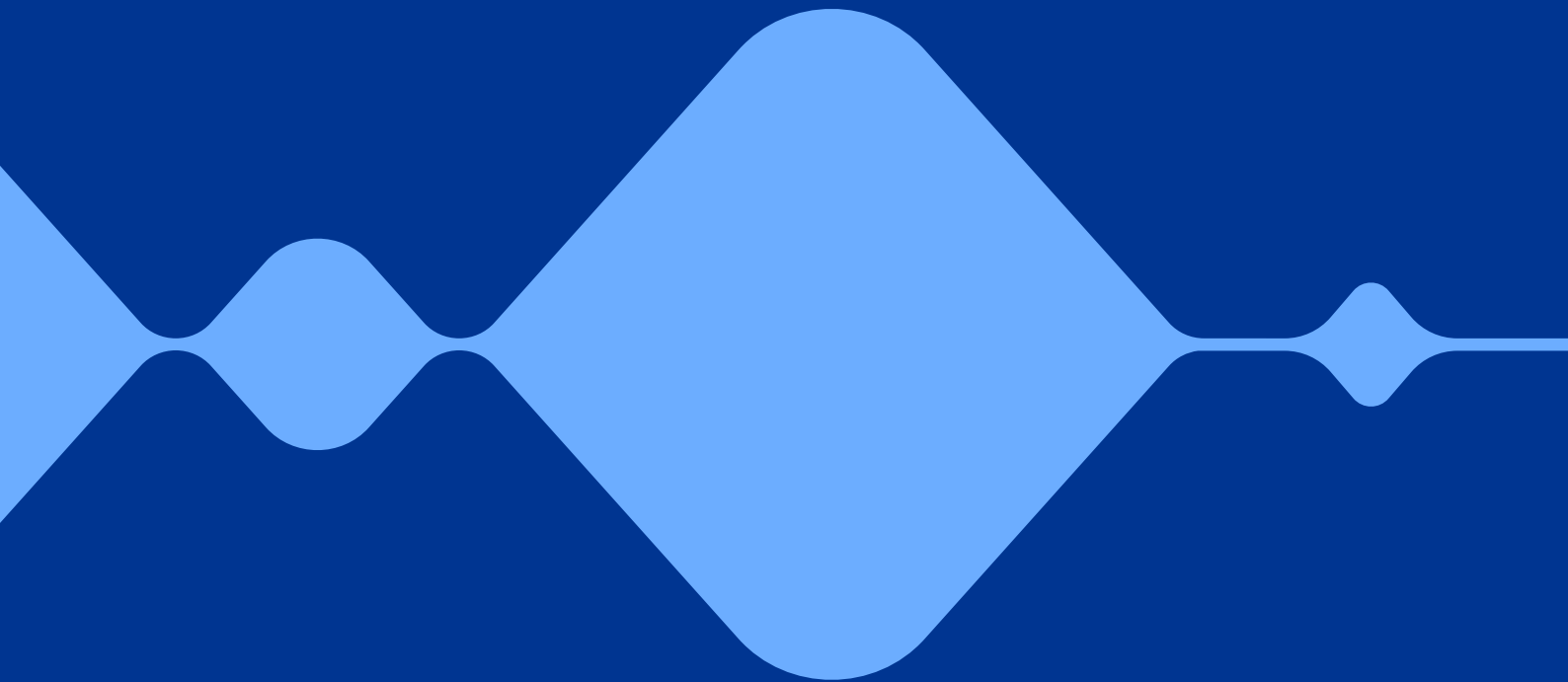
Lloyds

Pall Mall St James's

London SW1Y 4BE







**Action for
Stammering
Children**