



Report & Accounts

for the year ended

31/03/2020

Contents

Charity information

Trustees Report for the year ended 31 March 2020

Our objectives

Meeting our objectives

Plans for 2020-21

Accounting Controls

Independent Examiner's Report

Statement of financial activities

Appendix 1 | Members and affiliates

Charity information

The UK Council on Deafness is a company limited by guarantee registered under number 2922584 on 25 April 1994. It is also a registered charity under number 1038448. It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

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Charity Number

1038448

Company Number

2922584

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Staff
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Examiner

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Bristol
BS16 1GW

Trustees Report for the year ended 31 March 2020

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report together with the accounts of the Council for the year ended 31 March 2020. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report and a directors' report under company law. The financial statements of the charity are prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP revised 2015), and the Companies Act 2006.

UK Council on Deafness

The UK Council on Deafness is a company limited by guarantee registered under number 2922584 on 25 April 1994. It is also a registered charity under number 1038448. It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Membership of the Board

Nine trustees are elected at the Annual General Meeting for periods of three years (maximum six years). The Board has the power to appoint for periods of three years (maximum six years) a further three Trustees. The Trustees have the powers and obligations of directors under the Companies Act 2006.

The people who served as Trustees during the year were

- Jason Barnett (completed the maximum of 6 years 27th November)
- Valerie Copenhagen (completed her 3 year term 12th November)
- Craig Crowley (near 5 years to 23rd October)
- Jill Jones
- Tom Lichy
- Ralph Nattress
- Simon Pearse
- Sheila Sirco
- Mary Sorene
- James Watson-O'Neill (Near 3 years to 20th October)
- David Welbourn (Near 3 years 24th September)

The following acted as advisors to the board

- Prof Bencie Woll
- Michael Quinlan

Our objectives

The Trustees confirm they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Council's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

In accordance with the Charities Act, our charitable purposes include:

Liaising with government and large corporations on behalf of our Members to improve services for the D/deaf community;

Improving and extending co-operation between member organisations in promoting and representing the interests of Deaf, deafened, Deafblind and hard-of-hearing people;

Providing a forum for debate and a focus for action on deaf issues;

Promoting understanding and acceptance of the different perspectives on issues connected with deafness; and

Working together to achieve change on matters of shared concern.

Meeting our objectives

This year we have pursued our objectives by:

Supporting work arising from the sector's agreement of a common purpose;

Supporting the All Party Parliamentary Group on Deafness;

Supporting special interest groups on:

Deaf access to communications who cover a wide range of communications and broadcasting issues and liaise particularly with Ofcom and BT

Employment who largely focus on DWP activities particularly Access to Work

The BSL Act Group specifically focussed on bringing about a parliamentary Act to bring to fruition the many unfulfilled resolutions passed over the years.

Promoting Deaf Awareness Week; and

Hosting a conference courtesy of BT at BT Centre

All Party Parliamentary Group on Deafness

UKCoD continued to provide the Secretariat to the All Party Parliament Group on Deafness – a forum through which supportive MP and Peers come together to work together to seek changes in public policy.

The Secretariat worked hard and successfully to bring about a parliamentary debate on deafness in May 2019.

There have been many resolutions regarding BSL but after many years it was placed on record that the extent to which Deaf people are denied their civil rights is shocking. There appeared to be confusion which Department would lead on legal recognition of British Sign Language. Support was expressed for strengthening the role of British Sign Language. However we know there is a lack of real attention to the needs of BSL users in many public departments particularly in the NHS. Statutory services available to BSL users was reported as getting progressively worse.

Further work of the APPG in 2019 /20 was interrupted by elections and The Secretariat was only able restart with the appointment of Lillian Greenwood as the new Chair of the APPG for deafness in July 2020.

We thank RNID for their support and Rob Geaney and Essie MacEyeson for all their hard work in the Secretariat. The Board will be working to help them source material on deaf issues likely warrant attendance at APPG meetings for consideration as future potential issues for future APPG meetings by Lillian Greenwood. There are many weaknesses and shortfalls in services needed by the deaf community exposed by the pandemic. However we have to recognise we have to compete for attention with many other demands on the time and attention of MPs. We recognise the importance of MPs being able to promote attention of Ministers and challenge shortfalls.

Deaf Access to Communications

The Deaf Access to Communications special interest group (DAC) was established to build on the work of the Telecommunications Action Group. It focuses on securing equal access to electronic communications for deaf and deafblind people, including subtitling and telecommunications.

UKCoD Survey of Relay UK 2020

Following the New Generation Text Service (NGTS) survey in 2016 and extensive discussions with BT, they introduced Relay UK which does address some of the issues users had with NGTS-Lite the means of access for mobile phone users. We understand from users the Relay UK implementation raises further issues and a further survey is being carried out in December to provide the necessary evidence for Ofcom, and others that we will use to discuss necessary work by BT.

There is anecdotal evidence of issues but we need more quantitative and qualitative evidence if we are to address the issues with BT. We are carrying out a survey similar to the one carried out in 2016 which eventually resulted in BT creating a revised app. The 2020 Relay UK survey is now running aimed at identifying issues being experienced by users. This will run until the 17th January. The results will be published on 15th March and we will discuss the findings with BT, Ofcom and others, seeking changes where necessary or highlighting any shortfalls that require intervention by Ofcom or government initiative from DCMS.

Relay developments

We have sought a review of relay services as the Communication Act 2003 does not cover new technologies and other types of relay services. While Citizens Advice is put forward as replacing Consumer Communication Consumer Panel as an independent, experts-led body advising Ofcom and Government on best practice in telecommunications, UKCoD believes repeating the same set up and remit will not improve accessibility of telecommunications in the UK. For this reason, we are therefore calling for the Government to look closely a Disability Advisory Group modelled on the US Federal Communication Commission. We have written to the Secretary of State for DCMS regarding reviewing accessible communication services across the UK, to enable each particular group of deaf people to be able to obtain the appropriate relay service that meets their individual needs such as VRS and Captioned Telephone Relay Service.
Disability Advisory Group.

Captioned Telephone Relay Service (CTRS)

We believe many hard of hearing people don't use the existing text relay because it is too slow and cumbersome. DAC have been promoting the introduction of CTRS.

Video Relay Services (VRS)

While there are several companies operating VRS services they are in practice only available to BSL users in work through Access to Work (AtW). It is not therefore available out of working hours, or to the unemployed including young people not yet working and those who have retired. The lack of provision is exacerbated in the Covid pandemic. We wanted to contact the Chair of Select Committee in the House of Commons to raise the issue of deaf/hard of hearing people not being able to use the telephone appropriately during this pandemic and to seek help from APPG-D.

However, we have written to the Secretary of State at DCMS as first port of call and if his response is not satisfactory, we will proceed with the parliamentary route.

During this pandemic, problems from lack of a full VRS service have increased.

999VRS

We have been working with Ofcom since late 2019 on the introduction of an additional emergency service for BSL users to supplement the existing Relay UK and SMS emergency services.

We have just replied to a letter from Ofcom regarding the need to delay the implementation because of the need for further consultation required so they can be satisfied there is a sound basis for the proposed service. We welcomed Ofcom's continued commitment to the project and equivalence to existing emergency services regarding the importance of automatic location of the caller and recognised this will be potentially carried out differently and that there is a lot of implementation work required. We naturally look forward to the system being available as soon as possible and it is disappointing that there will be a delay.

Employment Group

During the year the group focussed on a number of issues but most prominently on the following:

1. Campaigning to sustain the raise on the cap to AtW budgets, with the support of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Deafness. Whilst government was not prepared to remove the cap, in April 2018 they raised it from 1.5 National Average Salary (NAS) £43,100 to 2 x NAS - £57,200. The cap is set to £60,700 to March 2021.
2. The work on the effective government AtW guidance, regarding the changing nature of employment, including: people having multiple part-time jobs, employment and self-employment blending, zero hours contracts, etc. This work is ongoing and set to take on more importance in the light of COVID19 challenges. We will rely on UKCoD to work in partnership with the Employment Group on this.
3. The work required for self-employed AtW customers is set to continue to clarify the Lower Earnings Limit (LEL) required for the customers to be able to make an AtW claim, as well as for company directors needing to pass the 1 year business viability test.

4. Work is ongoing regarding the inaccessibility of the Reconsideration and Complaints processes for deaf BSL users, and AtW have committed to produce information in BSL about these, and receive reconsideration requests and complaints in BSL.

5. DWP has started accepting email confirmation from the employers to enable customers to claim. If the claim is unpaid it is unclear who and where customers or providers should channel the queries. It remains to be worked on in the coming year because of the changes caused by COVID19.

6. Work will continue with problems and issues with AtW awards including work placements/experience/voluntary work, workplace assessments, interview applications follow up and application processes.

We expect work will emerge in other similar areas in 2021.

Regular Remote meetings for Members

Our regular Zoom meetings for members are proving popular. They address a variety of topics, typically problem areas members are having. Sometimes these are defined prior to the meeting and sometimes they are raised by members in the meeting. The meetings are supported by interpreters arranged to suit the needs of those attending. It is very informal and we encourage any members who might know more or be interested in attending future meeting to contact our Office Manager Clare on c.long@deafcouncil.org.uk

We are pleased to be able to bring to bear the wide range of experience available across UKCoD to help respond to the needs identified in the meetings. As an example, difficulties experienced with remote meetings by deaf participants. We are drawing together advice from the latest work by NADP and pulling forward findings from ITU (International Telegraphic Union) and Gallaudet University in the US. We will be publishing different levels of guidance to suit different types of user and different types of meeting.

BSL Act Group

In 2020 the Group has:

Developed a new Private Member's Bill – British Sign Language Bill

Met the House of Commons Clerk of Private Members Bill Unit to discuss our planned BSL Bill.

Presented a BSL Bill to the Members of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Deafness (APPGD) to seek their support and they wholeheartedly supported what we are doing and requested us to give more details at the next meeting.

Deaf Awareness Week

The aim and vision of Deaf Awareness Week is to encourage working with people who are deaf or have a hearing loss to make sure they have equal access to all aspects of society. Deaf Awareness Week in 2020 took place in May in which members of the UK Council on Deafness and others could unite and publicise their activities.

'Acquired deafness' was the theme for Deaf Awareness Week in 2020.

The week was well supported and campaigns launched during the week all providing valuable information and resources throughout the week, encouraging people to get together and share their knowledge amongst members and the public and giving support.

Conference

The conference began with a session focused on Talking to Government. Craig Crowley, Chair of UKCoD, led this session which included a presentation from Susan Daniels OBE, CEO National Deaf Children's Society who spoke about the progress that's been made and what it still has to do. Dr Jagjit Sethi, Specialist Advisor to the Chief Scientific Officer, NHS England, also gave a presentation outlining her role and the ways in which the NHS is beginning to change, particularly in preparing to deliver their new Long Term Plan.

Two of UKCoD's trustees, Valerie Copenhagen and Tom Lichy, gave an update on the new strategy that has been developed by the UKCoD Board and also announced 2020's Deaf Awareness Week with a theme being acquired deafness.

Will Hough and Carmen Suen gave a presentation on Deaf mental health nursing – the training available at Salford University and the positive advantages of working as a Deaf professional in the NHS.

Richard France spoke about his personal experiences and gave a "view from the psychiatric wards". His powerful story resonated strongly with everyone at the conference and he made the case very persuasively for Deaf-specialist services that really understand Deaf people and culture.

The final session of the conference was focused on Quality in Health and Social Care and began with a keynote presentation from Natalie Reed, Inspection Manager – Adult Social Care at the Care Quality Commission. After her presentation there was a lively question and answer session with Richard and Natalie, led by UKCoD trustee James Watson-O'Neill. Christopher Reid, Director of Operations, SignHealth and Tim Richardson, Deaf CAMHS/CAMHS also joined the panel for this session.

The Conference was generously supported by a number of sponsors – InterpreterNow, SignLive, SignHealth, Association of Lipspeakers and the Association of Verbatim Speech To Text Reporters and British Institute of Verbatim Reporters who also donated to the conference

Plans for 2021

We will continue to foster partnerships between members, partners, government and service providers. We will advocate for people who are deaf or have a hearing loss and influence the design and delivery of services.

APPG on Deafness

We will continue to support the APPG on Deafness and help it grow in size and influence. We will make sure our members have the opportunity to raise issues with Parliamentarians, and encourage Parliamentarians to raise them with government.

We will work with Parliamentarians to address:

Reform of Access to Work

- a. Delays to adjustments: To improve the effectiveness of the overall scheme – particularly in the area of Access to Work assessments.
- b. Assessments advisers are not always well-attuned to the needs of D/deaf being assessed, particularly young people entering the workforce for the first time. These occurrences may stem from the guidance for assessment providers. We are concerned that this wording could be misinterpreted by assessors to mean that no evidence or knowledge from the applicant should be taken into account.

Accessible TV, Subtitles on On-Demand

The APPG was crucial in helping to secure an amendment to the legislation which became the 2017 Digital Economy Act, the purpose of which was to allow Ministers to use secondary legislation to impose minimum levels of access to services (subtitles, audio description and signing) on on-demand TV. We need to maintain pressure on the Government to bring forward the secondary legislation and ensure that the recommendations from Ofcom are not weakened.

Promotion of Deaf Awareness and BSL

We will link with the activity of the BSL Act group to promote the introduction of a BSL Act.

We believe that we could progress a number of additional issues through the Chair, mostly by providing suggested correspondence to be sent to Ministers, these could include:

- Development of a BSL GCSE
- Making TV coverage of parliament more accessible
- Recognition and funding of the GB Deaflympics team

Employment Group

Employment Group (EG SIG) has an aim to support Deaf and Hard-of-hearing people in the employment issues that may have an impact on their job performance and employability.

EG SIG will naturally co-operate with all governments bodies and departments that may support Deaf people. One of the largest departments to support Deaf people is DWP. The two operational mechanisms that Deaf people rely on within the DWP are ATW and Specialist Employability Support (SES).

Data: Deaf people do not represent the largest group of the people supported by the DWP, but they are the largest spender of the funds. The ATW advisers have been at times apprehensive in dealing with Deaf people, we would like to improve their understanding and the relationship.

Initially we would like to cooperate with these departments on the following 5 current priorities:

Self-Employed and Work Trials

1) Self-employed Deaf people have been especially disadvantaged in these areas. AtW requires any new application to be accompanied by a business plan. Advisers may decline any self-employment award if, in their judgement, the plan is unlikely to have any prospect of becoming viable. The question is what qualifies the advisers to give a prophecy to a doomed business plan? What is the basis for their projection, except guesswork?

2) Another issue is a "Requalification".

This deems that any person who receives an award for AtW on a self-employed basis which is subsequently terminated because the business does not satisfy the viability test, may not re-qualify for another self-employment AtW award for a period of 5 years from the last application. We would like to have a review of this.

3) New Enterprise Allowance

This is often confused in ATW- we need a review of this area especially since this is an outsourced activity with little benefit to Deaf people, though we may need more data to check this properly.

i. Customers who started a New Enterprise Allowance (NEA) up to and including 31 December 2014 will continue to be eligible for AtW support during the mentoring phase of NEA.

ii. Customers who started NEA on or after 5 January 2015 are not be eligible for AtW support during the NEA mentoring phase.

The criteria for receiving AtW support will be decided by an AtW adviser.

4) Work placements where the AtW adviser will need additional information to make a decision on the application.

This must include one of the following:

- written confirmation of the placement between the customer and the employer offering the work experience placement; or
- evidence of paid work at the end of the work experience placement or soon after the end of the placement. For example within three months; or
- an offer of an interview for paid work at the end of the work experience placement.

5) Work Trials – need revision for Deaf people to include a CSW/BSL component instead of travel.

Deaf Access to Communications

Relay Services

We will continue to work with service providers, Ofcom and government to improve telecommunications for Deaf and Deafblind people. We will provide information to our members and the public about the services that are available and the standards they are expected to meet.

The Relay UK 2020 survey for which invitations have just been sent out will be open to participants until January 17th 2021. We plan to publish the results by March 17th 2021 and we will be discussing highlighted issues with BT. We plan to follow this survey with one focussed on BSL users and we will be starting work on it as soon as we have completed our analysis of the 2020 survey.

We will follow up our communication with the Secretary of State for the Department for digital, Communicatiom Media and Sport (DDCMS) regarding: Reviewing accessible communication services across the UK, to enable each particular group of deaf people to be able to obtain the appropriate relay service that meets their individual needs such as VRS and Captioned Telephone Relay Service.

999VRS

We will continue working with Ofcom on introduction of an additional emergency service for BSL users to supplement the existing voice, Relay UK and SMS emergency services.

Regular Remote meetings for Members

We will continue to hold regular Zoom meetings. Anyone interested in learning more about them or joining future meetings should contact our Office Manager Clare.

We will be publishing different levels of guidance for remote meetings to suit different types of user and different types of meeting.

BSL Act Group

Going forward, We plan to set-up four sub groups:

- (1) BSL Act Now Campaign Group;
 - (2) Evidence, Case Studies and Research Group;
 - (3) Media and Communication;
- and (4) Fundraising.

We will implement the BSL Act Now Campaign Group. Within this group we will recruit key campaigners to mobilise local Deaf and BSL communities to meet backbencher MPs. Additionally, they will have to find out whether they would be willing to take up a BSL Bill if their names are drawn out from the Bills Ballot Box in the top 10, preferably in the top 5. The Bills Ballot may happen around May 2021. Meanwhile the Evidence, Case Studies and Research Group will develop the documents that will help BSL Act Now campaigners to know how to address any key issues. They will be responsible for encouraging and educating MPs to realise the importance of us needing a BSL Act and they can outline why anti-BSL supporters don't want this. Also, they can capture key case studies that do not sufficiently work in conjunction with the current legislation, The Equality Act 2010.

Development of Policies

While our primary focus must be on meeting our primary purpose working to improve services for the deaf community on policy development that benefits people who are deaf or have a hearing loss, and promoting membership. We will be developing a number of policies that we believe are necessary to improve the operation and internal working of APPG.

Deaf Awareness Week

3-9 May 2021 is the week selected. The suggested theme is 'Coming through it together' This would have followed on from the conference theme. However the conference had to be cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions. Trustees plan to review the situation early in the new year.

Further areas of poor provision of services for the deaf community that UKCoD needs to address

During the year trustees will evaluate whether there are other areas in which the provision of services is failing the deaf community that we need to address.

Accounting Controls

Reserves

The Board of Trustees believes the charity should hold an Emergency Operating Reserve (EOR) because it has no endowment funding and is entirely dependent for income upon grants, membership fees, sponsorship and income generated from year to year which is inevitably subject to fluctuation; and the Board recognises the need to further improve the cost effectiveness of operations and focus attention on reinvigorating support for action with a direct bearing on meeting its core purpose of improving services for the D/deaf community and the needs of Members. This work primarily arises in Special Interest Groups (SIGs) and the Board will be seeking to increase attention to support their effective operation. The trustees believe the minimum level of the EOR should be the equivalent of six months' core operating costs and this really needs to be higher. It will continue to be reviewed annually.

The budget set for 2020-21 indicates six months' core operating costs amounting to approximately £17,000.

This year the General Fund decreased by £1,428 to £21,500 at 31 March 2020, This is above the level required by the reserves policy.

On this basis the trustees consider it appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis.

Internal financial control

The charity has in place systems of internal control. They are designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance against material misstatement or loss. They include:

Control continuing to be based on working to an annual budget grounded in an operational plan approved by the Board. We have maintained strict control over our costs. The Treasurer now aims to report on accounts on a monthly basis rather than just at meetings of the trustees.

Existing controls will continue. No expenditure will be accepted as a commitment unless approved by the treasurer. In view of their high cost, this particularly needs to apply to commitment to interpreter-supported meetings. In the event of any disagreement on acceptance of requests for specific expenditure, the final decision will rest with the Board with due regard to overall financial constraints;

Following concern regarding the organisational structure of other aspects of operations, this is being reviewed. However financial control is operating well with close cooperation between the Office Manager and the Treasurer and no changes are planned, However as the current Treasurer will be reaching the end of his 6 year term, a successor will need to be agreed and action taken to ensure continuity and a smooth changeover;

Regular consideration by the Trustees of financial results, variance from budgets, non-financial performance indicators and benchmarking reviews; In the current economic conditions the Board will be reviewing the financial position on a monthly basis whether or not there is a meeting of the Board.

The development and regular review of policy documents covering major strategic and operational activities.

Risk management

The major risks to which the charity is exposed, as identified by the trustees, have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate those risks. This needs to be framed by the need to minimise its routine operating costs but even more importantly increase focus on assisting Members to continue their work for their Members and liaising with government, regulators and large corporations to improve services for as large a proportion of the D/deaf community as possible.

Staffing

Our Office Manager, Clare Long, is central to the operation of UKCoD. All the trustee join in thanking her for her never failing patience attention and support.

Trustees' responsibilities

Company law requires Trustees to prepare accounts for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs at the end of each period and of its surplus or deficit for that period. In preparing those accounts Trustees are required to:

Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;

Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and

Prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is appropriate to presume that the company will not continue in business.

Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the company's financial position and enable it to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the company's assets and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended
which are set out on pages

31 March 2020
15 to 20

By order of the Board

R P. Nattress

Trustee Treasurer and Secretary

Date:

21-Dec-20

Independent Examiner's Report

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2019 which are set out on pages 14 to 19

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to an audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
 - a. to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - b. to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

S. Husain ACMA, CGMA

Chartered Management Accountant

Cadbury and Jones
42 Theobalds Road
Holborn
London WC1X 8NW

Date: 21 December 2020

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 March 2020

		General Fund	Restricted Funds	Total	2018/ 2019
	Note	£	£	£	£
Income from:					
Interest earned		23	-	23	19
Membership Fess		16,769	-	16,769	24,669
Affiliation Fees		4,703	-	4,703	2,474
Donations		510	-	510	10,088
Deaf Awareness Week		1,900	-	1,900	1,700
Conference Income		8,128	-	8,128	6,795
Chargeable Comms Support	1	559	-	559	762
Total Income		32,591	-	32,591	46,508
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities:					
Funding distributed to projects	2	-	-	-	-
Conference costs		2,536	-	2,536	1,151
Support costs	3,4	31,484	-	31,484	29,997
Total expenditure		34,019	-	34,019	31,149
Net income/(expenditure)		(1,428)	-	(1,428)	15,359
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		22,928	-	22,928	7,569
Total funds carried forward	7,8	21,500	-	21,500	22,928

The notes on pages 11 to 13 form part of these accounts.

Continuing Operations

All the results included in the statement of financial activities above relate to continuing activities.

Balance sheet at 31 March 2020

	Note	31/03/2020 £	31/03/2019 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets		-	-
Current assets			
Debtors	5	-	2,402
Cash at bank		21,800	20,526
		21,800	22,928
Creditors			
Amounts falling due within one year	6	(300)	-
Net current assets		21,500	22,928
Net assets		21,500	22,928
Represented by			
General fund	7,8	21,500	22,928
Restricted funds	7,8	-	-
Total funds		21,500	22,928

For the year ending 31 March 2020 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 21/12/2020

On behalf of the Trustees

Ralph Nattress – Treasurer

Company number 2922584

Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

UK Council On Deafness meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention. The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity.

Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are included in the SoFA when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. No amounts are included in respect of services provided by volunteers.

Grants

All grants are recognised in full in the statement of financial activities in the year in which they are receivable, unless these relate to a specific future period in which case they are deferred.

Resources Expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to that category. Resources expended include attributable VAT that cannot be recovered.

Taxation

The Council, being a registered charity, is not liable to corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fixed assets

All fixed assets are initially recorded at cost.

Depreciation

Depreciation is charged so as to write off the cost of tangible assets acquired evenly over their

Computers	33% on cost
Fixtures and fittings	25% on reducing balance

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.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific instructions imposed by the donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund together with an agreed allocation of management and administration costs.

Operating leases

Rentals payable under operating leases, where substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership remain with the lessor, are charged to the statement of financial activities in the year in which they fall due.

Going Concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

	Note	31/03/2020 Total funds £	31/03/2019 Total funds £
Net income/expenditure	9	(1,428)	15,359
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received		(23)	(19)
Fixed asset additions		-	-
Cash flows from financing activities		-	-
(Increase)/decrease in debtors		2,402	(604)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors		300	(1,363)
Net cash flow from operating activities		1,251	13,373

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2020

1 Income from projects

	2020 £	2019 £
Income from Projects	-	-

2 Funding distributed to projects

	2020 £	2019 £
Funding distributed to projects	-	-

3 Support Cost

	2020	2019
	£	£
DAC communications	1,138	135
Staff travel & expenses	864	1,530
IT Support	1,891	83
Website Costs	96	699
Rent	914	958
Insurance	378	362
Telephone	492	369
Postage	42	23
Printing and Stationery	106	217
Depreciation	-	-
Subscriptions and Publications	238	198
Trustees' communications	2,381	1,874
Trustee Expenses	375	135
Professional Fees	-	-
Bookkeeping costs	-	-
Bank Charges and Interest	60	66
Independent examiners fee	300	300
Other communications Support	74	-
Opening balance adjustment	-	271
Bad debts written off	-	-
TOTAL	<u>9,349</u>	<u>7,219</u>

Staff

The average number of persons employed by the Council was one (2018/19: one).

Trustees receive no remuneration. (2018/19: Nil)

4 Staff cost

	2020	2019
	£	£
Salaries	17,019	18,273
NI	3,083	2,520
Pension Contributions	2,032	1,985
	<u>22,134</u>	<u>22,778</u>

5 Debtors (amounts falling due within one year)

	2020	2019
	£	£
Trade debtors	-	2,402
Other debtors	-	-
Prepayments	-	-
	<u>0</u>	<u>2,402</u>

6 Creditors (amounts falling due within one year)

	2020	2019
	£	£
Trade creditors	-	-
Taxation and social security	-	-
Accruals & deferred income	300	-
	<u>300</u>	<u>0</u>

7 Funds

General Fund Unrestricted	Restricted funds
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	£	£
Opening funds	22,928	-
Incoming resources	32,591	-
Outgoing resources	-34,019	-
Total Net Assets	21,500	-

8 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General Fund	Restricted Funds
Debtors	-	-
Cash at bank	21,800	-
Creditors	-300	-
Total Net Assets	21,500	0

General fund

The General fund represents the unrestricted

Restricted funds

Restricted funds are funds held by the charity for

9 Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2020	2019
	£	£
Net income/(expenditure) for year	-1,428	15,359
Add back Depreciation	-	-
Deduct interest income shown in investing activities	-23	-19
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	2,402	-604
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	300	-1,363
Net cash flow from operating activities	1,251	13,373

The above decrease in debtors and decrease in creditors arose from stopping the practice of raising member subscription invoices prior to the end of the preceding year.

Going Concern

The Charity believes that grants and donations from member organisations cannot be relied upon to continue to arise at the same level as in previous years, primarily due to the current economic climate.

The trustees believe that sufficient funding as may be required to meet normal working capital requirements within the 12 months from the date of approval of these financial statements will be made available.

On this basis the trustees consider it appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis. Should this prove to be inappropriate the accounts would require adjustments to be made to reduce the value of the assets to their recoverable amount and to provide for any further liabilities that might arise.

Appendix 1 | Members and affiliates

Action Deafness	Durham Deafened Support
Action on Hearing Loss	Frank Barnes School for Deaf
Alerter Group plc	Hearing Dogs for Deaf People
Appa Life Social Enterprise	Hertfordshire Hearing Advisory Service
ASLI	Hertfordshire Sensory Services
ATLA	Interpreter Now
Auditory Verbal UK	JDA
AVSTTR	KCC
BAA	Lipreading Practice
BATOD	Lipspeaker UK Ltd
BDA	NADP
BID	NCIUA
BIVR	NDCS
British Telecommunications plc	Norfolk CC
BSHAA	Phonak
CICS	Red Bee Media
Cued Speech	Sign Solutions
DCAL	Signature
	SignHealth
Deaf Ex-Mainstreamers Ltd	SignLive Ltd
DeafLondon	SignVideo
DeafPlus	Stellar Comms
Deafscotland	Talk with Sign
DeafUmbrella	Terra Consultancy
Delta	The Association of Lipspeakers
Devon County Council	UK Deaf Sport
	VLP