

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 March 2021





Sam Wiggins, on the front cover and above, has done a fantastic job this year raising awareness of stammering. He wrote two poems to express how he felt about his stammering and was awarded a Blue Peter badge for them.

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Jane Roberts is the Chair of Trustees at Action for Stammering Children.

Message from the Chair of Trustees

It has been a huge honour to have been appointed as the Chair of Action for Stammering Children, stepping into the very elegant shoes of Joanna Hunter, who stepped down at the end of March 2021. Jo joined the board of Action for Stammering Children in 2008 as Treasurer and was elected Chair of the Charity in 2014. Joanna brought with her years of experience in the business and charity sector and, under her leadership, the Charity raised just under £8 million and supported over 50,000 children and young people who stammer.

During the period of her tenure, she played a pivotal role in purchasing the freehold to premises

for the Charity in Clerkenwell, London securing the permanent home and future of the Michael Palin Centre for Stammering Children. She was a keen advocate of the Michael Palin Centre supporting them in thriving and growing into the internationally renowned Centre it now is. Jo drove new programmes such as the establishment of the Youth Panel, ensuring that young people are at the heart of everything the Charity does, and the successful Stambassadors programme which has provided role models to young people. She has expanded the reach of support across the country through the outward-bound residential programmes, training and research. The Charity is

hugely grateful to Jo for her leadership and energy over the period and we are delighted that she accepted our offer of becoming a Vice President of the Charity.

The long list of successes, supporting children who stammer, reported in this annual review have been delivered under Jo's excellent guidance. The responsibility for overseeing the next chapter in the Charity's story falls to me.

COVID-19 had a huge impact on our ability to fundraise and deliver support for children who stammer. We have been fortunate enough to have secured the support of some generous trusts and foundations. Many have made available emergency funds to help charities such as ours to navigate through very rough and unpredictable seas. The Trustees, our colleagues in the Michael Palin Centre and our Youth Panel all enthusiastically threw themselves into fundraising activities. In April 2020 they took on a challenge, running, cycling, stilt-walking and aerobicizing in various multiples of 2.6, in an on-line sponsored event run by the organisers of the London Marathon.

As a new chair it has been wonderful to meet (albeit virtually) the many long-standing supporters of the Charity. The Stuttering Foundation continues to provide very generous support specifically for the work of the Michael Palin Centre, for which we are very grateful. We are also grateful to Michael Palin himself for his ongoing and generous support for the Centre that bears his name. We also thank The Julia and Hans Rausing Trust, John Lyons Charity, City Bridge Trust, the Garfield Weston Foundation and the London employees of PIMCO for their substantial support. Indeed, we are grateful to all our supporters, large and small, for their generosity during these challenging times.

I have been enormously impressed, as the incoming chair of the Charity to have seen the innovation and creativity of the team. Throughout the pandemic services for children who stammer had continued to be delivered on-line by the excellent speech and language therapists we support at the Michael Palin Centre. The Talking Out team also adapted and managed to deliver content from our residential courses, to children and their families at home via Zoom. A new parents forum has met on-line and a mentoring programme has been established for young people who stammer and are at the start of their careers.

We enter a new financial year with the cloud of the pandemic still hanging over us. We will still be dealing with the impact of the pandemic, both economic and social, for many months and perhaps years to come. Fortunately, we have a determined and dedicated team that is more than ready for the challenge. I look forward to helping the charity support many more children who stammer as we embark on the next stage of the Charity's journey.



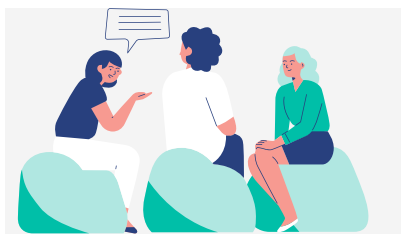
Dame Jane Roberts
Chair of Board of Trustees

2020/21

Adaptation, Innovation and Resilience:

10,893

Children and young people supported by Action for Stammering Children
(compared to 4,730 last year)



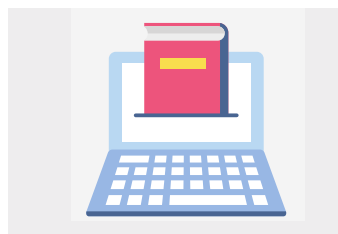
286

through direct clinical support at the Michael Palin Centre



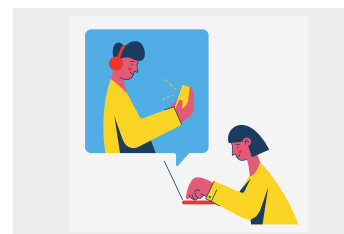
1,367

helpline calls answered



923

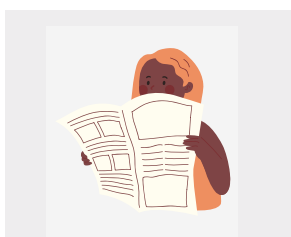
therapists trained to support 9,230 children and young people



10

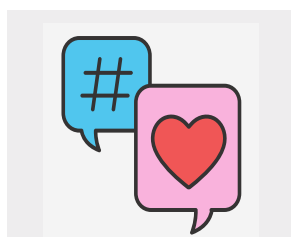
through our Talking Out Online course

Plus



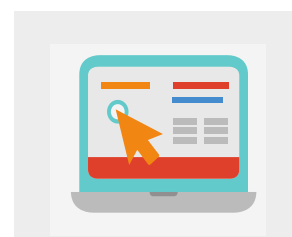
39

positive media mentions



6,564

social media follows



66,638

website page views

Living with a pandemic doesn't stop us from supporting children who stammer.

Annual Report of the Board of Trustees for The Year Ended 31 March 2021

The Trustees, who are also directors of the Charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, present their Annual Report together with the financial statements of Action for Stammering Children (the Charity) for the year ended 31 March 2021. The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Charity comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the Charity's governing document and with the FRS 102.

Purpose and Activities

The Charity's vision is a society where children and young people who stammer have the same opportunities and quality of life as their peers.

The Charity's mission is to ensure that every child and young person across the United Kingdom who stammers has access to effective services and support to help them meet the challenges created by their stammer.

To achieve its mission, the Charity undertakes activities and services across the following six key 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 children

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 in 2020/21

The summary below sets out the impact of the Charity in 2020/2021 against its key objectives and performance indicators which are set at the beginning of each financial year. It sets out the difference the Charity has made to its beneficiaries, children and young people who stammer, and to the wider society using qualitative and quantitative measures. These are reviewed at each board meeting.

This year we have supported 10,893 children and young people, a huge increase on our figure of 4,730 from last year. This is due to a massive increase in the number of speech and language therapists being able to attend training courses run by the Michael Palin Centre (MPC). Prompted by the pandemic lockdown, the MPC team adapted to deliver all of their courses for speech and language therapists online. This has led directly to a surge in numbers of speech and language therapists keen to take part. We also know, from previous research, that each newly trained speech and language therapist, supports an average of 10 children each over the following year. 923 newly trained therapists will have helped and additional 9,230 children.

Across the whole range of our activities, the Charity has had to adapt and innovate this year. Many of the changes we have made, will help us as we emerge from the pandemic. We are pleased to be able to report that we have been able to achieve almost everything we set out to do at the beginning of the year, in spite of the pandemic.

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

Assessments and therapy at the Michael Palin Centre

The Charity funds the provision of assessments and therapy by the Michael Palin Centre team of specialist speech and language therapists. This is delivered through a commissioning agreement with Whittington Health NHS Trust. Assessments have continued throughout the pandemic, mostly being delivered on-line. Where families have requested face-to-face assessments, and the regulations have allowed, the team have adapted to carry out assessments in a COVID secure manner at the Centre.

For many children, young people and their families, receiving an early assessment and identifying the most appropriate form of therapy is key to managing their stammer and enabling them to

fulfil their potential. Specialised assessments for aged 2-18 years in the UK who stammer remain core to the work of the Charity. 278 children and their families from across the UK benefitting from a specialist assessment for stammering at the Michael Palin Centre over the last year funded by Action for Stammering Children.

In their feedback forms, parents have told us how much they appreciate the very thorough assessments that take place.

“The assessment itself was very in-depth and thorough. It touched on areas that we as a family find difficult to talk about, which was good to touch on and open up on. The honesty and the advice at the end of the session was also really really helped.”



Dame Jane Roberts (left), Chair of Trustees at Action for Stammering Children and Elaine Kelman, Head of the Michael Palin Centre, standing outside the Centre in London.

Outcomes

The Michael Palin Centre measures the child's and parents' experience of this assessment process and in the past year:

- **100%** reported that they better understood the stammer.
- **100%** reported that they felt more confident about the future.
- **100%** reported that they felt more hopeful that they could be helped.
- **100%** of parents reported that they were less worried.
- **100%** of parents reported that they knew more about what to do and felt more able to help their child.

Various measuring tools were used to ascertain the impact of therapy on each child's stammer, including Parent Palin Rating Scales and the OASES scoring system.

Following the assessment, children and their families were able to receive a tailored treatment programme delivered either by their local NHS Trust or at the Michael Palin Centre. The Charity has continued to support courses of therapy for children of all ages at the Michael Palin Centre, who have been unable to access treatment through the NHS.

This year we funded packages of 30 therapy sessions of Palin Stammering Therapy for four school children aged 8 to 14 and their parents.

The Charity also funds places on intensive courses at the Michael Palin Centre, followed by year-long

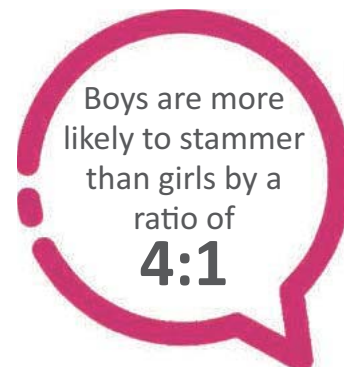
on-going support for children and their families. This year the intensive courses were delivered on-line, and the Charity funded 14 places.

The Charity supports a returners' programme for young people who have either suffered a relapse in their stammer or were undertaking a particularly big event in their lives, whether that's starting college, university or their first job. This year nine young people benefited from follow-up support.

"Thank you so much for all your help over the past year or more. We're really delighted that A is doing so well, and that we've learned so much about how to manage stammering should it arise again for him. Our experience with the Michael Palin Centre and with you was wonderful, from beginning to end. As you could see, A loved it and doesn't want it to be over! We really appreciate the help you've given us."

Returners Programme

The Charity supports a returners' programme for young people who have either suffered a relapse in their stammer or were undertaking a particularly big event in their lives, whether that's starting college, university or their first job. This year nine young people benefited from follow-up support. The feedback from this service remains very positive:



Boys are more likely to stammer than girls by a ratio of **4:1**



150,000 children across the UK have a stammer

"In April/May I was struggling to see how I would finish university. Never in a million years did I think I would be in this position (two job offers) come January. It really is a testament to your help and thoughtfulness, so thank you so much."

Talking Out Residential

The pandemic meant that we were not able to run our Talking Out residential courses this year. However, the Talking Out team were keen to ensure that they were still able to support young people who stammer through this particularly challenging time. The team adapted and created an online version of their residential course and, in October 2020, 10 young people, aged between 12 and 16, took part.

The teenagers had the opportunity to learn about how thoughts and feelings can affect how we approach a situation and to challenge themselves in a safe and supportive online environment. In addition, the young people had the opportunity to share their thoughts and feelings about stammering, whilst engaging in new experiences with other people who stammer. The online nature of the course meant that participants were able to experiment with change during the group sessions, but then move this straight into a real-life situation as they logged off each day.

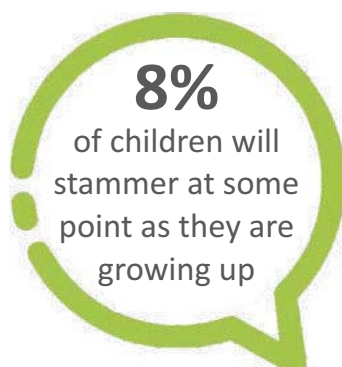
Parent sessions held at the end of each day allowed the speech and language therapists to meet with the parents, discuss the content of the group from the day and explore parents' thoughts, feeling and reactions to their child's stammer.

Comments from participants:

"I have become more confident in myself, and I feel less anxious speaking in front of people."

"I have learned about the stretch zone and the panic zone."

"I'm now a lot more confident in my stammer and I also feel a lot less alone with my stammer. My stammer doesn't feel like a burden anymore."



Outcomes

Outcome measures for the course, both qualitative and quantitative, were obtained from participants and their families before, during and at set periods following the course.

The results suggested that participants' attitudes towards stammering changed, with participants viewing stammering as having a less significant negative effect on their wellbeing and ability to participate in school and social situations.

The feedback they provided at the end of the week demonstrated that the young people felt that they had the tools needed to deal with the challenges borne of stammering and that they were already using these and thinking more positively about talking and stammering.

KPI Targets

- 285 children and young people directly helped with assessments and therapy at the Michael Palin Centre - **Achieved 286**
- 40 children attending our Talking Out residential programme - **Result:** Prevented by pandemic but adapted so that 10 children attended on-line version

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

Our objectives in this area for 2020-2021 were to:

- Empower and encourage Youth Panel members to train and inspire the new cohort of members from across the UK, to build on their successes so far and extend our reach.
- Actively engage Youth Panel members in developing our future projects and funding proposals and evaluating our activities.
- Create a mentoring scheme for young people who stammer, working with our Stambassadors.
- Complete our Stamback in Time project looking at people of influence who have stammered over the last 100 years in partnership with the London Metropolitan Archives and launch an online game.

All of these objectives have been achieved.

Empowering our Youth Panel

The pandemic failed to stop our Youth Panel. Quite the reverse. Our inspirational group of 15 young people, aged between 15 and 25, were able to get together virtually a total of 16 times during the course of the year. Created in 2015, our Youth Panel aims to empower young people who stammer and give them the opportunity to have their say about the Charity's direction. The panel continues to work hard to inform our work and raise awareness of stammering around the country.

This year members of the Youth Panel launched their online game, Stamback in Time on the 9th September 2020. Stamback in Time was a Heritage Lottery funded project with the Youth Panel that started in July 2018 working in partnership with the London Metropolitan Archives. The project aimed to bring the history of stammering to life. The panel researched great figures of the past and present who stammered and what their stories can teach young people today.

Because of the pandemic it was not possible to launch the game as had been originally planned with a live event at the London Metropolitan Archive. Instead, the team adapted and had an online launch, and used social media to reach a wide audience. Youth Panel members posted videos on social media to promote the game and received hugely positive feedback:

"It's great how you are framing this showing young people with role models. Seriously 50 years ago as a six-year-old with a stammer you were considered a bit daft. No role models then, except comedians on TV telling jokes about it."

We were also delighted to formally launch our Northern Youth Panel on the 23rd April 2021, extending our reach more widely across the country. The team are looking forward to recruiting more members and raising awareness about stammering with regional and local media outlets in the North of England.



The Stambition mentors meeting for a training event in February 2021 with Sam Simpson and Iain Wilkie.

Stambition

We were delighted to be able to launch a brand-new mentoring project, called ‘Stambition’ on the 4th November 2020. The project has recruited, trained and supervised mentors for 11 young people who stammer and are at the start of their careers. The mentors have been selected from our group of Stambassadors, adults in successful careers who stammer. The project provides practical, tailored support and advice for young people, aged 18 – 25, who stammer, at a crucial time of transition in their lives. The Stambassadors draw on their own experiences to provide practical and applicable advice as well as encouragement to the young adults they are supporting. The young people and their mentors all attended an online training event on the 19th February 2021 before embarking on a seven-month series of mentoring sessions.

The Stambition project was made possible by a generous donation from the family of Stan Taylor, in his memory. Stan had a life-long stammer and in 1945, he was part of the team that transmitted

news of Germany’s unconditional surrender to all allied units. He worked in commercial conveyancing and intellectual property, and for the American company, IBM. His family felt that the Stambition project would be a fitting tribute to his achievements and we are hugely grateful for their support.

Outcomes KPI Targets

- 20 Youth Panel Members from across the UK actively engaged in the Charity’s work - **Achieved: 15 (2019-20: 14)** 
- 10 Young people mentored by one of our Stambassadors - **Achieved: 11** 
- Stamback in Time game successfully launched - **Achieved: Launched online on 9th September 2020** 

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

Our objectives for the year were to launch an on-line parents' forum, to continue to fund the national helpline and to increase the page views of our website.

These were all achieved.

Stammering Helpline

The National Helpline, funded by Action for Stammering Children, has seen a huge surge in demand during the pandemic. The disruption to family routines and increased pressure on children to adapt to new ways of learning has led to more people calling for help and advice. Speech and language services in some local areas have been disrupted by the pandemic and this also may have contributed to the growing number of calls to our team of specialist speech and language therapists at the Michael Palin Centre.

The National Helpline is available five days a week, Mondays to Fridays, from 9am to 5pm. It provides a first port of call to parents, teachers, therapists, GPs and other professionals who need expert advice on how to respond to a child's stammer.

"Really impressed with all phone contact I had with members of your team; their time and understanding and general advice was so helpful and assuring at what was a really worrying time with what seemed to be a sudden onset of a significant stammer for our young daughter (during lockdown)."

"Really impressed with all phone contact I had with members of your team; their time and understanding and general advice was so helpful and assuring at what was a really worrying time with what seemed to be a sudden onset of a significant stammer for our young daughter (during lockdown)."

Rosie, a speech therapist at the Michael Palin Centre, answering a helpline call.



Parents Forum

It has long been an ambition of the charity to arrange a support group for parents of children who stammer. The increased acceptance of online meetings, during the pandemic, suddenly has made bringing parents together so much easier. In November 2020 we launched a series

of online support groups for parents. Guest speakers presented on subjects such as resilience and working with schools. Parents from all over the country were able to share experiences and support each other. In total five forums were held and attended by a total of 37 parents.

Website and Social Media

Social media continues to be a powerful mechanism for supporting parents as well as increasing awareness about stammering in children and driving people to our website. We now have a strong presence on LinkedIn, Instagram, Facebook and Twitter.

Our website remains our primary platform for sharing information about stammering particularly with parents of children who stammer. We had a total of 66,638 page views in the year. Our most popular pages include tips, facts about stammering and support for parents.

Our Stambassador videos, shared widely via YouTube, have become a sought-after aide for speech and language therapists working with children who stammer. In the videos our Stambassadors demonstrate that it is perfectly possible to have a successful career with a stammer. They share their work experiences and help young people who stammer to realise that their stammer need not hold them back. In total, our YouTube videos have now been viewed 69,706 times.

“We have had so much positive feedback from our families as they report back on a wide range of Stambassadors they have listened to; and each time we notice the messages that they take away and the difference this makes.”

Elaine Kelman, Head of the Michael Palin Centre

Outcomes

KPI Targets

- 50 parents joining online support programme events (New project for 2021)
- Increase the number of page views of our website (63,534 in 2019-20)
- Increase our social media following to 10,000 (5,038 – 31st March 2020)
- 1,500 helpline calls answered (1,075 in 2019-20)

Results

- 37 parents joined our new online parents' forum
- Website page views increased to 66,638
- Social media following increased to 6,564
- 1,367 helpline calls answered



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

Training has been one of the surprise successes of the pandemic. The decision to move all the training courses run by the Michael Palin Centre online, has seen a huge upturn in participants. Speech and language therapists have been able to learn more about supporting children who stammer without having to travel to London or even leave their homes.

A total of 923 therapists undertook training with the Michael Palin Centre online compared to 333 in the previous financial year. Our research indicates that each speech and language therapist will, as a result of the training at the Michael Palin Centre, support at least 10 children and young people who stammer over the following

year. We estimate therefore that more than 9,230 children and young people will, once the pandemic restrictions are fully relaxed, be able to receive locally delivered, high quality therapy to help manage their stammer.

We believe that training at the Michael Palin Centre is changing the way speech and language therapy is delivered all around the country. In the normal course of events, speech and language therapists receive very limited training in stammering. Often, they are reluctant to take on stammering cases as they don't feel that they have the skills to provide the support needed. Our training courses are helping to close this skills gap.

"I started the course with little confidence and overwhelmed at the thought of the younger children who stammer who are on my caseload (I've only been working since September!) I now feel like I'm equipped with much more knowledge and skills to support and facilitate those children and their families. Thanks so much."

"I was concerned that due to this being an online course it may be one-sided, not interactive and not as good as face to face. On the contrary, the course was structured with enough opportunities to contribute as well as the break-out rooms with different mix ups of people. It was just as good and interactive as the face-to-face sessions I've previously attended."

"I really enjoyed it and to be honest preferred it to attending in person. It was much more comfortable and made it easier for me to learn and engage."

Outcomes

KPI Targets

- 500 therapists trained supporting 5,000 children who stammer - **Achieved: 923 therapists trained supporting 9,230 children who stammer**



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

PhD Programme – Stammering and Mental Health

This year saw the continuation of our PhD research project. We are proud to be supporting Speech and Language Therapist, Ria Bernard as she undertakes a PhD study investigating the relationship between stammering and anxiety and depression in children.

She is now in the final year of her three-year research project supervised by University College

London. She has completed a systematic review of existing literature and has launched a national questionnaire and a comparative study of children who stammer, children with a language disorder and non-stammering children. Ria shared her findings so far as a poster presentation at the Oxford Dysfluency Conference in January 2021.

Research at the Michael Palin Centre

Action for Stammering Children continued to work in partnership with the Michael Palin Centre to support and promote research into effective treatment for stammering in children and young people. MPC staff members were engaged in a number of research-related activities, including presentations at national and international conferences, preparing publications and data management.

In addition, they have contributed to the wider scholarly and scientific community by: reviewing research papers; participating in scientific committees; collaborating in international research groups; advising and supervising a range

of undergraduate and post graduate projects; and acting as internal examiners for UK universities.

We were also delighted to see that the paper on ‘Temperament and the Impact of Stammering’ co-authored by the MPC’s Dr Sharon Millard and Elaine Kelman, and funded by Action for Stammering Children, was published in the Journal of Speech, Language and Hearing Research. The paper examines possible associations between childhood temperament and stuttering severity.

Oxford Dysfluency Conference

Action for Stammering Children was delighted to be able to support the Oxford Dysfluency Conference, which was run online in January 2021. We sponsored the Keynote speaker, Prof Kate Watkins, who leads the research team at Oxford University using MRI to study the neural correlates of developmental stuttering revealing differences in brain structure and function in the brains of people who stutter. Her recent work uses brain stimulation to promote fluency enhancing techniques in people who stutter.

Our Trustee, Samira Ahmed opened the conference, along with Youth Panel member Grace Cronshaw and the Charity’s chief executive, Steven Gauge. 600 international delegates attended and the conference was co-chaired by the MPC’s head of research, Dr Sharon Millard. Conference proceedings will be published in the Journal of Communication Disorders and MPC staff are submitting papers for review.

Travers Reid Award



Rakesh Chowkalli Veerabhadrappe, a doctoral student at the All India Institute of Speech and Hearing, India was the winner of this years Travers Reid Award.

The Charity's chief executive Steven Gauge presented the Travers Reid Award in the closing ceremony of the Oxford Dysfluency Conference. The award was given, virtually, to Rakesh Chowkalli Veerabhadrappe, a doctoral student at the All India Institute of Speech and Hearing, India. He was recognised for his work on the adaptation of the Speech Situation Checklist-Emotional Reaction (SSC-ER) for Kannada-speaking school-age children who do and do not stutter. Kannada is spoken by 68 million people in southern India.

Rakesh's research will help speech and language therapists in Southern India have a comprehensive understanding of a child's experience – their internal experience of stuttering – and to direct therapy in line with this.

The award is presented in memory of the Charity's co-founder Travers Reid. Travers was driven by a desire to see more research into stammering and so it is fitting that part of his huge legacy will continue to be the Travers Reid Award. This annual award, funded by the Charity, is made to researchers in the field who are making a real difference to our understanding of this developmental disorder.

Outcomes

KPI Targets

- 1 PhD Student supported – **Achieved**
- 1 paper published in an academic peer-reviewed journal – **Achieved**
- Secure funding for Research Priorities Project – **Achieved (but not in this financial year)**



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

The aim for the year was to increase the number of media mentions of the Charity and to generate more Stammer Aware Schools. Both of these objectives have been achieved.

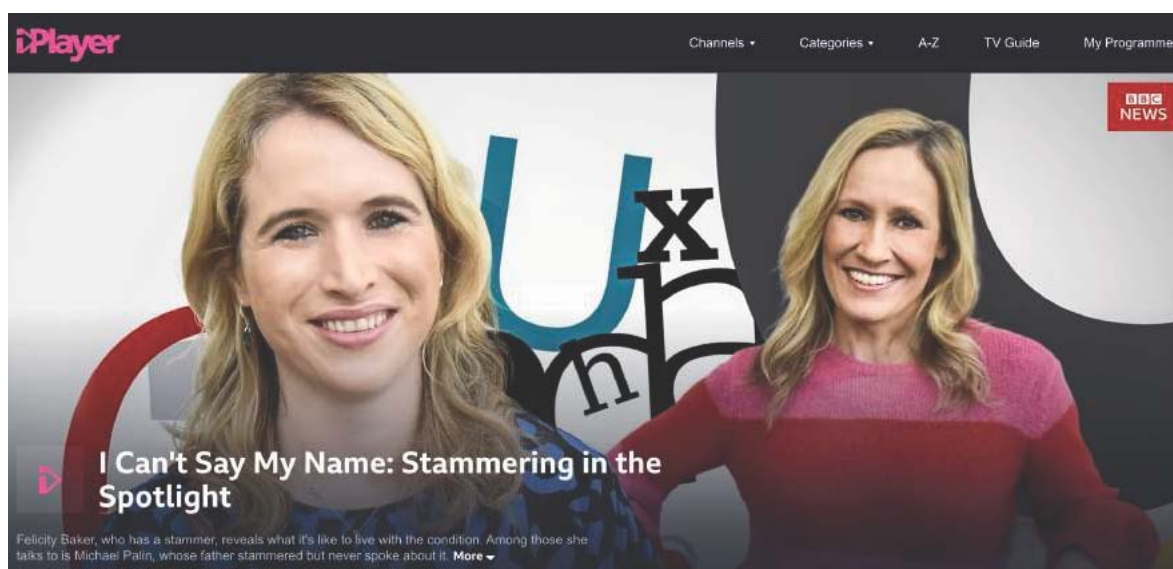
The Charity also continues to play a leading role in promoting awareness of stammering and the impact it has on children and young people – through our website www.actionforstammeringchildren.org, through our social media channels and through our monthly e-newsletter.

Raised Media Profile

This year the Charity has been even more successful in securing media coverage to raise awareness about stammering, securing 39 pieces of positive media coverage, compared to 33 in the previous year. We were particularly pleased to have been able to support BBC producer Felicity Baker, who also stammers, to secure participants in broadcast news features and a very successful documentary, *I Can't Say My Name: Stammering in the Spotlight*, which aired on the 10th March 2021. Youth Panel

member Grace Cronshaw was interviewed along with the Head of the Michael Palin Centre, Elaine Kelman and Shelby Grant who has been supported by the Centre.

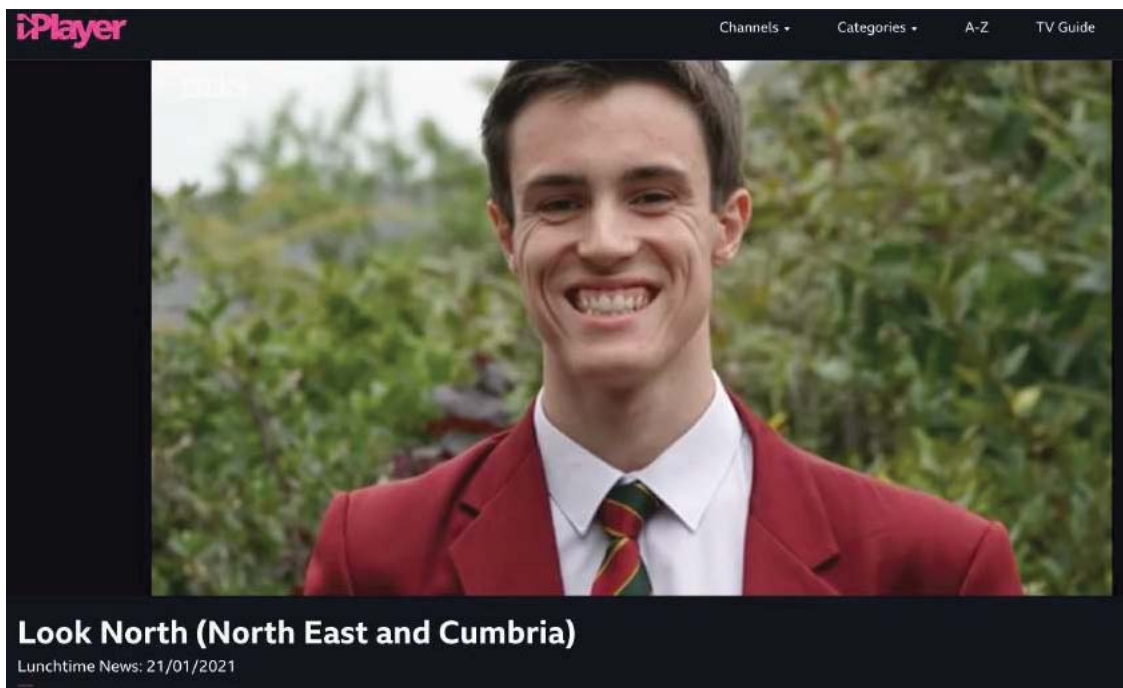
Our Vice President Michael Palin also featured in the documentary talking about his father’s stammer.



Felicity Baker’s BBC documentary, I Can’t Say My Name: Stammering in the Spotlight which aired on the 10th March 2021, featuring Shelby (pictured on page 21, filming)

Our Vice President Ed Balls has also been brilliant at securing media mentions for the charity, sharing stories about his stammer and his fundraising success for the Charity as he won BBC One's Celebrity Best Home Cook. Youth Panel member Thomas Grattoni-May has secured coverage on BBC Look North and in his local newspapers sharing his experience of home and online schooling with a stammer. One of our Stamabassadors, Will Laven has been prolific in securing coverage in publications as diverse as the Metro, the Telegraph, Close Up and Pick

Me Up magazines as well as ITV London. We are hugely grateful to our team of media stars for sharing their stories and raising awareness about stammering and the work of the Charity.



There have been media appearances on BBC News and in the Metro newspaper from the Youth Panel, Stambassadors and supporters of the Charity throughout the year.

Stammer Aware Celebration Event

On 21st April 2021 we hosted an event to celebrate and reflect on the three-year project with supporters from education, health and the charity sector.

This project, supported by John Lyon's Charity and delivered by the team at the Michael Palin Centre, created and disseminated a webinar for schools in a selection of London boroughs. The webinar equipped teachers with the information and advice they needed to best support their pupils who stammer. In year two, nine schools

were awarded Stammer Aware Certification. In year three, another 22 schools have become Stammer Aware, taking the total to 31.

We are hugely grateful to all those schools who have prioritised their pupils who stammer, alongside dealing with the significant impact of Covid-19 and subsequent lockdowns. We are committed to helping schools become Stammer Aware throughout the whole UK, using this project as the model.

Outcomes

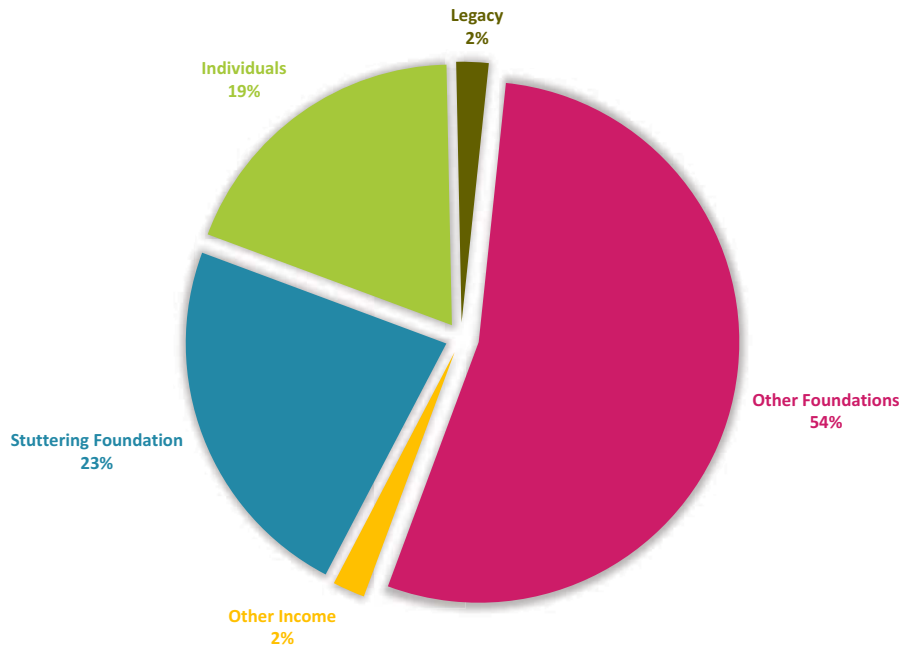
KPI Targets

- Positive media mentions of the Charity – **Achieved 39**
- Schools becoming “Stammer Aware” – **Achieved 22**



Financial Review

Income



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

The year to 31 March 2021 has been very challenging given the impact of the Covid pandemic on the fundraising environment. Total income for the year to 31 March 2021 amounted to £602,103, down from £618,942 in the year ended 31 March 2020.

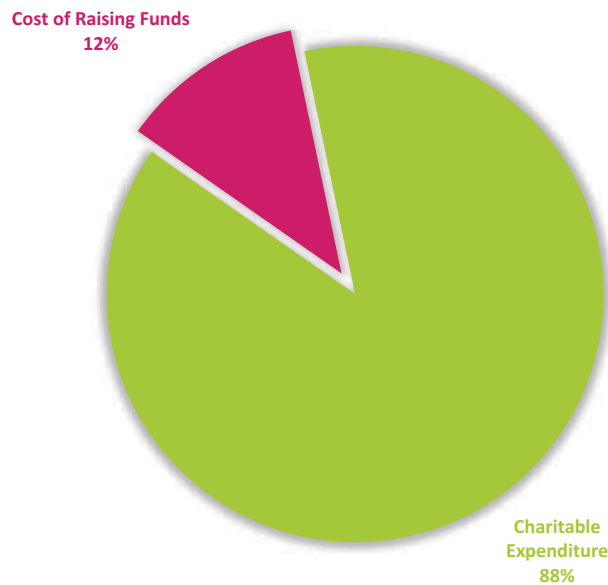
We are extremely grateful for the ongoing support from the Stuttering Foundation but note that the income was lower this year (\$187.5k) due to a change in the schedule of funding (now paid quarterly on a calendar year basis).

We have benefited from the following:

- Emergency Covid funding, provided by John Lyon’s Charity (£30k) and the Julia and Hans Rausing Trust (£51.9k);
- New multi-year funding from the City Bridge Trust (£32k);
- Ongoing support from the Woodroffe Benton Foundation (£16.67k) and Children in Need (£11.3k);
- An Employees’ Choice Award from PIMCO (£69.5k) for a community therapist pilot project;
- New funding from the Garfield Weston Foundation (£50k);
- New funding from John Taylor (£12.5k) for the Stambition Mentoring Projects;
- New funding from The Harrison-Frank Family Foundation (UK) Ltd. (£5k);
- £26.2k raised by Trustees, the Youth Panel and Staff at the Michael Palin Centre as part of the “2.6 Challenge”.

The Charity has complied with the relevant codes of practice. We have received no complaints in relation to fundraising activities. (2020: none).

Expenditure



Given the impact of the Covid pandemic on the fundraising environment, expenditure was closely monitored during the year to protect reserves and enable the Charity to continue its work.

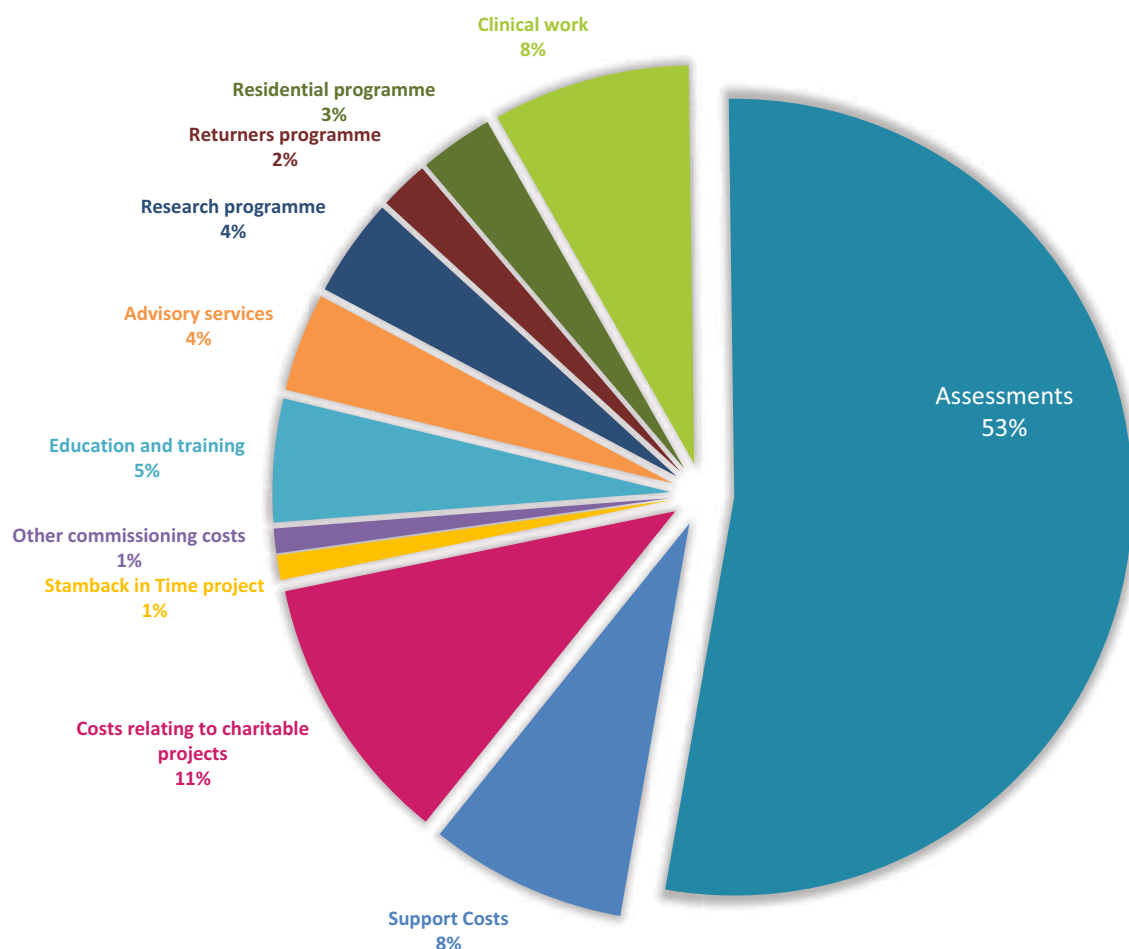
Expenditure of £428,866, down from £600,285 in the year ending 31 March 2020, was spent on charitable activity during the year.

Expenditure was lower in the following areas:

- Fundraising events: as no events were held due to Covid restrictions;
- Residential: as it was only possible to deliver one online residential during the year. We had two face to face residential in the previous year;
- Staff costs: as some ASC staff were furloughed for part of the year;
- Michael Palin Centre (MPC): to protect the Charity's reserves and enable the continued funding of the MPC in the future, this did not impact on the activity delivered.

Despite the above reductions in expenditure, £344,000 was used to deliver charitable activity at the Michael Palin Centre (see notes 6 and 7) and the remainder to fund other activities including one "Talking Out" online course for teenagers, a PhD research project, a Mentoring Project and Youth Panel "Stamback in Time" project.

Summary of Charitable Expenditure



Reserves

Total unrestricted reserves, shown in note 15 of £1,082,819 includes designated illiquid funds of £592,000 (which comprises freehold property and the net book value of fixed assets) and designated funds of £124,000 for the Michael Palin Centre. The remainder of £366,819 comprises unrestricted free reserves and represents approximately 7.5 months of budgeted expenditure for 2021 to 2022, in line with current policy.

Reserves policy and going concern

The Trustees have considered the desired level of unrestricted funds not designated for specific purpose 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 six to nine months of annual 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, particularly in light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

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.

Looking Ahead to 2021/2022

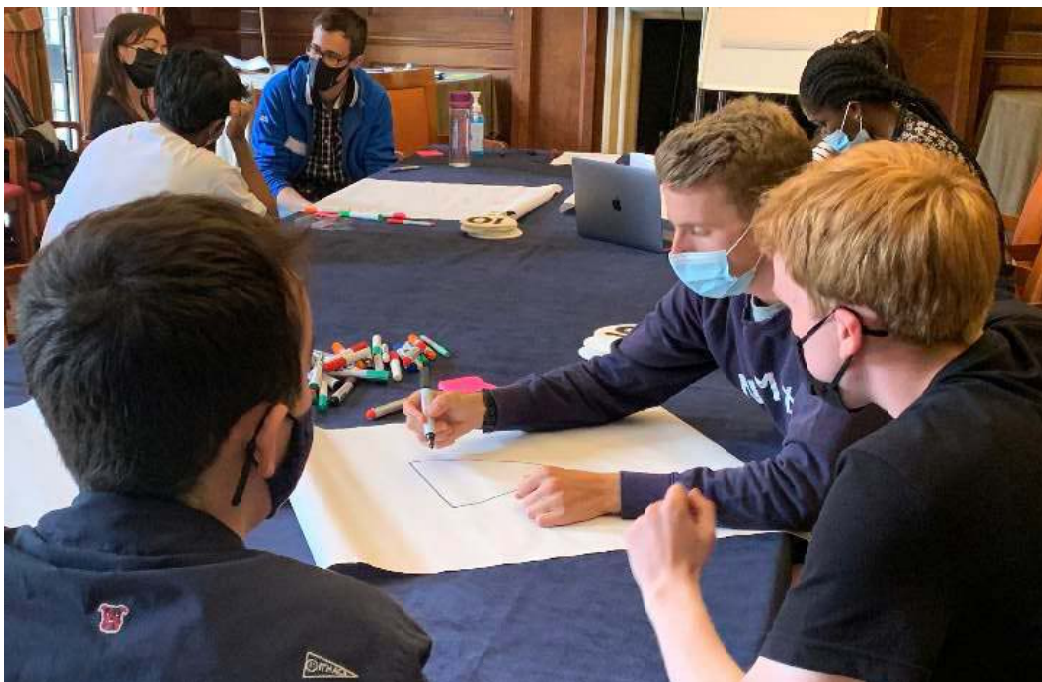
The coming financial year is likely to be as challenging and uncertain as the last. As this report is being written, it is still hard to predict with any degree of confidence how and when we will fully emerge from the pandemic and how the economy and public services will look when we do. It remains extremely difficult to plan fundraising events in particular. We will proceed with caution but will look to be flexible, speedy and creative when opportunities arise.

One thing we do know is that the affection in which the NHS is held in this country has grown enormously. We are proud to work in partnership with the NHS to deliver life-changing services for children who stammer at the Michael Palin Centre. We are also immensely proud of the speech and language therapists from the MPC who volunteered to work on the front line at the Whittington Hospital, through some of the worst days of the pandemic.

We will continue to work in partnership with the NHS to ensure that vital services for children who stammer and their families are maintained on a sustainable basis, long into the future. We will work together over the coming year to see how we can use the lessons learnt during the lockdown period to deliver our support more effectively.

In addition, we will continue to empower young people who stammer, through our Youth Panel and Stambassador projects and build on our new mentoring scheme. We will look to continue our residential programme when Covid restrictions allow and also develop new ways of supporting young people online. We look forward to the completion of our PhD project and we hope to play a leading role in supporting and promoting further research into stammering.

We will continue to pursue the Charity's six key goals and work tirelessly to raise the necessary funds to achieve them. We will monitor our progress towards achieving these with a set of key performance indicators.



The Youth Panel planning for the year ahead.

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

- Continue to support assessments and therapy at the Michael Palin Centre.
- Continue to support residential courses with Talking Out and develop a new Zoom club for residential alumni.
- Develop pilot project to place a specialist speech and language therapist in an area of need using restricted funding.

KPI Targets

- 250 children directly supported by MPC
- 20 children supported through online, residential and monthly Zoom club with Talking Out
- 1 part time specialist speech and language therapist placed in a group of schools

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

- Provide media training for our Youth Panel.
- Continue to support Youth Panel members interviewing researchers for social media videos and podcasts.
- Support Youth Panel to create and deliver an awareness campaign with Timebank UK.
- Launch and grow our Northern Youth Panel.
- Look to secure further funding to support the Stambition mentoring programme for a second year.
- Consider new ways to involve Youth Panel members in developing the strategy for the Charity.

KPI Targets

- 20 Youth Panel members actively engaged (2020-21: 15)
- Timebank awareness campaign launched
- 10 more Young People linked up with mentors

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

- Continue to support The Parents Online Forum.
- Agree with the MPC and Talking Out the best ways to measure and support the help given to parents of children who stammer.

KPI Targets

- 50 Parents joining online support forum events (37 last year)
- 500 Parents directly supported by the Michael Palin Centre (new KPI)
- 1,000 Helpline calls from parents answered (new KPI)

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

- Continue supporting the training of speech and language therapists in stammering across the UK.
- Help to maintain the high take-up of training opportunities by creating and sharing widely videos featuring feedback from speech and language therapists who participate in courses.

KPI Targets

- 1,000 therapists trained supporting 10,000 children who stammer (923 trained in 2020-21, supporting 9,230)

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

- Seek funding for the James Lind Alliance research priorities project.
- Support Ria Bernard to complete the final year of her PhD researching the relationship between stammering and mental health.
- Support research undertaken by the Michael Palin Centre.
- Present the annual Travers Reid Award.

KPI Targets

- 1 PhD Student supported (currently 1)
- 1 paper published in an academic peer-reviewed journal (1 paper in 2020-21)
- Secure funding for Research Priorities Project (not achieved in 2020-21)

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

- Develop and secure funding for a national Stammer Aware schools programme.
- Work with the Youth Panel to raise awareness and plan for International Stammering Awareness Day.
- Develop, agree and implement a communications strategy that makes full use of our networks and resources to improve public perceptions of stammering.

KPI Targets

- 50 Positive media mentions of the Charity (39 in 2020-21)
- Increase website page views. (66,638 in 2020-21)
- Increase social media following (6,564 in 2020-21)
- Secure funding for a national "Stammer Aware Schools" scheme (New KPI)

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.

Organisational Structure

The Charity's Board of Trustees meets in person or online, at least five times per annum. At present the Board has nine 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, acts as the key interface with the NHS, and has a prime responsibility for fundraising.

Trustees Recruitment and Induction

The Board of Trustees seeks to ensure that the interests of children who stammer are appropriately represented in the Trustee body. Trustees are recruited through informal methods, both through a network of parents and adults who stammer and through the body of professionals working in the field of childhood stammering. 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. A Trustee nominations committee reviews the Trustees' skills mix and drives 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.

Board of Trustees

The Trustees are directors for the purpose of company law and trustees for the purpose of charity law. Trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on page 45.

The members of the charitable company include the Trustees and three founding members. 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.

Method of Appointment or Election 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.

Relationship with Related Parties and co-operation with other organisations

The work of ASC is, at present, largely achieved through its relationship with Whittington Health NHS Trust and its Speech and Language Therapy Department in London. ASC commissions the provision of specific services from the Michael Palin Centre, part of Whittington Health NHS Trust. Specifically, ASC commissions expert assessments, consultations, treatments, training and research not otherwise funded by the National Health Service. The Charity's funding also provides specialist advisory and helpline services to health professionals and families.

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.

Risk Policy

The Board of Trustees continues to review and evaluate the key risks faced by the Charity at Board meetings throughout the year. A formal risk register is maintained to record ongoing risk assessments and track key mitigating activity. The key risks of the Charity include risks associated with its governance, delivery of key strategic objectives, safeguarding of charitable assets and compliance with regulation.

The Board of Trustees ensures that robust policies, procedures, systems and financial controls are in place to mitigate key risks to protect the reputation of the charity.

In the light of Covid-19 the Risk Register was reviewed and maintained throughout the year with key changes to risk reported to the Board. The major risk identified was fundraising due to restrictions on activities such as events and marathons and a plan to mitigate these risks has been developed.

Public Benefit

The Trustees have taken in to account the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. The Trustees' report demonstrates our commitment to providing public benefit.

Trustees' Responsibilities Statement

The Trustees' (who are also directors of Action for Stammering Children for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statement in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In preparing this report, the Trustees have taken advantage of the small companies exemptions provided by section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the Trustees on 13th October 2021 and signed on their behalf, by:



Dame Jane Roberts
Chair of Board of Trustees

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

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2021 which are set out on pages 32 to 45.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company 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 your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act

Independent examiner's statement

Since the company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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 company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts 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 accounts 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 accounts to be reached.

Date: 20th October 2021



Michael Cooper-Davis ACA FCCA

For and on behalf of
Price Bailey LLP
Chartered Accountants
Causeway House
1 Dane Street
Bishop's Stortford
Hertfordshire
CM23 3BT

Statement of Financial Activities

(incorporating expenditure and income accounts)

For the year ended 31 March 2021

Income and Expenditure	Note	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds		Total 2021	Total 2020
		£	General £	Designated £	£	£
Income from:						
<i>Donations and legacies</i>	2	394,435	203,848	-	598,283	615,663
<i>Other trading activities</i>	3	-	2,011	-	2,011	469
<i>Investments</i>	4	-	1,809	-	1,809	2,810
Total Income		394,435	207,668	-	602,103	618,942
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	5	1,865	49,754	-	51,619	96,441
Charitable activities	6	377,247	-	-	377,247	503,844
Total expenditure		379,112	49,754	-	428,866	600,285
<i>(Loss)/gain on investments</i>		-	-	-	-	-
Net (expenditure)/income		15,323	157,914	-	173,237	18,657
Transfer between funds		-	(124,000)	124,000	-	-
Net movement in funds		15,323	33,914	124,000	173,237	18,657
Reconciliation of funds						
<i>Total funds brought forward</i>		74,750	332,905	592,000	999,655	980,999
Total funds carried forward	15	90,073	366,819	716,000	1,172,892	999,656

There are no recognised gains and losses other than those in the statement of financial activities. Therefore no statement of total recognised gains and losses has been prepared. All the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes on pages 35 to 44 form part of these financial accounts.

Balance Sheet

For the year ended 31 March 2021

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed Assets			
<i>Tangible Assets</i>	11	592,000	592,000
Current Assets			
<i>Debtors</i>	12	3,229	7,049
<i>Cash at bank and in hand</i>		653,098	502,466
		<u>656,327</u>	<u>509,515</u>
Creditors	13	<u>(75,435)</u>	<u>(101,860)</u>
Net current assets		580,892	407,655
Total Net Assets		<u>1,172,892</u>	<u>999,655</u>
Funds			
<i>Designated funds - fixed assets</i>	15	592,000	592,000
<i>Designated funds - Michael Palin Centre</i>		124,000	-
<i>Unrestricted funds free reserves</i>	15	366,819	332,905
<i>Restricted funds</i>	15	90,073	74,750
Total funds and reserves		<u>1,172,892</u>	<u>999,655</u>

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

For the year ended 31 March 2021 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting recorded and the preparation of accounts.

The accounts were approved by the Board of Trustees on the 13th October and signed on their behalf on 13th October by:



Jane Roberts
Chair of Trustees

Company no: 2328627

The notes on pages 35 to 44 form part of these accounts

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 31 March 2021

	2021	2020
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities:		
<i>(Deficit)/surplus for the financial year</i>	173,237	18,657
Adjustments for:		
<i>Depreciation of tangible assets</i>	-	-
<i>Investment income</i>	(1,809)	(2,810)
<i>Decrease/(increase) in debtors</i>	3,820	(5,589)
<i>(Decrease)/increase in creditors</i>	(26,425)	(36,336)
Net cash generated from operating activities	<u>148,823</u>	<u>(26,078)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
<i>Income from investments</i>	1,809	2,810
Net cash from investing activities	<u>1,809</u>	<u>2,810</u>
<i>Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents</i>	150,632	(23,268)
<i>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year</i>	502,466	525,734
Cash equivalents at the end of the year	<u>653,098</u>	<u>502,466</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year comprise:		
<i>Cash at bank and in hand</i>	<u>653,098</u>	<u>502,466</u>
Net debt reconciliation:		
<i>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year</i>	502,466	525,734
<i>Net cash outflow in the year</i>	150,632	(23,268)
<i>Cash and cash equivalents at the year end</i>	<u>653,098</u>	<u>502,466</u>

Notes to the Financial Statement

For the year ended 31 March 2021

1. Accounting Policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 October 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Action for Stammering Children meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes. The functional and presentational currency used in the financial statement is Pounds Sterling.

1.2 Company status

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee and is incorporated and domiciled in England. The members of the company are the Trustees named on page 45. 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. The Charity's registered office is The Michael Palin Centre for Stammering Children, 13-15 Pine Street, London, EC1R 0JG.

1.3. Fund accounting

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 cost 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. Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

1.4. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

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.

1.5. Going concern

Following the year end the Charity has been affected by restrictions imposed by the UK Government in response to the COVID-19 pandemic in the following ways, but not limited to:

1 - Social distancing measures and restrictions on groups meeting will have a significant impact on funds previously raised through Charity evenings and sponsored events.

2 - An expected funding gap between funding which is considered to be reasonably certain and anticipated costs.

The funding gap will be managed by continued applications to Trusts and Foundations who might be interested in supporting Action for Stammering Children in the future.

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

1.6. 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.

1.7. 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.

1.8. Tangible fixed assets and appreciation

All assets costing more than £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:

Computer and other equipment – 3 years on a straight line basis

Freehold Property – over 50 years to an estimated residual value of £592,000

1.9. Foreign currencies

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate ruling on the date of the transaction. Exchange gains and losses are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

1.10 Debtors

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.

1.11 Creditors

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

1.12 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.

1.13 Cash at bank and in hand

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.

1.14 Pension costs

The Charity operates a defined contribution 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.

1.15 Taxation

The company is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the company is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

2. Donations and Legacies

	Restricted Funds 2021	Unrestricted Funds 2021	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
Grants and donations	394,435	193,849	588,284	612,663
Legacies	-	10,000	10,000	3,000
Total donations and legacies	394,435	203,849	598,284	615,663

Income from donations in 2020 included £270,553 of unrestricted income and £345,110 of restricted fund income.

3. Trading Activities

	Restricted Funds 2021	Unrestricted Funds 2021	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
Charity trading income				
Books and DVD sales	-	2,011	2,011	469
Net income from trading activities	-	2,011	2,011	469

Income from charitable activities in 2020 was all unrestricted.

4. Investment Income

	Restricted Funds 2021	Unrestricted Funds 2021	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
Bank interest received	-	1,809	1,809	2,810

Income from investment income in 2020 was all unrestricted.

5. Expenditure on Raising Funds

	Restricted Funds 2021	Unrestricted Funds 2021	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
Events and fundraising	-	3,743	3,743	38,157
Staff costs incurred seeking grants and donations	1,865	46,011	47,876	58,284
	1,865	49,754	51,619	96,441

The expenditure on raising funds in 2020 was all unrestricted.

6. Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Summary by Fund Type - Current Year			
Michael Palin Centre (MPC) - London	343,796	-	343,796
Stambition Mentoring Project	7,590	-	7,590
Stamback in Time project	3,873	-	3,873
Residential programme	9,988	-	9,988
Research programme	12,000	-	12,000
	377,247	-	377,247

	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Summary by Fund Type - Prior Year			
Michael Palin Centre (MPC) - London	258,781	195,962	454,743
Stamback in Time project	2,354	-	2,354
Residential programme	31,609	-	31,609
Research programme	11,333	3,805	15,138
	304,077	199,767	503,844

7. Expenditure by Charitable Activity

	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Direct costs:		
Assessments	200,000	228,000
Clinical work	30,000	73,500
Residential programme	9,988	31,609
Returners	9,000	10,000
Research programme	17,000	31,333
Advisory services	16,000	30,000
Education and training	17,590	26,280
Other commissioning costs	3,249	150
Innovation Awards	336	300
Stamback in Time project	3,873	2,354
Costs relating to charitable projects	41,740	40,207
	348,776	473,733
Support costs (note 8)	28,471	30,111
Total	377,247	503,844

8. Support Costs

	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Staff costs	14,221	16,885
Staff expenses	1,037	1,240
Professional fees	-	957
Website costs	678	1,001
Youth Panel	149	224
Equipment and repairs	-	4,043
YouGov research	-	1,440
Miscellaneous	7,578	77
Governance costs	3,744	4,244
IT costs	1,064	-
	28,471	30,111
	28,471	30,111

9. Net (Expenditure)/Income for the Year

	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
This is stated after charging:		
Independent Examiner's Fee	3,744	2,856

Trustees did not receive remuneration or benefits in kind.
Trustees expenses reimbursement in the year totalled (2020: £NIL.)

10. Staff Costs

	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Wages and salaries	95,910	105,223
Social security costs	5,625	7,934
Pension Costs	2,301	2,219
Total Staff Costs	103,836	115,376
	103,836	115,376

Average monthly number of employees during the year

	Total 2021 No.	Total 2020 No.
Average number of staff	3	3
	3	3

No employee received emoluments amounting to more than £60,000 (2020: 1).
£60,000 - £70,000 - NIL

The key management personnel of the Charity comprise the Trustees and management teams as listed on page 45. 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 £47,524 (2020: £69,066).

11. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Freehold property £	Office equipment £	Total 2021 £
Cost			
At 1 April 2020	592,000	61,720	653,720
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 March 2021	592,000	61,720	653,720
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2020	-	61,720	61,720
Charged	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 March 2021	-	61,720	61,720
Net book value			
At 31 March 2021	592,000	-	592,000
At 31 March 2020	592,000	-	592,000

12. Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Other debtors	3,229	6,549
Donations receivable	-	500
	3,229	7,049

13. Creditors

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade creditors	661	-
Accruals and deferred income	71,719	100,457
Social Security	2,587	1,403
Other creditors	468	-
	75,435	101,860
Deferred income at 1 April 2020	-	-
Resources deferred during the year	54,494	-
	54,494	-

Deferred income relates to grant funding received in advance of the 2021/22 financial year

14. Pension Commitments

The charity operates a defined contributions pension scheme. The total contributions for the year amounted to £ 2,301 (2020: £2,219). No amounts were payable to the fund at the year end (2020: £Nil)

15. Statement of Funds

	1 April 2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Designated funds					
Freehold Pine Street	350,000	-	-	-	350,000
Training room extension	242,000	-	-	-	242,000
Michael Palin Centre	-	-	-	124,000	124,000
Net Book Value Fixed Assets	-	-	-	-	-
	592,000	-	-	124,000	716,000
General funds					
General funds	332,905	207,668	(49,754)	(124,000)	366,819
	924,905	207,668	(49,754)	-	1,082,819
Restricted funds					
Assessments	2,015	-	(800)	-	1,215
Stuttering Foundation	-	141,382	(141,382)	-	-
Julia and Hans Rausing Trust	-	51,939	(51,939)	-	-
City Bridge Trust	-	32,004	(32,004)	-	-
Heritage Lottery Fund	-	8,509	(8,509)	-	-
Harrison Frank Foundation	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
John Lyons Foundation	30,000	-	(30,000)	-	-
John Lyons Foundation - emergency	-	30,000	(30,000)	-	-
Peter Sowerby Foundation	3,096	-	(3,096)	-	-
Children in Need 19/20	2,581	-	(2,581)	-	-
Children in Need 20/21	-	11,300	(11,300)	-	-
Woodroffe Benton Foundation	-	16,666	(16,666)	-	-
The Weinstock Fund	2,373	-	-	-	2,373
Trusts and Foundations Restricted less than £5,000	500	10,200	(7,900)	-	2,800
PIMCO	-	69,500	-	-	69,500
Mentoring project	-	12,500	(7,500)	-	5,000
Bain Capital	34,185	-	(25,000)	-	9,185
Furlough income	-	5,435	(5,435)	-	-
	74,750	394,435	(379,112)	-	90,073
Total funds	999,655	602,103	(428,866)	-	1,172,892

Summary of Funds

	1 April 2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Designated funds	592,000	-	-	124,000	716,000
General funds	332,905	207,668	(49,754)	(124,000)	366,819
	924,905	207,668	(49,754)	-	1,082,819
Restricted funds	74,750	394,435	(379,112)	-	90,073
	999,655	602,103	(428,866)	-	1,172,892

Prior Year - Statement of Funds

	1 April 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	31 March 2020 £
Designated funds					
Freehold Pine Street	350,000	-	-	-	350,000
Training room extension	242,000	-	-	-	242,000
Net Book Value Fixed Assets	-	-	-	-	-
	592,000	-	-	-	592,000
General funds					
General funds - all funds	342,282	273,832	(296,208)	13,000	332,906
	934,282	273,832	(296,208)	13,000	924,906
Restricted funds					
Assessments	1,015	7,243	(6,243)	-	2,015
Stuttering Foundation	-	192,404	(192,404)	-	-
Heritage Lottery Fund	2,702	1,641	(4,343)	-	-
John Lyons Foundation	30,000	30,000	(30,000)	-	30,000
Peter Sowerby Foundation	13,000	24,796	(21,700)	(13,000)	3,096
Children In Need	-	22,601	(20,020)	-	2,581
Woodroffe Benton Foundation	-	16,667	(16,667)	-	-
The Weinstock Fund	-	2,500	(127)	-	2,373
G C Gibson Charitable Trust	-	2,573	(2,573)	-	-
Other	-	500	-	-	500
Bain Capital	-	34,185	-	-	34,185
Bidder McKinley	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
	46,717	345,110	(304,077)	(13,000)	74,750
Total funds	980,999	618,942	(600,285)	-	999,656

Prior Year - Summary of Funds

	1 April 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	31 March 2020 £
Designated funds	592,000	-	-	-	592,000
General funds	342,282	273,832	(296,208)	13,000	332,906
	934,282	273,832	(296,208)	13,000	924,906
Restricted funds	46,717	345,110	(304,077)	(13,000)	74,750
	980,999	618,942	(600,285)	-	999,656

Purpose of Restricted Funds

Assessments	These funds were used for specialist consultations at the Michael Palin Centre.
Stuttering Foundation	These funds were used for specialist clinical, research and training activities at the Michael Palin Centre.
Children in Need	These funds were used for a Talking Out outward-bound residential in 2019/20 and for an online course in 2020/21.
Peter Sowerby Foundation	These funds were used for a Talking Out outward-bound residential in the year. The transfer of funds in 2019/20 reflects an adjustment to the balance carried forward incorrectly from a previous grant which had been utilised in the previous year.
John Lyon's Charity	These funds have been used to help children and young people in key London Boroughs to lead changes within their schools community to develop frameworks for improved provision and support for children who stammer.
Heritage Lottery Fund	These funds are being used for a project called Stamback in Time working with the Youth Panel looking at famous people who stammered.
The Woodroffe Benton Foundation	These funds were used to support the final year of a three-year PhD programme investigating the relationship between stammering and anxiety and depression in children in partnership with University College London.
The Weinstock Fund	These funds are being used for the development of a Northern Youth Panel.
Bain Capital	These funds are to support the helpline, residential and intensive courses for children who stammer.
Julia and Hans Rausing Trust	These funds were used for core costs and overheads of the Charity.
City Bridge Trust	These funds were used for specialist consultations at the Michael Palin Centre.
John Lyon's Charity - emergency	These funds were used for specialist clinical, research and training activities at the Michael Palin Centre.
The Harrison-Frank Foundation (UK) Ltd.	These funds were used for specialist clinical, research and training activities at the Michael Palin Centre.
PIMCO	These funds are being used to develop a new project to deliver a community based speech and language therapist in an area of need.
Stambition Mentoring Project	These funds are being used to train and supervise a group of volunteer mentors to support young people who stammer and are at the start of their careers.

Purpose of Designated funds

Freehold Pine Street Fund

The Trustees have designated funds to the value of the freehold.

Training Room Extension

The Trustees have designated funds received from a legacy to fund the training room extension.

Michael Palin Centre

The Trustees have designated funds to provide for ongoing funding, in the coming financial year, of specialist assessments, consultation, research, training and a national helpline at the Michael Palin Centre.

16. Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

	Restricted Funds 2021	Unrestricted Funds 2021	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	592,000	592,000
Current assets	144,567	511,760	656,327
Creditors due within one year	(54,494)	(20,941)	(75,435)
	<u>90,073</u>	<u>1,082,819</u>	<u>1,172,892</u>

Prior Year - Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

	Restricted Funds 2020	Unrestricted Funds 2020	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	592,000	592,000
Current assets	74,750	434,765	509,515
Creditors due within one year	-	(101,860)	(101,860)
	<u>74,750</u>	<u>924,905</u>	<u>999,655</u>

17. Financial Commitments

	2021	2020
	£	£
NHS Whittington Health	-	180,000

The Charity commissions an expert speech and language service for children and young people from NHS Whittington Health. Whilst there is no commitment as at 31 March 2021 there is an agreement to pay £300,000 for the year ended 31 March 2022 should finances allow.

18. Related Parties

There were no related party transactions that require disclosure.

Reference and Administrative Details of The Charity, its Trustees and Advisers

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Trustees	<p>Joanna Hunter (Chair - retired 1 April 2021)</p> <p>Jane Roberts (joined January 2021 and appointed Chair April 2021)</p> <p>David Broom (Honorary Treasurer - appointed Vice Chair May 2020)</p> <p>Will Evans (Company Secretary - retired January 2021)</p> <p>Jessica Robinson – (Company Secretary from April 2021 - stepped down September 2021)</p> <p>Samira Ahmed</p> <p>Balshen Izzet</p> <p>Vicky Slonims</p> <p>Anne Whateley</p> <p>Richard Murray (joined April 2020)</p> <p>Arthur Hughes Hallett (retired December 2020)</p> <p>Oliver Rawlins (retired May 2020)</p> <p>Anya Paul (joined September 2021)</p>
Company Registered Number	2328627
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 Steven Gauge
Registered Office	<p>Action for Stammering Children</p> <p>Michael Palin Centre for Stammering Children</p> <p>13-15 Pine Street</p> <p>London</p> <p>EC1R 0JG</p>
Independent Examiners	<p>Price Bailey LLP</p> <p>Chartered Accountants</p> <p>Causeway House</p> <p>1 Dane Street</p> <p>Bishop's Stortford</p> <p>Hertfordshire</p> <p>CM23 3BT</p>
Bankers	<p>Lloyds</p> <p>Pall Mall St James's</p> <p>London</p> <p>SW1Y 4BE</p>



I believe in this reality
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Despite the lockdown, our Trustees, Youth Panel and colleagues at the Michael Palin Centre completed a 2.6 challenge to raise vital funds for the Charity.



Action for Stammering Children
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Charity Number: 801171

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