



working with disabled people



Annual Report 2021-22

Chairman's Introduction

Welcome to our Annual Report, and thank you for taking the time to read it.

This has been a year of recovery for our families, our staff and the charity as a whole. Following the worst of the pandemic, our families and participants were hesitant about mixing with others and returning to the services and activities which they enjoyed so much and had served them so well. It has taken this year to rebuild that confidence, and I must pay tribute to our wonderful staff and volunteers who, as always, have gone that extra mile to support them. Much of the learning during the pandemic has been applied to our everyday work including good hygiene practices, doubling the number of sites for Playscheme whilst supporting the same number of children and recognising the additional anxiety that the pandemic has caused.

Despite the challenges, Enable Ability has continued to grow its services and activities. The Social Enterprise, Inter Activ, has gone from strength to strength, supporting more young people to acquire "work ready" skills and translating that into real opportunities through our Employability Scheme. Many have moved on into jobs, apprenticeships and voluntary work which is a testament to their tenacity and ability. We are delighted that the National Lottery has recognised the progress made and has awarded us a further £380,000 to support the social enterprise until September 2025. To ensure it is fully funded for the period we will continue to fund-raise and look to other ways of securing the financial resources needed.

The Playschemes have continued to be in great demand, and our staff try to offer all applicants places during the school holidays. We have also established HAF activities (Holiday Activities and Food) during the main school holidays, funded by central government and administered by the City Council, for children in mainstream education but with special needs. We have based these at 2 sites, Landport and Paulsgrove Community Centres, with many activities taking place in the wider community. The City Council has identified Enable Ability as an exemplar of good practice through the way the HAF scheme has supported children at the margins.

Landport Community Centre has fully re-opened and is an important hub for people in the Charles Dickens Ward, one of the most deprived wards in the country. Enable Ability has worked hard to engage with the local community; it provides a venue for many local groups and family parties, hosts the larder providing essential food items, a vaccination hub, and a source of advice and support from NHS, the City Council and many voluntary organisations, such as our own Advocacy service. The Centre has benefited through a grant from the Community Infrastructure Levy, considerably enhancing its look and feel. Our thanks to local councillors who supported the bid.

Other Enable Ability services continue to expand with growing demand; Child and Adult Befriending,

Saturday Club, Teenage and Youth Projects, and the ever popular Wheelchair Basketball.

The charity has been re-accredited by Investors in People, which takes an in depth view of how we support and manage our staff. We are delighted that so many staff view us as a good employer, and we will continue to show how much we value them. One example is the introduction of management training for all eleven of our team and project leaders which commences early next year.

Our 3 year Strategic Plan has been refreshed, taking us to 2025. The plan is an output of an away-day involving managers, key staff and trustees. The highlights are:

- Ensuring our range of services is clear to staff and carers to enable progression of participants journeying through them.
- Renewing our focus on strategic fundraising to meet the costs of our services and activities.
- Developing an accreditation scheme for our participants.
- Providing our leaders with the tools to be effective managers.
- Reducing administration overhead through using on-line technology.

Trustees continue to meet monthly, we are very fortunate to have such a hardworking and knowledgeable group who add significant value to the organisation. This year we have welcomed Dan Davies who has a wealth of experience from the public and voluntary sector.

The charity could not provide the range of services it does without the financial support, co-operation and backing of many organisations both locally and nationally. In addition to Portsmouth City Council and Hampshire County Council, we are indebted to other major funders such as the National Lottery, Children In Need and the Hampshire and IOW Community Fund. Our local links to Abri and Vivid Housing Associations, the Co-op, Tesco's and Morrisons, have all brought in much needed funds. We are in our third year of support from Hayling Golf Club, and the incoming Captain has again chosen Enable Ability as his Charity. We will continue to build partnerships to raise essential funds and importantly spread the word about what Enable Ability does for the local community.

Finally, on behalf of all those who benefit from Enable Ability's support, a huge thank you to our staff, volunteers and funders.

Jon Muller
Chair of Trustees



Manager's Report

The 2021-22 financial year started with almost all of our services being either suspended or running at greatly reduced capacity due to the pandemic. By the end of the financial year they were fully functioning and with attendance levels approaching pre-pandemic levels. In respect of this I would like to pay tribute to all of the staff, trustees and volunteers that enabled us to achieve such an excellent recovery.

Having provided our specialist playscheme provision from 6 different venues during the pandemic, an immediate priority was for us to secure two suitable venues that could be made available to us during every school holiday period.

In respect of this we are very grateful to The Stacey Centre and Morelands Primary School for their willingness to accommodate us, thereby enabling us to provide for the children's needs as appropriate across two very different sites. The Stacey Centre is centrally located adjacent to a large recreational park, has a very pleasant garden area and excellent indoor facilities (including a skittles alley). Morelands Primary School has a wealth of outdoor space [including two Multi Activity Games Areas (MUGA's) and its own woodland] as well as a large hall and other rooms for staff and children to access. Having provided specialist playschemes for over 25 years, it has been inspiring to see the ongoing development of an ever-improving comprehensive programme of activities that has been so successfully adapted to these new venues.

Alongside our specialist playscheme provision we have been very grateful for the 'Healthy Activities and Food' (HAF) funding that has enabled us to continue to provide and further develop a programme of holiday activities for children with mild to moderate levels of disability at both Landport and Paulsgrove Community Centres. Specifically provided for families that are in financial hardship (and in receipt of free school meals) referrals are, in the majority of cases, received via the local schools. Focussed on developing healthier lifestyles, activities and outings have included swimming, indoor and outdoor games, cooking sessions, specialist cycling sessions in partnership with 'Wheels for All', trampolining, sports sessions, soft play and trips to climbing centres, Playzone and the Isle of Wight.

Having had to accommodate many changes during its first 18 months of operation, Inter Activ (our Social Enterprise) had a long and difficult journey following the impact of the pandemic. Making many changes to respond to changing circumstances two new work streams were developed, namely 'Marketing' and 'Arts / Crafts & Gardening'. A substantial gardening project at a care home in Boarhunt represents just one of the key areas of development that took place during the year. Meanwhile our 'What's it Like?' work stream produced a number of mobile phone video apps to enable people with disabilities and anxiety to prepare to visit places that they hadn't been to previously; these included a large piece of work for Gunwharf Quays, several NHS facilities and special schools.

A key development throughout the year has been our Employ Ability programme. Funded via a 'European Social Fund' (ESF) grant (and managed by the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Community Fund) the income received enabled us to employ up to three 'Into Work Skills Coaches' to work with our Inter Activ participants to support them into work. The project was extended to enable people with disabilities to fast-track where appropriate, thereby enabling us to support a significantly higher number of participants. Building partnerships with many organisations and employers in the locality, the many successes achieved have been one of the highlights of the year – and this was fully recognised by the ESF as they show-cased the Employ Ability provision in its annual 'European Social Fund Case Studies Booklet' issued in late 2021.

Landport Community Centre has continued to host the Inter Activ work streams whilst steadily growing its number of regular hirers. Perhaps the most successful single activity has been its 'Larder'. Open every Tuesday and heavily subsidised to provide a wide range of food at very low cost, the Larder has seen its membership steadily increase to almost 400 and, with the ongoing cost-of-living crisis impacting more and more people, this provision is proving to be absolutely essential for many that use it and is widely appreciated in the locality. At a special event to celebrate its first year of operation, we were delighted to receive 'Freedom of the City' from the Deputy Lord Mayor of Portsmouth in recognition of the charity's contribution to the local community. The Advocacy service has taken some time to come out of the pandemic but by the end of the year a drop-in surgery was established at Landport Community Centre and cases were starting to return offering vital support to some of the most vulnerable people in the community.

Under very difficult circumstances, I am delighted to say that Enable Ability has had a relatively successful year. As already mentioned, this is in no small measure due to the hard work and commitment of its staff, volunteers and trustees, together with the support received from its funders and the many organisations that we are privileged to work in partnership with. My sincere thanks to all!

Richard Soutar
Enable Ability Manager



Core activities

2021-22

The full end of Covid restrictions had just occurred in March 2021; however, with many disabled people having to continue to isolate and a lot of our clients still very concerned, a number of our projects could not re-commence at the start of the financial year. Therefore, a small proportion of our workforce were still on furlough at the start of the year. Most of our projects really re-started in May 2021 with regular testing in place, masks still being worn and screens being used in our offices.

Adult & Child Befriending

There was very little Child Befriending activity at the start of the year, with a slow build-up coming out of the pandemic. In total 7,814 hours were delivered (4,653 in 2021 and 14,487 in 2020 - showing how slowly some disabled families began to come out of the pandemic) with 53 clients given befriending by 55 staff.

Adult Befriending is an ongoing service offering companionship, support and encouragement to those who are socially or physically isolated through disability. In the age range of 18 to 25 the service gave 1,907 hours - these being provided by 15 staff. Befriending for adults over the age of 25 amounted to 1,876 hours of support being provided by 13 staff to support 17 clients.

Wheelchair Basketball

This re-started after the pandemic and, by developing links with other clubs, has seen numbers grow. Outcomes for young people were individualistic but the main group outcomes included improvements in fitness and health. Four of our former players now play for National League teams and Team GB.



Specialist Playscheme

Our playschemes had to adapt throughout the pandemic, from pre-Covid there being one large special needs scheme, into six pods held at different venues during Covid, into two settings. From Easter two schemes ran at The Stacey Centre, Stamshaw & Tipner Centre respectively, although with strict Covid restrictions still in place; 82 children taking part for 1,991 hours. Easter also saw the start of the Marcus Rashford inspired Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) playschemes; the new funding that we received enabled us to run additional playschemes at Landport and Paulsgrove with 33 children initially taking part for 842 hours. Easter themes saw egg-hunting, hot-cross bun making and spring bulbs being planted by our young people.

Our Summer playschemes were held at The Stacey Centre and Morelands Primary School with 91 children accessing 3,031 hours. A great number of these children having complex and specialist needs, a high proportion of them came to us as direct referrals from Social Services.

The autumn and February half-term schemes all ran at The Stacey Centre and Morelands Primary School with the Healthy Activities & Food (HAF) scheme taking place at Landport; the inclusive scheme took place at two further settings. In total 104 children attended for 1,405 hours in the autumn and 125 children attended for 1,582 hours in February.

Junior Clubs

The Autism Support group, which is part-funded by Portsmouth City Council, changed its name during the year to Portsmouth Junior Club. Our existing Junior Club was re-named Hampshire Junior Club as it is funded by Hampshire County Council Short Breaks and supports young people living outside of Portsmouth but within South East Hampshire. Both projects help young people aged 5 to 12 with physical and learning difficulties to take part in leisure and sport activities. The groups support over 45 families, encouraging young people to participate in the John Muir award scheme, whereby they can be themselves in wild places, engage in the natural environment and spend time outdoors. Additionally, there are event programmes for both of these clubs that include regular gym, sports and social events designed to support the young people's development.



Teenage and Youth Projects

Portsmouth Teenage Project is partly funded by Portsmouth City Council Short Breaks, works with young people aged 13 to 18 years; as well as regular weekly sessions during school term-time, the funding enables us to support the project throughout the school holiday periods.

Hampshire Youth Project is dependent upon funding from grant-awarding organisations and applications are made to secure the necessary income on an on-going basis. This project supports young people aged 13 to 25 with mild to moderate disabilities. The activities are set to be challenging and rewarding and have included kayaking, paddle-boarding, a roller-skate disco, adventure golf, circus and wrestling trips, boating and downhill ski-ing within the year.

Portsmouth Youth Project is run throughout school holiday periods and, with weekly meetings during term-time, is specifically for young adults aged 18 to 25. It has a booming demand for activities from our service users but still requires funding from grant-awarding bodies to remain financially viable. Altogether 35 young adults are registered on the scheme - with 25 or more of them attending each month. Its great strength is its capacity to develop friendships that are carried on away from the project, whereby the young people choose to meet up outside of the groups for social activities.

Saturday Club

This offers stimulating activities for children with very high dependency needs during school term time, giving families and carers much needed respite. The project was run from Morelands Primary School with funding mainly received from Children in Need. 81 children attended (the scheme did not run in 2021 due to Covid; 86 children attended during 2020) and 42 staff supported them (67 in 2020).



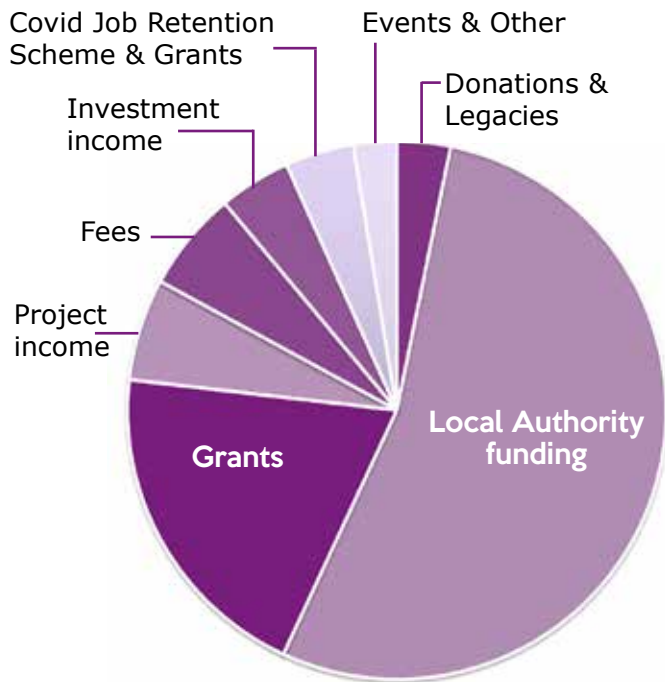
Landport Community Centre

We found ourselves to be the only Portsmouth Community Centre that was open during the pandemic, supplying thousands of meals from our kitchens to those in need. This, together with our playschemes running when Covid was at its highest, has led to us being awarded the Freedom of The City of Portsmouth (below) - an award all our staff and volunteers can be immensely proud of.



The centre is the base for **Inter Activ** (our social enterprise) and is also used for many other Enable Ability activities. It has also become a central hub for residents in the local Charles Dickens ward, an area which has the highest levels of deprivation in the city of Portsmouth and is within the 10% most deprived wards in the country. The local community is supported here via Health & Wellbeing Events run by the NHS (that include Covid vaccination hubs) and early learning training being offered by Portsmouth City Council. Additionally, it is being used as an examination centre and, jointly with Abri Housing Association, a regular job club is provided to help local people to get into work. A 'Good Grub' club with instructions on how to cook together with a regular fitness class and the 'Live well in Landport' scheme all support people's wellbeing whilst our issue-based advocacy team is also there to help. Some of our users include The Butterfly Project, (which supports women from ethnic minorities facing challenges) local church groups, Scouts, a dance academy, councillor surgeries and the police for courses to name just a few.

Breakdown of where our income has come from



Reserves policy:

To hold 3 months of expenditure, less play-scheme costs. This has therefore been fixed at £216,000 and will be maintained throughout the next year.

Notes to the accounts:

Note 1:

The accounts show a net expenditure over income of £62,053 for the year. Coming out of a pandemic and being a Charity with disabled people as our clients has been hard and it took some months of the 2022 year to re-start some of our services. Donations and fund-raising slowed as did grant applications. However, by the end of the year this had changed and all services were at near full capacity again with income streams made a priority.

Note 2:

Although total income was up on 2021, 2021 was greatly affected by the Covid pandemic and looking back to 2020 overall income was nearly £200,000 down. Notable areas were donations & legacies and fee income.

Note 3:

Staffing costs account for 82% of our expenditure and are consistent year on year. Having given staff a 6.6% pay increase for 1st April 2022 will mean a further £57,000 is needed just to stand still next year. Also very noticeable was the reduction in overhead costs which were reduced by £36,000.

Note 4:

Creditors (money we owe) shows a £109,000 decrease, this being because funds were held over from 2021 (as granted in 2020 but could not be used due to Covid), thus creditors figure was reduced in 2022 as were funds held at bank.

Looking forward: Inter Activ have secured Lottery funding to help run for the next 3 year. As we go to press we are working on our Play-Scheme and short breaks contract with Portsmouth City Council for a further period. Short Breaks funding with Hampshire County Council to cover Wheelchair Basketball and Hampshire Junior Club has been applied for. Funding for Landport Community Centre infrastructure has been received via a PCC grant. Children in Need continue their long-term support of Saturday Club. I am confident with further grants and donations to be received we will ensure Enable Ability delivers the services needed to our client group and overall break-even financially, also maintaining its reserves which gives the security needed for the Charity to grow.

Full details of our financial position together with a detailed report by Trustees can be found on our fully audited financial statement which is available to view on our web-site.

These financial statements have been prepared using the statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Agreed by the Trustees on 22nd September 2022 . Joe Harbour – Honorary Treasurer

Income and Expenditure Account

for the year ending 31st March 2022

(with 2021 shown for comparison)

	2022	2021	
Total incoming resources	991,553	892,099	Note 2
Net gain on investments	4,796	47,884	
Total resources expended	1,058,402	1,007,205	Note 3
Net expenditure over income	(62,053)	(67,222)	Note 1
Total funds brought forward	600,083	667,305	
Total funds carried forward	538,030	600,083	

Balance sheet as at 31st March 2022

Fixed assets

Tangible assets	145,430	148,755
Investments	162,765	155,764

Current assets

Debtors	72,013	84,259	Note 4
Bank funds	183,330	345,771	
Total current assets	563,538	734,549	

Less current liabilities

Creditors	(25,508)	(134,466)	Note 4
Total assets less liabilities	538,030	600,083	

The way ahead

Enable Ability has continued to recover from the challenges of the pandemic, but recognises, like many charities, that economic headwinds will cause difficulties in the years to come.



We have relatively secure funding at this time for many of our services and activities, and plans in place to raise funds for those without a regular funding stream, but we will be in competition with other charities and organisations for those resources. Our overhead and salary costs will continue to grow so contract negotiation and fundraising remain key areas of work for us. In all our funding bids we focus on outcomes for participants and show the positive difference our activities have made on the lives of our participants and their families.

We will continue to offer the range of activities that support children and young people, from children attending our play schemes, through teenage and youth groups, to our social enterprise which aims to help people become employment ready. We are delighted that the National Lottery is continuing to support the social enterprise for a further 3 years, enabling many more young people to access work, bringing them greater independence and fulfilment.

Landport Community Centre is fully operational providing a base for the social enterprise, and a community hub for people in the Charles Dickens Ward, one of the most deprived in the country. Its range of activities continues to grow, including the cafe, Larder Scheme, faith groups, parties and youth groups. It also hosts a vaccination centre and a myriad of advice groups from health, council and voluntary organisations. The range of activities and support will continue to grow, and in times of significant hardship will be a beacon in the local community.

Enable Ability has developed school holiday schemes for children in main stream education but with behavioural challenges, utilising funds from HAF (Health, Activity and Food), and these will continue at 2 sites in the North and South of the city at Paulsgrove and Landport. These activities provide fun and stimulation for the children, and much needed respite for their families. They have been commended by the City Council with whom we have an excellent working relationship.

The social enterprise and employability scheme have gone from strength to strength. Many young people have now passed through the programme, and are in employment, apprenticeships or voluntary work. Our congratulations to them. We are looking to add further activities to the menu of options available, and widen our referral net to ensure those young people eligible for the service benefit from it.

Our befriending services continue to thrive and the numbers are getting back to pre-pandemic levels. We will continue to develop this service as demand grows.

The charity has been re-accredited by Investors In People. An outcome of the review has been to establish a manager training programme, and this will commence in January 2023 for all team leaders and project leaders. We believe investing in our staff is critically important for their success and that of the organisation. We have also established a twice yearly staff/trustee forum to ensure that key messages are communicated and a healthy dialogue is maintained.

An awards scheme for participants, headlined last year, has commenced in a youth project, and we intend to roll this out in the coming year to other activities and services. We hope that this will be a celebration of participants progress and achievements on their path to success.

And finally, we look forward to sustaining and building partnerships with all the organisations that fund us, support us and enhance the work that we do.





Special thanks to:

Abri Housing/Kieran Jones
 Arimathea Trust
 Arnold Clark
 ASDA Foundation
 Autek CIC/Steve Bond
 BBC Children in Need
 BBC Radio Solent
 Benefact Group (was Ecclesiastical)
 Biscoes Law
 Buckland Hub
 B&Q Community Fund
 The Bivol Trust
 Charles Dickens Centre
 Charter Sports Academy
 The Childwick Trust
 City of Portsmouth College
 Connors Toy Libraries
 Councillors Cal Corkery, Claire Udy & Kirsty Mellor
 Co-op Neighbourly Fund
 European Social Fund
 Giselle Dance Academy
 Hants & IOW Community Foundation/
 Rob Armstrong
 Hampshire County Council
 Havant Lottery
 Havant & South Downs College
 Hayling Golf Club
 Hollywood Bowl
 Irwin Mitchell Solicitors
 Jamies Recycling CIC
 JobCentre Plus and the DWP
 John Pounds Centre
 Keppel's Head Hotel
 KSM Telecom
 Lady Hamilton PH/ Jeanette Warren
 Landport Community Centre Association
 Lloyds Bank Foundation
 Lord Mayor Community Fund

Loungers
 Ms C Macknill
 Stephen Morgan MP
 Morelands Primary School
 Morrisons Anchorage Park
 Morrisons Victory Park
 Ms F Mort
 The Partnerships Foundation
 Paulsgrove Hub
 PCC Holy Trinity
 Peter Ashley Activity Centre
 Pompey in the Community
 Pompey Super Heroes
 Portchester Community School
 Portsmouth City Council
 Portsmouth Football Club
 Portsmouth Guildhall
 Portsmouth Lottery/ Portsmouth Lottery
 Players
 Portsmouth Party Hire & Events
 Portsmouth/SE Hants Chamber of
 Commerce
 Portsmouth Together
 Potters House Church
 Red Funnel Ferries
 Roddas Cream Tea Society
 Rotary Club of Portsmouth & Southsea
 Shaping Portsmouth
 Solent Apprenticeship Hub
 Solent Academies Trust
 Southern Co-Op
 Southsea Castle Rotary Club
 Southwick Revival
 The Stacey Centre
 Stamshaw & Tipner Community Centre
 Stansted House
 Starbucks Burrfields Road
 Staunton Country Park
 Tesco Bursledon

Tesco Fratton
 The Big Lottery Community Fund & Lucy
 Tennant
 The Clothworkers Foundation
 The Conservation Volunteers
 The New Theatre Royal
 University of Portsmouth
 Victorious Festival
 Village Hotel, Portsmouth
 Waitrose & Partners Southsea
 Wave 105 Cash for Kids
 Father Bob White
 Zurich Community Trust

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Mrs K Blomerus
 Mrs A Bowie
 Mr D Davies
 Mr S Elsom (Vice Chair)
 Mr J Harbour (Treasurer)
 Mr W John
 Mr J Muller (Chair)
 Mr D Ramsay (Vice Chair)

Company Secretary

Richard Soutar

As a charity Enable Ability's activities are dependent upon funding from trusts, donors, grants and fees; we are always appreciative of all donations and any fundraising carried out on our behalf.

Get in touch

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working with disabled people

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