



**SMART PLAY NETWORK**  
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**TRUSTEES' REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**For the year ended 31 March 2024**



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(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

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**SMART PLAY NETWORK**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**REFERENCE and ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

<b>Name of charity:</b>	Smart Play Network
<b>Scottish Charity Number</b>	SC042505
<b>Company Number</b>	SC401334
<b>Board of Trustees (Directors)</b>	Michelle Davitt (Chair) (Resigned 26 <sup>th</sup> June 2023) Iain Highley (Treasurer) Deborah Jans (Appointed Chair 26 <sup>th</sup> June 2023) Kat Fox Laura McLaren Matthew Williams Eliza Lam Lynne Moyes (Appointed 26 <sup>th</sup> June 2023, Resigned 12 <sup>th</sup> March 2024) Catherine Ilett (Appointed 11 <sup>th</sup> March 2024) Sinead Thomas (Appointed 11 <sup>th</sup> March 2024)
<b>Chief Executive Officer</b>	Lesley Fox
<b>Registered office and principal address</b>	Unit 40, Castlebrae Business Centre Peffer Place Edinburgh EH16 4BB  Telephone: 0131 554 2620 Website: <a href="http://www.smartplaynetwork.org">www.smartplaynetwork.org</a>
<b>Bankers</b>	The Co-operative Bank plc                      CAF Bank Ltd  PO Box 250    25 Kings Hill Avenue Delf House    Kings Hill Southway    West Malling Skelmersdale    Kent WN8 6WT    ME19 4JQ
<b>Solicitors</b>	Morton Fraser MacRonberts LLP Quatermile Two 2 Lister Square Edinburgh EH3 9GL
<b>Auditor</b>	Chiene + Tait LLP (trading as CT) Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor 61 Dublin Street Edinburgh EH3 6NL

## SMART PLAY NETWORK

### TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT For the year ended 31 March 2024

The Trustees (who are also the Directors of the company for the purposes of company law) present their Report together with the financial statements and the independent auditor's report for the year ended 31 March 2024.

#### Objectives and activities

Smart Play Network is established for the public benefit through supporting and aiding in the establishment and support of play and other services including but not limited to toy libraries, free play services and services providing resources for play for the purpose of:

- a. providing the best available play opportunities, toys and resources that reflect the cultural diversity of service users and that challenge gender, ethnic and disabled stereotypes;
- b. promoting the value and benefits of play in assisting the all-round development, wellbeing and health of children from birth, including disabled children and young people, those with additional support needs and those living in disadvantaged circumstances;
- c. promoting the social integration of disabled children and young people, those with additional support needs and those living in disadvantaged circumstances;
- d. supporting parents, carers and other agencies in giving children the best start in life;

all with a view to the prevention and relief of poverty, the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship and community development.

## Achievements and Performance

Smart Play Network is a membership organisation and also runs a number of direct delivery services for children, families and play practitioners.

#### Membership and Training Services

- Advice and support in setting up projects
- Guidance sheets with practical solutions for success
- Practical ideas for low-cost play activities
- One-to-one support via visits where possible
- Targeted information via email
- Workshops and Networking events
- Training in free play, play topics and topical workshops
- Online Engage Hub for training, networking and sharing of good practice
- The latest information on funding sources in Scotland
- A range of policy templates
- Support in monitoring and evaluation

Membership has continued to grow this year, welcoming 21 new groups and individuals bringing us to a total membership of 416. Targeted support was provided to 41 members directly, ranging from setting up a new project and all aspects of policy, people and funding, to supporting a group with their SEN provision and with reaching out to families traditionally difficult to engage with. We held five online networking events, two general play related, two for our toy library members and a new Play Ranger event. Attendees really appreciate a relaxed space to speak to others about challenges and developments and have engaged further for peer support out with our sessions. We have engaged with all members via monthly newsletters and targeted communications to different member types. This included information to schools on new opportunities for sustainable play practices and funding information for community led groups. Through our programmes of work across Scotland, we engaged with 20 additional groups that are also members of SPN. This allowed us to link our project work to our core work and get to know our members better offering tailored support. This work has included schools, community groups and Family Centres. Sessions ranged from workshops for practitioners on how to engage families in story telling, increasing parental engagement within a nursery, reaching out to vulnerable families and using our resources to support to attract families they had been finding difficult to engage with. We delivered 7 in person training courses (Fire skills, All Weather Play and Intro to Woodwork) - with 3 venues booking further sessions in to next year. Social media recorded a 36% increase in engagement, with 110 posts of relevant content to our members published across platforms. The most popular posts were around our training courses and low cost play ideas. Our face to face and online training continues to support our members with their practice introducing new ideas and courses on a regular basis. Our online Engage Hub, where members can find our e-learning courses and community groups on different settings, has attracted 211 new users.

## SMART PLAY NETWORK

### TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2024

## Play Services – Direct Delivery

### Play Plus Toy Library (PPTL)

The toy library continued to flourish with 74 sessions and 8 summer sessions being delivered. On average 15 families attended each twice weekly session and on average 10 families at each summer session. We continued to offer a safe, not threatening space for parents to meet others, support each other in their parenting and for children to experience new play opportunities and socialisation. From our surveys, 85% of families said that the toy library had increased their child's ability to mix with others and 80% said that it had encouraged more play at home. We have loaned an incredible 780 toys this year and 90% of parents surveyed told us that borrowing toys has resulted in a reduction of toy purchases supporting financial challenges. Support for parents has been a key driver following the difficult pandemic years. Many children who attend our sessions were born during the pandemic resulting in family isolation and delayed socialisation skills. 100% of families surveyed told us that they felt supported at the toy library and 80% said they had made new friends that they now see outside sessions.

### Smart Play Rangers

Play Rangers operated every Friday and faced a number of challenges due to our normal location being cordoned off for subsidence. Nevertheless, and through social media publicity, we were able to welcome 235 children across all our sessions to a variety of locations throughout the area. Over 80 sessions, 160 hours of community play took place encouraging local children to use their outdoor spaces, meet new friends and explore a range of activities and natural resources that they would not otherwise have accessed. Our outcome stars reported 100% of children who completed the feedback had a positive experience at our Play Rangers sessions (94% reported "excellent" and 6% reported "Good"). We believe this feedback captures the overall experience we have had delivering our Play Rangers programme, as all children and families who attended verbally tell us they really enjoyed our sessions, or this is obvious through observation of participation and the very smiley faces we see each week. We continued to have parents tell us that attending Play Ranger is the only time they feel safe allowing their children to play outside without parental supervision. Again, we see this ourselves as when our sessions finish, most of the younger children go straight home rather than continue playing outdoors. This tells us that many children are only accessing outdoor play opportunities in their community when we are there for Play Rangers sessions.

### PlayTalkRead

This year, we were funded for the PlayTalkRead roadshow and our Pathways Through Play programme. This demonstrates the confidence of the Scottish Government in our ability to support families and practitioners for not just our standard delivery, but the impactful Pathways work on the development of speech and language in the early years. Some key highlights of our delivery;

- **388** booked family sessions at **82** locations covering 22 Local Authorities.
- **280** hours of drop-in sessions at **50** locations covering **10** Local Authorities.  
**19** events in **9** Local Authorities
- **11** Practitioner workshops in **11** locations covering **10** Local Authorities with **127** Practitioners.
- Increase our social media followers by over **4,000** people and **double** our reach to nearly **500,000** accounts.
- Engage with **4759** families comprising **6,454** children and **5,862** parents at our sessions.
- Gift a play activity pack to every family that attended one of our sessions with resources and ideas for continued playing, talking and reading at home.
- Promote the benefits and ethos of PTR to professionals in all authorities we have engaged with and to the wider play sector through the Scottish Play Council Forum.
- Work with **100** partners to reach families who need us most.
- **98%** of families who completed our survey stated that they had been given new ideas for activities to do with their child at home.
- **89%** of our family play sessions took place in areas within SIMD decile **1-5** areas. In Q4 all sessions took place in SIMD decile **1-3** areas.

## SMART PLAY NETWORK

### TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

And from our **Pathways Through Play programme**;

- Reach **2,920** children, **1,765** parents, **1,649** families and **446** practitioners.
- Deliver sessions in **27** local authorities, including **10** of the 11 priority SIMD areas.
- Deliver **442** sessions in **100** different venues.
- Work with **109** partner organisations and ELC's and develop working partnerships with Scottish Book Trust, the Family Nurse Partnership and Dolly Parton's Imagination Library.
- **96%** of parents asked, strongly agree that our sessions are a chance for them and their child to play together.
- **100%** of those asked strongly agree that sessions gave them new activity ideas that they would try at home.
- **90%** of those asked strongly agree that their child experienced something new at our sessions.
- **93%** of those asked strongly agree that our sessions help to develop their child's speech, language and communication.
- **94%** of practitioners strongly agree that our sessions gave them confidence to use simple play activities to help develop SLC.
- Gift a play activity pack to every family that attended one of our sessions with resources and ideas for continued playing, talking and reading at home.

Organisational development has been a key focus this year and has included the revamp of our Lamplight database, consultancy on a new website design and all policies and procedures being reviewed and updated. Staff have carried out a range of training, both in house and externally and have continued to be able to access our Employee assist programme. We held a fantastic staff away day in September 2023 with a day of activities, food and a brilliant session on organisational values. We had a further development day for staff on Evaluation facilitated by Evaluation Support Scotland. This was really helpful for staff to link our values to our work and, to understand the importance of being able to demonstrate impact for job fulfilment and for reporting and the development of new work streams.

#### **Financial review**

The financial results are set out on pages 13 - 23.

Total income in the General Fund increased from £149,250 in the previous year to £152,716. Investment income in the General Fund was £9,964 compared with £3,475 in 2023.

Restricted Fund income and expenditure by fund is shown in Note 13. Total restricted income amounted to £639,919 (2023: £739,438).

The total cost of charitable activities was £780,871 compared to an amount of £785,064 spent in 2023.

The overall financial position remains healthy with net funds being £651,782 at 31 March 2024 (2023: £640,018). Of this £269,630 (2023: £257,612) is attributable to the unrestricted funds and £382,152 (2023: £382,406) to restricted funds. Of the £269,630 (2023: £257,612) unrestricted funds, £63,201 (2023: £74,217) relates to designated funds as outlined in notes 13.

#### Policy on reserves

In the Trustees view, the reserves should provide the charity with adequate financial stability and the means for it to meet its charitable objectives for the foreseeable future.

The Trustees feel that an appropriate level of reserves should equate to approximately 12 months of overheads (core running costs). The current free reserves of the charity are £206,429 (2023: £183,395). This represents just over 11.5 months of projected core running costs based on our planned budgets for 2024/2025. The trustees review the amount of reserves that are required to ensure that they are adequate to fulfil the charity's continuing obligations on a quarterly basis.

The trustees have adopted a moderate approach to risk in the investment of the charity's fund with reserves being invested in cash.

#### Risk management/assessment

The trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which the charity faces and confirm that systems and procedures have been put in place to lessen and closely monitor these risks. Our Risk Register is examined and updated quarterly at Trustee meetings. Funding decisions this year was a cause for concern with delay after delay in the news. We focussed in part on some minor risks around our accommodation and lack of facilities, but these were easily mitigated or solved. The mental health and wellbeing of staff remains high on our priorities and Trustees monitor our programme of benefits to support our staff to enjoy a better work life balance.

## SMART PLAY NETWORK

### TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

#### Plans for future periods

The Core Outcomes for our work in 2024/2025 are set out below;

- **Our members have increased ability to develop and deliver sustainable, quality, and inclusive play opportunities.**
- **Children have access to more play opportunities and can exercise their right to play.**
- **The wider children's sector including policy, communities and practitioners has an increased understanding of the role of play in children's health, wellbeing, and development, and have access to models of good practice.**

We were informed by the Scottish Government at the end of March 24 that all existing organisations who were previously funded through the CYPEIF would have their funding rolled over at the current level until March 25. This therefore excluded us from the process of the application to the Children and Young Peoples Families fund alongside other third sector applicants. We will therefore re-evaluate early in the 24/25 financial year what activities we will be able to deliver but this is likely to be similar to this past year, with an emphasis on strengthening existing core services for members. It is anticipated that a grant application process for core funding from the Scottish Government will open in the summer / autumn of 2024 for either a 1, 2 or 3 year funding round.

We have been awarded funding from April 2024 to March 2027 for a new programme of delivery in Fife. This will see the re-surface of our popular Play On Wheels title and branding. This funding, from the National Lottery fund, will focus on supporting parents of very young children and even pre-birth. We will develop and deliver a play-based programme of activities in the most disadvantaged areas of Fife, helping parents of young children to increase their confidence in supporting their child's wellbeing and developmental needs in their early years. We will use our extensive network of contacts to engage with the families most in need of support. Parents will be offered a menu of activities focusing on the importance of early interaction and stimulation through play. We will work with early years practitioners and other key people, to share and embed these messages. Alongside our practical sessions, we will develop accessible information and resources which will support families during and beyond our engagement. We will be available for ongoing practitioner support as well as delivering practitioner workshops, to ensure consistent messages and learning between families and practitioners in their community.

In general, we will continue to grow all areas of the organisation from membership through to delivery programmes. Staff challenges in relation to recruitment will be key to overcome which will be difficult with the increasing drive to raise salaries to a level in keeping with the valuable work of our staff. Our standards will remain high, in relation to our policy development, employment practices and staff support.

We are planning a number of new training programmes, a new and improved website and alongside this a new style guide for recognisable branding and consistency across all media and documentation. We will also develop our internal processes for evaluation with the utilisation of an enhanced organisational database.

#### **Governance**

We have been fortunate to recruit new Trustees this year, bringing an excellent range of skills and experience. The new Appointments Committee has proven effective in supporting new Trustees and having initial conversations with potential Trustees to recommend to the wider Board.

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Trustees and the Chief Executive. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity during the year, including Employers National Insurance contributions, was £45,606 (2023: £44,068).

#### **Structure, Governance and Management**

The charity is a charitable company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1. The company is registered in Scotland. The company is governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association and was registered with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) on 10 August 2011 under charity number SC042505.

#### **The Board of Trustees**

The minimum number of trustees is three and the maximum number is ten.

## **SMART PLAY NETWORK**

### **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)**

#### **For the year ended 31 March 2024**

The Board of Trustees may co-op trustees as an addition to the board or if any elected Trustee retires or is otherwise unable to continue as a Trustee providing the maximum number of Trustees is not exceeded. Following their initial appointment, each trustee will serve for the period until the next anniversary date and will then retire but be eligible for re-election. Members may serve on the Board of Trustees for a maximum of two consecutive terms and must then stand down for a minimum of one year before being eligible for re-election.

The trustees who have served during the period under review are set out on page 1.

#### **Trustee induction and training**

When appointed, new trustees are provided with an information pack containing copies of the governing documents, annual report, strategic plan and other supporting papers. Training on specific topics is made available as required. A full induction follows including meeting our treasurer to explain finances and visits to projects if required.

#### **Trustee meetings**

The trustees meet every three months and ad-hoc as required.

#### **Volunteers**

Volunteers have provided valuable assistance in a number of areas of our work. Smart Play Network benefits from a number of short and long-term volunteers within our project settings. The Trustees very much appreciate the valuable contribution our volunteers make.

#### **Protection of Vulnerable Groups Act Scotland 2007**

The Trustees of Smart Play Network take their responsibilities seriously regarding the above act and have robust procedures and policies in place. We carry out PVG scheme checks on all our staff and volunteers working regularly with children and ensure that we keep up to date with changes in legislation.

#### **Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

Company Law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing those 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 2015 (FRS 102);
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

#### **Statement as to disclosure to our auditors**

In accordance with company law, as the company's directors, the Trustees have confirmed that:

- so far as they are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware; and
- as the Trustees of the company they have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.



**SMART PLAY NETWORK**

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

**Auditors**

Trustees agreed to reappoint CT, Chartered Accountants, as auditors at the meeting of the Board of Directors on 5 September 2024

This report, which has been prepared in accordance with the provisions in the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies, was approved by the trustees on 5 September 2024 and signed on their behalf by:-



Deborah Jans  
Director / Trustee (Chair)



Iain Highley  
Director / Trustee (Treasurer)

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES AND MEMBERS OF SMART PLAY NETWORK



### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Smart Play Network (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheets and the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2024, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

### Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements, or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

### Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the trustees' annual report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- *the trustees' annual report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.*

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE  
TRUSTEES AND MEMBERS OF SMART PLAY NETWORK (continued)**



**Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' annual report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate and proper accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the directors' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

**Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

**Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

We have been appointed as auditor under section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and under the Companies Act 2006 and report in accordance with regulations made under those Acts.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- agreement of the financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- review of minutes of board meetings throughout the period;
- review of legal correspondence or invoices;
- obtaining an understanding of the control environment in monitoring compliance with laws and regulations, and
- performing testing over the completeness of grant income during the year.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE  
TRUSTEES AND MEMBERS OF SMART PLAY NETWORK (continued)**

**CT:**

**Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006, and to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Regulation 10 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members and trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company, the charitable company's members as a body and the charitable company's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Jeremy M Chittleburgh CA (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
For and on behalf of CT  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor  
61 Dublin Street  
Edinburgh  
EH3 6NL

Date: 06 September 2024

*CT is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.*

**SMART PLAY NETWORK****STATEMENT of FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
(including Income and Expenditure Account)  
For the year ended 31 March 2024**

	Notes	Un- Restricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total Funds £	Un- restricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
<b>Income from:</b>							
Donations and legacies	3	658	-	658	515	-	515
Charitable activities	3	137,594	639,919	777,513	145,260	739,438	884,698
Investments		9,964	-	9,964	3,475	-	3,475
Other income		4,500	-	4,500	-	-	-
<b>Total income</b>		152,716	639,919	792,635	149,250	739,438	888,688
<b>Expenditure on:</b>							
Charitable activities	4	139,765	641,106	780,871	124,921	660,143	785,064
<b>Total expenditure</b>		139,765	641,106	780,871	124,921	660,143	785,064
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		12,951	(1,187)	11,764	24,329	79,295	103,624
Transfers between funds	13	(933)	933	-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		12,018	(254)	11,764	24,329	79,295	103,624
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>							
Total funds brought forward		257,612	382,406	640,018	233,283	303,111	536,394
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		269,630	382,152	651,782	257,612	382,406	640,018


The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 16 to 23 form part of these financial statements.

**SMART PLAY NETWORK****BALANCE SHEET**  
**As at 31 March 2024**

	Notes	£	2024 £	£	2023 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	10		51,278		50,859
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	11	25,896		42,572	
Cash at bank and in hand		608,098		578,464	
		-----		-----	
		633,994		621,036	
<b>Liabilities: amounts due within one year</b>	12	(33,490)		(31,877)	
		-----		-----	
Net current assets			600,504		589,159
			-----		-----
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			651,782		640,018
			-----		-----
<b>Net assets</b>			651,782		640,018
			=====		=====
<b>The funds of the charity:</b>					
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General Fund	13		206,429		183,395
Designated Funds	13		63,201		74,217
			-----		-----
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>			269,630		257,612
<b>Restricted funds</b>	13		382,152		382,406
			-----		-----
<b>Total charity funds</b>			651,782		640,018
			=====		=====

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 5 September 2024, and are signed on their behalf by:



Deborah Jans  
Director / Trustee (Chair)



Iain Highley  
Director / Trustee (Treasurer)

The notes on pages 16 to 23 form part of these financial statements.

**SMART PLAY NETWORK**

**STATEMENT of CASH FLOW**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

	<b>Notes</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
		£	£
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Cash provided by operations	17	42,638	121,866
<b>Investing activities</b>			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(27,468)	(29,485)
Proceeds on disposal of fixed asset investment		4,500	-
Interest received		9,964	3,475
		-----	-----
<b>Net cash generated from investing activities</b>		(13,004)	(26,010)
		-----	-----
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>		29,634	95,856
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		578,464	482,608
		-----	-----
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>		608,098	578,464
		=====	=====

**Analysis of changes in net debt**

	<b>At the start</b>	<b>Cash</b>	<b>At</b>
	<b>of the year</b>	<b>Flows</b>	<b>Year-End</b>
	£	£	£
Cash	578,464	29,634	608,098
	=====	=====	=====

The notes on pages 16 to 23 form part of these financial statements.

## SMART PLAY NETWORK

### NOTES to the ACCOUNTS For the year ended 31 March 2024

#### 1. Company information

Smart Play Network is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in Scotland with registered company number SC401334. The registered office is Unit 40, Castlebrae Business Centre, Pepper Place, Edinburgh EH16 4BB. The financial statements have been presented in Pounds Sterling as this is the functional and presentational currency of the charity.

#### 2. Accounting Policies

##### Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to the financial statements. They have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities and Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended), the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the requirements of the SORP 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice for charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Updated – October 2019).

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

##### Going Concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The trustees have assessed the charity's ability to continue as a going concern and have reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing these financial statements and consider that there are no material uncertainties relating to going concern. The Trustees have additionally addressed going concern in light of economic challenges and do not consider that it affects the company's ability to continue as a going concern.

##### Income

###### Grants receivable

Grants received, including capital grants, are reflected in the Statement of Financial Activities when relevant conditions for entitlement have been met, it is probable they will be received, and the amounts can be quantified with sufficient reliability. Where donors specify that grants are for particular purposes, this income is included in incoming resources within restricted funds when receivable. Where grants are specifically made for the performance of charitable activities in a period subsequent to the year-end they are deferred and excluded from the Statement of Financial Activities.

###### Donations, legacies and similar income

Donations, legacies and similar income is included in the year in which it is receivable, which is when the charity becomes entitled to the income, it is probable that it will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

###### Investment income

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

##### Governance costs

Governance costs comprise those costs which involve public accountability of the charity, its compliance with regulation and good practice.

##### Expenditure

All expenditure is included on an accruals basis and is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay for expenditure. All costs have been directly attributed to one of the functional categories of resources expended in the Statement of Financial Activities, with the exception of support costs which have been allocated to activities in proportion to estimated usage of the resources during the year. Costs of charitable activities consist of those applied by the charity in meeting its charitable objectives. Within support costs are governance costs, which include the costs of general governance of the charity as opposed to direct management inherent in meeting charitable objectives, and are those associated with strategic, constitutional and statutory requirements.



**SMART PLAY NETWORK****NOTES to the ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024****2. Accounting Policies (continued)****Tangible Fixed Assets**

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost over £1,000.

They are initially capitalised at cost, plus any incidental costs of acquisition.

**Depreciation**

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost, less any estimated residual value, over the useful expected life of the asset as follows:

Motor vehicles – 25% per annum  
Equipment – 25% per annum

**Fund Accounting****Unrestricted funds**

Unrestricted funds are grants, donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes of the organisation. They can be used at the discretion of the trustees for any of the charity's purposes.

**Designated funds**

Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which have been earmarked or set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. For Smart Play Network, the designated fixed asset fund holds the value of unrestricted fixed assets.

**Restricted funds**

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the object of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund held by the charity is included in note 16.

**Pension**

Pension contributions are made to an approved defined contribution pension scheme. These are charged to the Statement of Financial Activity in the year in which they are incurred.

**Taxation**

Smart Play Network is a registered Scottish charity exempt from corporation tax on income and gains applied to charitable purposes.

The charity is not registered for Value Added Tax and, accordingly, expenditure is shown gross of irrecoverable VAT.

**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.

**Operating leases**

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

**Debtors**

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

**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.

**Creditors**

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the company has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle an obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

## SMART PLAY NETWORK

NOTES to the ACCOUNTS (continued)  
For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
<b>3. Analysis of Donations and Legacies and Charitable Activities Income</b>				
<b>Donations and legacies</b>				
Donations	222	-	222	107
Subscriptions	436	-	436	408
<b>Total donations and legacies</b>	<b>658</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>658</b>	<b>515</b>
<b>Charitable activities</b>				
Membership and training	4,518	-	4,518	7,953
Grants - The Scottish Government (PTR)	32,140	612,860	645,000	704,000
- The Scottish Government (ICF)	-	-	-	45,435
- The Corra Foundation (General)	97,650	-	97,650	97,650
- Other grants	3,286	27,059	30,345	29,660
<b>Total charitable activities</b>	<b>137,594</b>	<b>639,919</b>	<b>777,513</b>	<b>884,698</b>
<b>4. Analysis of Charitable Activities Expenditure</b>				
	Direct Costs £	Support Costs £	2024 Total Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
Delivery of play services	573,891	172,215	746,106	751,030
Membership and training	676	34,089	34,765	34,034
<b>Total charitable activity</b>	<b>574,567</b>	<b>206,304</b>	<b>780,871</b>	<b>785,064</b>
<b>Total charitable activity</b>				
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
<b>Total charitable activity</b>	<b>139,765</b>	<b>641,106</b>	<b>780,871</b>	<b>785,064</b>
<b>5. Analysis of Governance Costs</b>				
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
Trustee meetings	-	-	-	178
Professional and other fees	114	-	114	150
Audit fee	-	8,100	8,100	6,870
<b>Total governance costs</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>8,100</b>	<b>8,214</b>	<b>7,198</b>

**SMART PLAY NETWORK****NOTES to the ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

<b>6. Support Costs</b>	<b>Delivery of Play Services</b>	<b>Membership and Training</b>	<b>2024 Total Funds</b>	<b>2023 Total Funds</b>
	£	£	£	£
Governance	7,803	411	8,214	7,198
Salaries	136,211	29,670	165,881	151,168
Staff costs	4,384	231	4,615	2,582
Premises	9,074	478	9,552	9,098
Office & IT	6,947	366	7,313	4,549
Vehicle costs	505	505	1,010	1,501
Professional & freelance fees	2,440	128	2,568	3,288
Depreciation	4,423	2,278	6,701	6,710
Other support costs	428	22	450	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	172,215	34,089	206,304	186,094
	=====	=====	=====	=====

**7. Net income**

This is stated after charging:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£	£
Rentals payable in respect of operating leases - land and buildings	15,888	15,888
	=====	=====

**8. Trustee Remuneration, Benefits and Expenses**

None of the trustees received any remuneration (2023: Nil).

No trustees (2023: one trustee) received reimbursement of expenses (2023: £80) incurred in attending trustee meetings.

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Trustees and the Chief Executive. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity during the year, including Employers National Insurance contributions, were £45,606 (2023: £44,068).

**9. Staff Costs and Emoluments**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£	£
<b>Salary costs</b>		
Gross salaries	480,613	479,259
Employer pension contribution	9,546	8,445
Employer's national insurance	33,809	34,658
	-----	-----
<b>Total</b>	523,968	522,362
	=====	=====

**Average headcount**

	<b>No.</b>	<b>No.</b>
Management	3	3
Administration/finance	4	3
Projects	17	19
	-----	-----
<b>Total</b>	24	25
	=====	=====

No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000 (2023: Nil).

**SMART PLAY NETWORK****NOTES to the ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

<b>10. Tangible fixed assets</b>	<b>Vehicles</b>	<b>Equipment</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
<b>Cost</b>			
At beginning of the year	220,759	28,155	248,914
Additions	25,070	2,398	27,468
Disposals	(11,000)	-	(11,000)
	-----	-----	-----
At end of the year	234,829	30,553	265,382
	-----	-----	-----
<b>Depreciation</b>			
At beginning of the year	177,241	20,814	198,055
Depreciation	21,432	5,617	27,049
Disposals	(11,000)	-	(11,000)
	-----	-----	-----
At end of the year	187,673	26,431	214,104
	-----	-----	-----
<b>Net book value</b>			
At beginning of the year	43,518	7,341	50,859
	=====	=====	=====
At end of the year	47,156	4,122	51,278
	=====	=====	=====
 <b>11. Debtors</b>		<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
		£	£
Fees owed		489	650
Advance expenses		350	350
Prepayments and accrued income		23,969	41,572
Other debtors		1,088	-
		-----	-----
<b>Total debtors</b>		25,896	42,572
		=====	=====
 <b>12. Creditors</b>		<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
		£	£
Taxation and social security		8,495	8,844
Accruals and deferred income		14,201	14,152
Other creditors		10,794	8,881
		-----	-----
<b>Total creditors</b>		33,490	31,877
		=====	=====

**SMART PLAY NETWORK****NOTES to the ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

	<b>Balance at 31 March 2023</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Transfers</b>	<b>Balance at 31 March 2024</b>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>13. Fund Movements</b>					
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
CFG	6,703	14,170	(21,297)	424	-
PTR	372,345	612,860	(606,333)	-	378,872
ICF	(509)	-	-	509	-
OCP	3,867	12,889	(13,476)	-	3,280
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	382,406	639,919	(641,106)	933	382,152
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General Fund	183,395	152,716	(128,749)	(933)	206,429
Designated Fixed Asset Fund	22,688	-	(9,481)	-	13,207
Designated Events & Business Planning Fund	6,529	-	(644)	-	5,885
Designated Project Costs Fund	45,000	-	(891)	-	44,109
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	257,612	152,716	(139,765)	(933)	269,630
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
<b>Total funds</b>	640,018	792,635	(780,871)	-	651,782
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

	<b>Balance at 31 March 2022</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Transfers</b>	<b>Balance at 31 March 2023</b>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
CFG	6,230	14,170	(13,697)	-	6,703
PTR	289,913	671,079	(588,647)	-	372,345
ICF	4,218	42,299	(47,026)	-	(509)
OCP	2,750	11,890	(10,773)	-	3,867
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	303,111	739,438	(660,143)	-	382,406
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General Fund	154,951	149,250	(105,167)	(15,639)	183,395
Designated Fixed Asset Fund	32,211	-	(9,523)	-	22,688
Designated Events & Business Planning Fund	7,016	-	(487)	-	6,529
Designated IT Fund	5,000	-	(720)	(4,280)	-
Designated Project Costs Fund	25,000	-	-	20,000	45,000
Designated T&M Co-ordinator Fund	9,105	-	(9,024)	(81)	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	233,283	149,250	(124,921)	-	257,612
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
<b>Total funds</b>	536,394	888,688	(785,064)	-	640,018
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

**SMART PLAY NETWORK****NOTES to the ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

<b>14. Analysis of net assets between funds</b>	<b>Un- Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>2024</b>
	£	£	£
Fixed assets	13,207	38,071	51,278
Current assets	261,171	372,823	633,994
Current liabilities	(4,748)	(28,742)	(33,490)
	-----	-----	-----
	269,630	382,152	651,782
	=====	=====	=====

	<b>Un- Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£	£	£
Fixed assets	22,688	28,171	50,859
Current assets	239,630	381,406	621,036
Current liabilities	(4706)	(27,171)	(31,877)
	-----	-----	-----
	257,612	382,406	640,018
	=====	=====	=====

**15. Transfers Between Funds**

There were transfers during the year from the General Fund of £424 and £509 to CFG and ICF Funds respectively to clear the deficits on the closure of these funds.

**16. Funds**

- The **CFG** fund represents funding provided by Edinburgh City Council, Communities and Families fund for delivering our Play Plus Toy Library project from 1 September 2020 for 3 years.
- The **PTR** fund represents funding provided by the Scottish Government to deliver the roadshow element of their PlayTalkRead campaign. This funding is reviewed annually with the current grant remaining until the end of March 2023. This has now been extended to the end of March 2024.
- The **ICF** fund represents funding provided by the Scottish Government for the Our Place and Space project from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2023.
- The **OCP** fund represents funding from Inspiring Scotland from the Organised Outdoor Community Play fund to deliver our Play Rangers project from 1 August 2020 to 31 March 21 with a new round of funding agreed (July 21) until the 31 March 2023. This has now been extended until 31 March 2024.

**SMART PLAY NETWORK****NOTES to the ACCOUNTS (continued)**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024****16. Funds (continued)****Designated Funds**

The **Designated Fixed Asset Fund** was set up in 2015 to hold the value of the fixed assets which were previously held in the General Fund.

The **Designated Events and Business Planning Fund** was originally set up by the Trustees to cover the costs of consultancy, business planning and planned events. This year, Trustees identified further purposes for the balance of this fund which was to support our presence at the International Play Association conference in Glasgow and plan an away day for staff. In addition, funds were earmarked for promotional materials for conferences and events.

The **Designated IT Fund** was set up by the Trustees to engage a company to evaluate and provide a solution to our increasing problem of networking between offices and storing files and data securely. This has been taken forward this year to migrating all our staff, email hosting and files to Microsoft 365. This fund was closed in March 23 with the balance being transferred back to General Fund.

The **Designated Project Costs Fund** was set up by the Trustees to cover project costs funding gaps and provide for exit strategies of existing projects. Additional funds were added to this to support a known gap in the funding of our Fife work which gave us time to develop a new programme and secure funding for 2024/2027.

The **Designated T&M Co-ordinator Fund** was set up by the Trustees to fund the salary and expenses of the Training and Membership Co-ordinator not covered by core funding for the period of April 2021 to March 2023. This fund was closed in March 23 with the balance being transferred back to General Fund.

**General Funds**

The **General** fund represents the funds which are available for the general purposes of the charity. These funds will be spent in whichever way that the Board of Trustees sees fit in accordance with the stated objectives of the charity

**17. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£	£
Net movement in funds	11,764	103,624
Add back depreciation charge	27,049	41,898
Less gain on disposal of fixed assets	(4,500)	-
Deduct interest income and rental income shown in investing activities	(9,964)	(3,475)
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	16,676	(19,913)
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors	1,613	(268)
	-----	-----
Net cash provided by operating activities	42,638	121,866
	=====	=====

**18. Operating Lease Commitments**

The charity has commitments for the total of future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases in respect of property, IT equipment and vehicles as follows:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£	£
Leases expiring in:		
Less than 1 year	1,324	1,324

**19. Related Party Transactions**

The charity undertook no transactions with related parties during the year (2023: Nil).

The Trustees of Smart Play Network acknowledge the generous support of:

