

Springboard Chippenham



Company Ltd by guarantee No: 2669520

Registered Charity No: 1010231

Annual report
2022-2023

Maximising Ability: Minimising Disability



CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

Annual Chairman's Report April 2022 to March 2023



This last year has been particularly challenging, due to the increased demand on our services, alongside the cost-of-living crisis resulting in higher costs and increased competition to secure funding.

I am pleased to affirm that Springboard continued to adapt to meet the needs of the children and their families who rely on our vital services.

Challenges

This year has been particularly challenging:

- Cost of living price rises affected most areas of our expenditure.
- Nationally, the Early Years sector has a funding issue where the government funded income (Early Years Entitlement) doesn't cover costs, forcing many nurseries to close as they were unsustainable. This funding situation also directly impacts Springboard, increasing the need to fundraise.
- Finding a range of ways to ensure the retention of a highly qualified workforce.
- The number of children being referred to Springboard continues to rise, leading to a consistent increase in demand for our services. This year has seen children and families having to wait longer for the support they need. This is a frustrating situation for all involved.

Achievements

Some points to highlight from last year's activity include:

- The growth in the following across our social media platforms, particularly on Instagram. Time has been invested into planning and creating professional posts.
- Using our social media to successfully promote new ideas: Amazon wish list and a Will & Trust advice evening.

Looking to the future

Some key points below:

- From April 1st, 2023, the increase to National Minimum Wage will have a huge impact as our staff wages are the biggest expenditure and our income hasn't increased to match it, creating more pressure on gaining successful grant applications and fundraising.

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT CONTINUED

- Due to the delays accessing support from health professionals, parents still require high levels of emotional and practical support to be confident in caring for their children. This need has been identified as a post pandemic issue and is ongoing, so we will continue to find ways to respond.
- We need to find ways of managing the increased number of referrals received and the increase on the demand on our services.
- Due to the expiration date of our Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Wiltshire Council, the contract will go to tender, and Springboard must follow the process to apply for the contract.

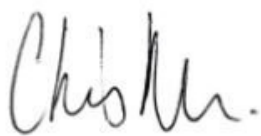
With these needs identified, Springboard can plan, adapt, and respond to the current demands, supporting the children and families who need our support more than ever.

Conclusion

This past year has been challenging, however, as a charity we have adapted, and maintained financial stability.

We are fortunate to have a highly qualified and skilled team to which Springboard's successes are directly linked. I'd like to personally thank every member of staff for their dedication, commitment, and for everything they do day to day to transform the lives of the children and families we work with. We are indebted to the ongoing support from our patron, Lady Lansdowne. We are one of a few local charities that are fortunate to have the benefit of a patron who helps raise the profile of Springboard and supports our charity fundraising campaigns.

A heart-felt thank you to all of you for your support during the past year. We are ever grateful for the personal donations we have received, and for the support received from our local community. All of this is impossible without you, and we are forever grateful to each and everyone.



CHRIS NUNN

Chair



SUCCESSSES



Digital transformation

Springboard has embraced technology, utilising various web based communication tools, enabling staff to work efficiently and cost effectively.

Examples include:

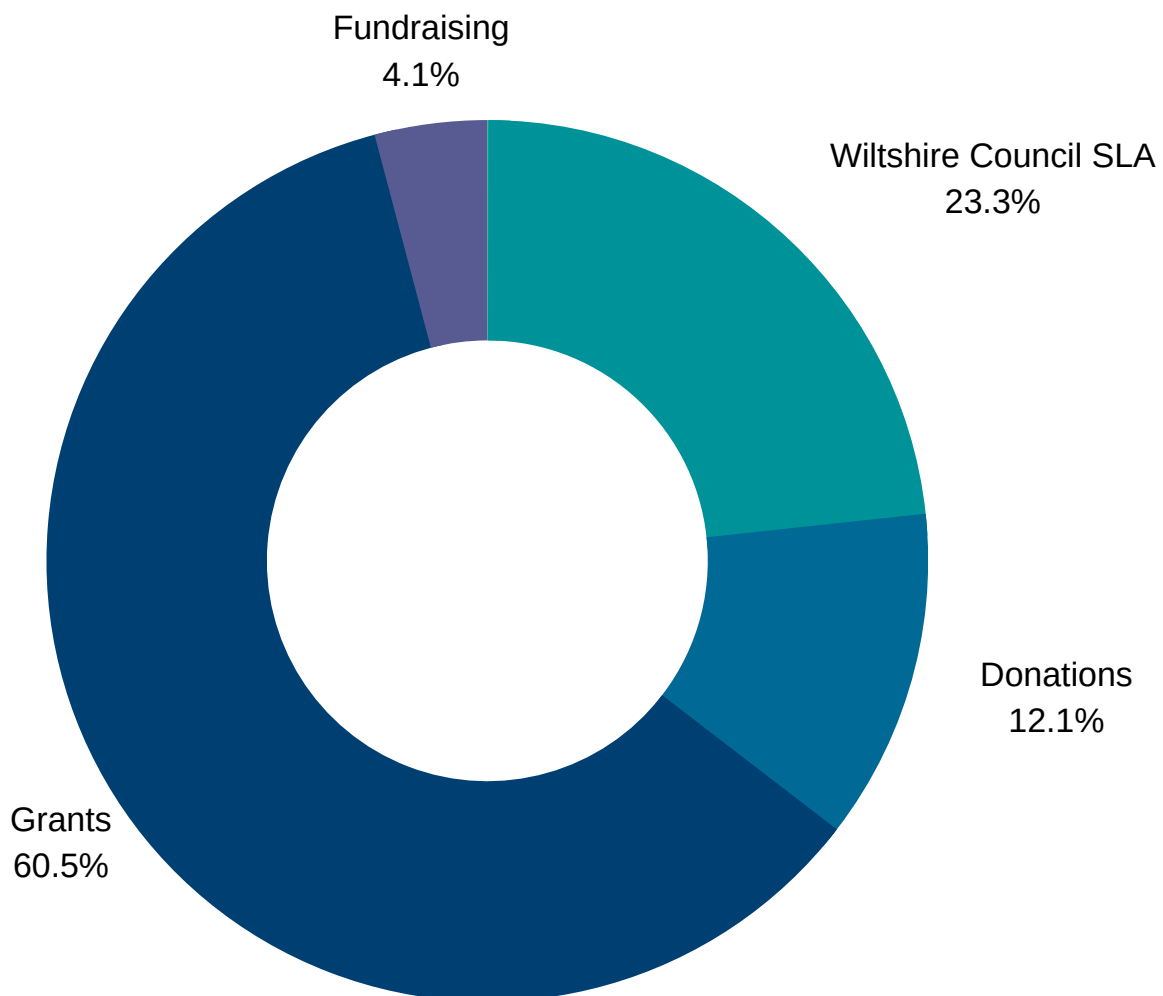
- Digital online referrals - the collection and collation of pivotal data using Microsoft forms.
- Internet based applications-
 - Nursery in a Box a secure software package which can be used to communicate with parents, alongside a database, which can produce reports including health & safety information, registers and attendance.
 - Tapestry- an online journal to record a child's development this includes photos and videos. Parents access the journal and can comment, or upload photos or videos from home.
- Zoom and Teams calls are used to host virtual meetings for families and professionals.
- Social media platforms to provide information, share news, creating and exchanging ideas.

It takes investment both in time and planning to produce content and update the various social media platforms and our website. Both regularly receive compliments on the professional content.



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Income 2022-2023 £324,461

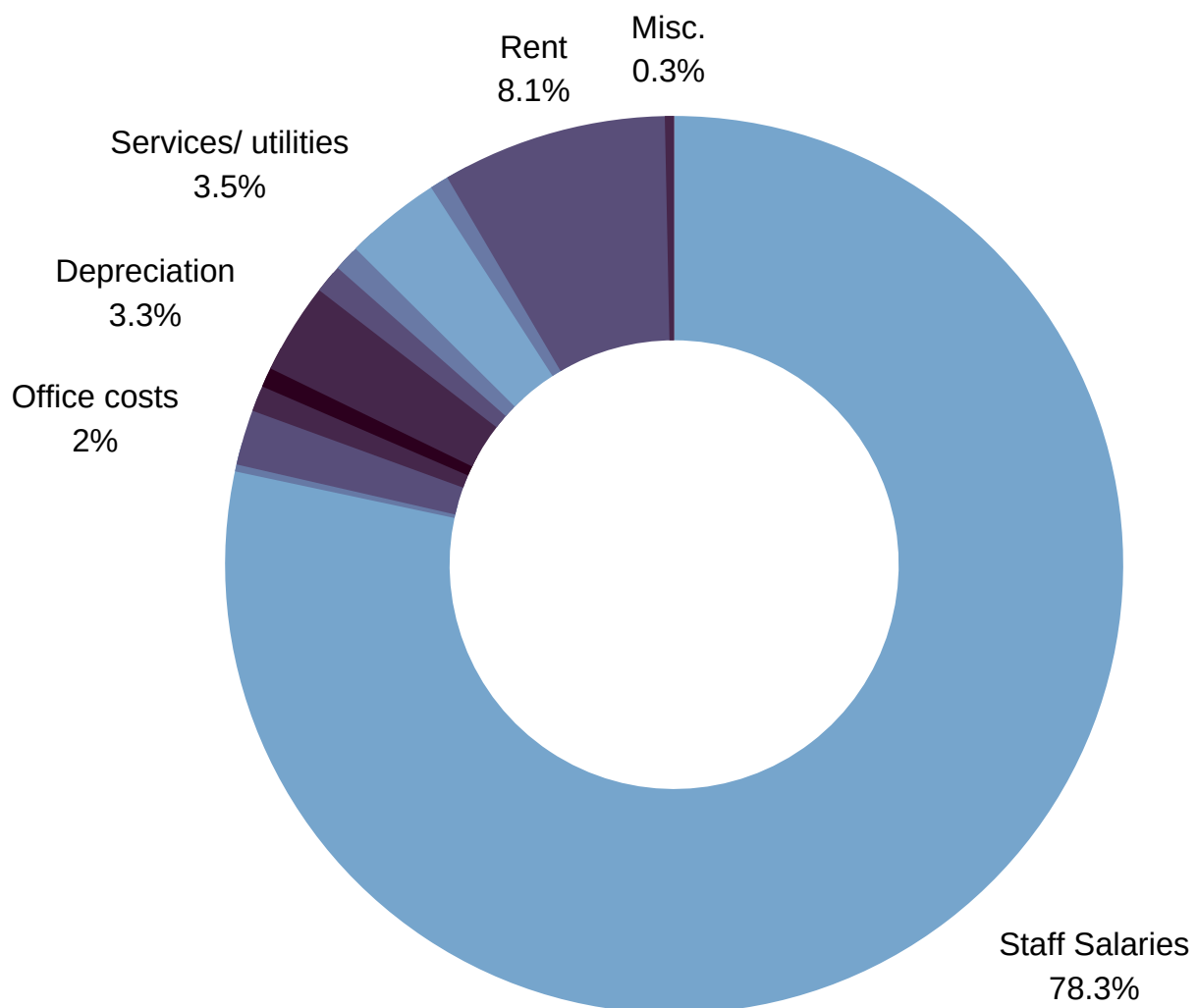


The Income received during this financial year shows a different profile from the previous years. Income received from fundraising events has decreased, whereas donations received have increased. Springboard are organising and hosting fewer fundraising events hence the lower income, and more supporters are raising funds 'in aid' of Springboard and this income is recorded as a donation. Grant income remains the largest source of funding totalling 60.5%.

Springboard receives funding from a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Wiltshire Council. The SLA funding is in addition to the funding which all pre-schools can earn (Early Years Entitlement, Disability Access Fund and Early Years Pupil Premium). The various funding streams from Wiltshire Council total 55.9% of our income for 2022-2023.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Expenditure 2022-2023 £301,976



Staff salaries are our largest item of expense. This is primarily due to our high staff to child ratio, which is usually 1 member of staff to 2 children, but occasionally can be 1:1 or 1:3 (one member of staff to one child, or three children).

This high level of staffing enables Springboard to deliver specialist support.

The maintenance expense reduced as expected. The previous year included costs for the replacement of the play surface in the outside play area for health and safety reasons.

THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

Support for children

111
children
supported
during
the year

13,490
pre-school
hours
delivered

14,629
hours
supporting
children &
families

Financial

42% of all
services funded
by the charity

£1,376
to run
Springboard per
day

92p in every £
donated, spent
directly on
supporting the
children.

Other statistics

Referrals:
since
2020-21 an
increase of
185 %

Catchment
area
767.7 km²

100% of
parents/ carers
felt supported
by Springboard

LOOKING FORWARD

2023-2024 will be a busy and strategic year.....

Springboard will need to tender for the Service Level Agreement (SLA) , which is the contract with Wiltshire Council to continue to be their chosen provider to deliver support to Special Needs Children aged 0-5 in North Wiltshire. The SLA details and funding are not know at present.

The additional workload created by the tender will be challenging. However, Springboard is fortunate to have experienced staff and trustees and are ready for the process to begin.

As a charity, Springboard adds value by offering additional services and support above and beyond the SLA requirements. The additional provision is funded by donations and grants.

Springboard has successfully been through the tender process in the past, resulting in the current contract award and extensions. We are optimistic our achievements and proven track record will secure a positive outcome for all.



CONTACT



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Patron: The Marchioness of Lansdowne