



working with disabled people



Saturday Club 20th Year Party



# Annual Report 2022-23

# Chairman's Introduction

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

This year has been one of sustained growth for all of our activities, returning in the main to pre pandemic levels. The opportunities the charity offers to our service users and their families continues to grow, and this reflects the needs of our community, the confidence of our commissioners and funders, and the dynamic nature of the organisation. I pay tribute, first and foremost, to our staff and volunteers who make Enable Ability an outstanding charity, respected and supported across the city and beyond. The learning from the pandemic years has been embedded in our practice ensuring that our offer is attuned to the needs of our service users and provides a base for good outcomes. Visiting play schemes, Landport Community Centre or the Social Enterprise indicates to me that there is a focus on activities that seek to develop skills and confidence, that truly enable our service users to lead as fulfilling lives as possible; a thread running through all that we do.

The charity has been putting in place actions to deliver the 3 year strategic plan, developed through consultation with managers, key staff and trustees. The plan also reflected the needs of our service users and their families through regular feedback and review of our services. We have also been looking ahead at "the next big thing", to ensure we keep our eyes on the horizon to identify other ways in which we could help those whom we support and others who may benefit from our activities and services. We have begun to deliver on our strategic plan, with tangible results:

- Our project leaders regularly review the needs of service users and assist them in transitioning into other ability and age appropriate services. Examples are service users moving from youth projects into the social enterprise to provide them with the skills to move into work, apprenticeships or volunteering.
- We have established a funding council to focus on those areas that require external funding, prioritising services that do not qualify for statutory support. Thus far we have been successful in securing funds for teenage and youth projects, and have now turned our attention to the social enterprise and employability service that needs funds to bolster that already received from the National Lottery.
- We have developed an accreditation scheme for service users in the Portsmouth Youth Project, the learning will be applied to other activities as appropriate.
- Our team and project managers have received training to enable them to be more effective and confident in their roles, with senior managers also receiving input to assist them in delivering aspects of their managerial responsibilities.

- We continue to develop the capacity of Charitylog, our service user and staff database, to ensure records are comprehensive and up to date. This is especially challenging with the high number of staff required to run our play schemes, and the ever increasing number of service users. As a charity with high professional standards, Charitylog is an important tool for managing our data securely, and having access to timely information and reports.

One of the advantages of being a charity is the flexibility this offers. At the turn of the year we were able to step in to support a number of children with high needs, following the temporary closure of respite provision in the City. A short term play scheme was established over the Christmas holiday at the request of the City Council to provide a fun and stimulating environment to the children and much needed respite for their families. We were very proud of our ability to deliver this support within a very short timeframe. My thanks to Julie Nethercote and her team for their dedication and resilience in managing this activity.

Enable Ability tendered to continue providing short breaks across the city, and we have been awarded the contract for another 3-5 years. The Specialist Playscheme and other short breaks activities will continue under our stewardship, further cementing our positive and productive relationship with the City Council.

Trustees continue to meet monthly, providing effective governance for the charity. We are fortunate in having such a rich pool of talent supporting our operational staff. We are delighted with the possibility of two additional trustees, again with such relevant experience, joining our number later this year.

The charity could not provide the range of services without the financial support of many organisations and funders both locally and nationally. Our thanks go to Portsmouth City Council and Hampshire County Council, along with the National Lottery and Children In Need. Local Housing Associations, such as Vivid and Abri, and our local supermarkets have all supported us during the year and continue to do so. Thank you to them and all of our other funders and partners, listed on the final page of this report.

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

**Directly following the challenges presented by Covid 19 during the previous 2 years, virtually all of our services steadily returned to - and in many cases exceeded - pre-pandemic levels throughout the 2022-23 financial year.**

Of the core services that we provide, the Junior Clubs were the slowest to fully re-establish themselves - owing to the levels of anxiety displayed by the participants. This prompted the Team Leaders to implement necessary changes to more fully respond to the needs of the children and families. Adjustments to activity schedules included the provision of additional gym sessions one evening per week for the Portsmouth Junior Club whilst extending the range of adventurous activities offered to the Hampshire Junior Club; these included sailing, accessible cycling and lots of fun visits.

The project that struggled the most was the Hampshire Youth Project and, having a much wider age range (covering 13 to 25 year olds), it was initially decided to ensure that planned activities were much more carefully targeted to specific age groups. With attendance levels continuing to remain below expectation the group for younger participants became the 'Hampshire Teenage Project' with venue-based activities at centres in Fareham and Havant respectively to optimise geographical accessibility. Meanwhile the young adults joined our existing Portsmouth Youth Club and its name was changed to 'Enable Ability Youth Club' to reflect its coverage of Portsmouth and South East Hampshire. Overall the changes were well-received by service-users and their parents - and initial take-up levels have increased.

Resuming weekly term-time sessions at Morelands Primary School, our Saturday Club celebrated its 20th Anniversary in March. Altogether more than 70 Staff (and former staff members), children, parents and guests attended this event; these included The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress - both of whom were greeted with freshly made candy floss by one of our children on their arrival!

As well as providing a base for our Social Enterprise (Inter Activ), Landport Community Centre hosts one of our 'Holiday Activities & Food' (HAF) funded playschemes, fund raising events for the charity throughout the year and hires rooms to a diversity of groups. The Charles Dickens Ward (where it is located) has the highest levels of poverty and deprivation in the city of Portsmouth (and falls within the 10% most deprived wards in the country); increasingly, the community centre has become a central hub for its residents. As much as anything else this is borne out by its Larder - which now has over 600 members and an average of 40 to 50 visit each week to buy food at heavily subsidised prices. Throughout the last 12 months, Landport Community Centre has supported Health & Wellbeing Events run by the NHS, a 'Good Grub Club' to teach adults how to cook and the 'Live Well in Landport' scheme which gives advice on wide-ranging issues (including health and finances).

Additionally, the centre has hosted our issue-based advocacy service for drop-ins every Wednesday morning; after a relatively slow start this has now established itself as an integral part of the services being offered and is regularly accessed by individuals with disability-related issues.

During the year Inter Activ received increasing numbers of referrals from a number of sources - and the local Job Centres (with whom we have developed an excellent working relationship) were the prime referrer. The 5 work streams have continued to support participants' development and altogether 50 have progressed into employment or education whilst a further 6 obtained volunteering positions. With careful monitoring and support, 11 of these had sustained employment for more than 6 months by the end of the financial year.

Achieving sufficient funding for all projects is a constant challenge for us and we are very grateful to The National Lottery for awarding us a sizeable 3-year grant via their 'Community Fund' to enable Inter Activ to continue to thrive, the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Community Fund (HIWCF) for extending their funding for our 'Into Work Skills Coaches' into the current financial year and Portsmouth City Council for awarding us a new 3-5 year contract for the delivery of 'Short Breaks' services (comprising specialist & inclusive playschemes, our Portsmouth Teenage Project & Holiday Scheme and our Portsmouth Junior Club).

Following a very successful 'Investors in People' assessment at the end of the previous financial year, the trustees acted upon their recommendation to offer professional training for all Team Leaders. These sessions, which were provided by our assessor, were very well received and have resulted in tangible benefits to the smooth running of our projects.

Ultimately I am very grateful to all of our staff, volunteers, trustees and funders for enabling us to achieve everything that we have in the last year. Despite the many challenges that we all have at this time, I am grateful that we can be optimistic going forwards as we strive to continue to be needs-led and support the wider community of people with disabilities.



**Richard Soutar**  
Enable Ability Manager

# Core activities

2022-23

With the issues presented by the Covid pandemic behind us we were able this year to put all our services into full operations and a summary of those services is attached below.

## Adult & Child Befriending

Child Befriending does what it says on a one-to-one basis for very high-needs children. In total 10,271 hours of support (7,814 in 2022) were delivered with 66 clients (53 in 2022); the befriending was provided by 46 staff (55 in 2022).

The Adult service is an on-going 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 2,530 hours of support (1,907 in 2022) - these being provided by 22 staff (15 in 2022). Befriending for adults over the age of 25 amounted to 2,708 hours (1,876 in 2022) of support being provided by 17 staff (13 in 2022) to 15 clients (17 in 2022).

## Junior Clubs

We operate two schemes, Portsmouth Junior Club (which is part-funded by Portsmouth City Council Short Breaks) and Hampshire Junior Club (which is part-funded by Hampshire County Council Short Breaks). Both projects help young people aged 5 to 12 with physical and learning difficulties to take part in leisure and sports activities with the groups supporting over 45 families. There are event programmes for both of these clubs that include regular gym, sports and social events as well as adventurous activities that include sailing, accessible cycling and lots of fun visits - all designed to support the young people's development.



## Specialist Playscheme

In total, for the main summer holiday scheme, we provided 4,585 hours of support to 116 children - and this compares with 3,031 hours of support to 91 children in the summer of 2022; the growth in numbers was primarily due to the concerns our children and parents had last year about Covid mixing.

We employed 132 staff on Play Schemes over the summer period alone and this, more than anything else, shows just how large and complex the Play Schemes have now become.

At the beginning of 2022 we were awarded, after a tender process, funding from Holiday Activities & Food (HAF) schemes being run by Portsmouth City Council for our Landport and Paulsgrove playschemes at Easter and Summer. We were also commissioned by HAF to support other providers in the city if needed. PCC were so delighted with us that we received a regional award and members of staff were invited to the House of Commons as part of the national scheme (see image bottom left on page 7).

## Saturday Club

This offers stimulating activities for children with very high dependency needs during school term-time, whilst giving families and carers much needed respite. The project was run from Morelands Primary School with funding mainly received from Children in Need. A total of 66 children attended (81 in 2022) and 46 staff (42 in 2022) supported them. Again the higher needs of the children has led to a greater staff to child ratio.

In March we celebrated the 20th anniversary of starting the Saturday Club with the Lord Mayor and over 70 guests attending the party (see left).

## Advocacy

This project gives help and support through our team of experienced advocates to some of the most vulnerable people in the community and holds a regular drop-in surgery at Landport Community Centre. It is hoped to expand this service with more advocates joining the team. Funding for the project is through donations and requests to grant awarding bodies.





## Landport Community Centre

The leasehold for the Centre was legally passed to Enable Ability during the year, making us the legal owners; this means that we now have the long-term benefit of the Centre secured for the charity. The local community is supported here via Health and Wellbeing Events run by the NHS 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 into work. A 'Good Grub' club provides instructions on how to cook and the 'Live well in Landport' scheme gives advice on a whole range of health and money issues to support people's wellbeing whilst our issue-based advocacy team is also there to help.

### Wheelchair Basketball

Weekly sessions are held at Portchester School – and these have slowly grown in numbers with regular matches taking place against other clubs. Outcomes for young people were individualistic but the main group outcomes include improvement in fitness and health and social confidence.

Four of our former players now play for National League teams and Team GB!

### Inter Activ

Our Social Enterprise aims to offer our young people with disabilities the support that they need to obtain employment or move into future training / education. It has achieved this for approximately 26 participants at any one time through its employability work-streams.

### Teenage and Youth Projects

#### Teenage Projects

The activities for the teen projects are set to be both challenging and rewarding; within the last year these have included kayaking, paddle boarding, roller-skate discos, adventure golf, a trip to the circus, wrestling trips, boating, downhill skiing and more...

We have seen nearly all of our participants make noticeable progress in the year, with a high percentage obtaining paid work or moving on to volunteering work; most participants attend a number of other courses, with several obtaining functional skills qualifications in Maths and English.

### Employability

During the year 56 people were enrolled (51 in 2022) into Employability with 50 progressing into employment or education with the other 6 obtaining volunteer positions. The even greater news was that these people were supported and monitored so that the majority remained in their new positions (with 11 sustaining employment for more than 6 months).

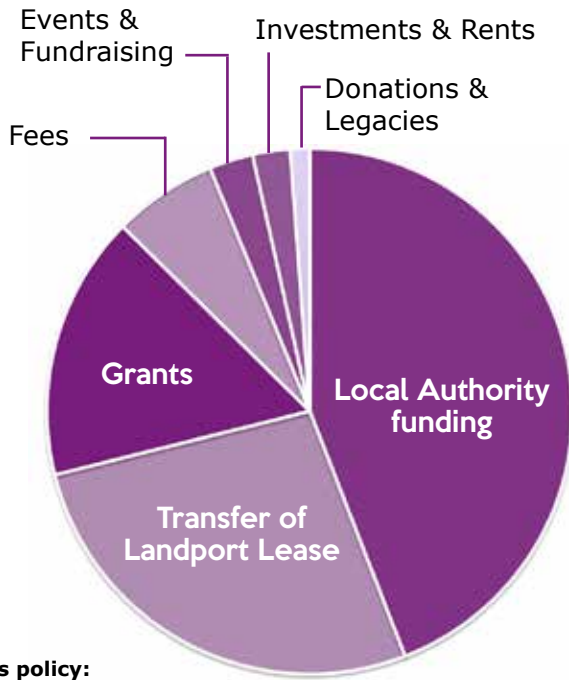


### EA Youth Project

A new award scheme was started this year for all attendees; this has seen our young people achieving set goals and having written records for their work and achievements. 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 continue away from the project, whereby the young people choose to meet up outside of the group for social activities.



## 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 £276,000 and will be maintained throughout the next year.

### Notes to the accounts:

#### Note 1:

**Donation of Landport Community Centre:** The transfer of this lease to Enable Ability was completed, this accounting for £482,399 of total income, without this our net income for the year would be £22,020.

**Restricted Funds:** Our full accounts show an amount of £21,847 as being received but to be used on specific projects during the next financial year. If these funds were also deducted from total income our net income for the year would be £173, meaning our budgetary plan of breaking-even financially has been achieved.

#### Note 2:

All areas of income improved on 2022 as we got back to pre-Covid income and service levels. With £482,399 being the lease transfer of Landport Community Centre shown within the Incoming Resources figure, if removed our income is then £122,225 above the pre-Covid year of 2020 income.

#### Note 3:

The most noticeable increase to our expenditure year on year was our staff cost increase of £237,575 and is primarily due to the increase in our services after coming out of Covid. Staffing costs accounted for 77% of our expenditure and this is budgeted to increase from 1st April 2023 due to pay increases by a further £70,600 into the next financial year

#### Note 4:

Our tangible assets have increased with the introduction of Landport Community Centre.

#### Note 5:

Our investments were sold down from a larger share-holding due to cash-flow needs and the increase in interest rates now payable on bank/savings funds.

**Note 6:** Bank/savings funds were increased: from a transfer from investments, speedier payment of invoices from the local authority meaning our debtors figure reduced and because £35,754 of our Creditors figure was differed income; being funds received specifically for use in the next financial year but held within Bank funds.

**Looking forward:** Our Short Breaks contract with Portsmouth City Council was renewed in March 2023 for a further 3 to 5 years, this covering funding for Play-Schemes, Portsmouth Teenage Project & Portsmouth Junior Club. Inter Activ was re-awarded National Lottery funding from September 2022 for a further 3 years. Employment Ability, Hampshire Junior Club and Wheelchair Basketball were given extension funding during the year and Saturday Club extension funding from Children in Need is being submitted in July 2023.

I am confident that with further grants, donations and fundraising we will ensure Enable Ability will continue to deliver 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.

# Income and Expenditure Account

## for the year ending 31st March 2023

(with 2022 shown for comparison)

	2023	2022	
Total incoming resources	1,785,239	991,554	Note 2
Net gain on investments	2,209	4,796	
Total resources expended	1,283,029	1,058,403	Note 3
<b>Income/(Expenditure)</b>	<b>504,419</b>	<b>(62,053)</b>	Note 1
Total funds brought forward	538,030	600,083	
<b>Total funds Carried forward</b>	<b>1,042,449</b>	<b>538,030</b>	

## Balance sheet as at 31st March 2023

### Fixed assets

Tangible assets	620,229	145,430	Note 4
Investments	57,326	162,765	Note 5

### Current assets

Debtors	51,271	72,013	
Bank funds	360,961	183,330	Note 6
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>1,089,787</b>	<b>563,538</b>	

### Less current liabilities

Creditors	(47,338)	(25,508)	
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<b>Total assets less liabilities</b>	<b>1,042,449</b>	<b>538,030</b>	
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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 27th July 2023 .**

**Joe Harbour – Honorary Treasurer**



# The way ahead

## Building on our recent successes!

Our finances continue in a stable state with relatively secure funding in place for many of our services and activities, and plans in place to raise funds for those without a regular funding stream. That said, funding resources for social care are the target of increasing competition from other charities and organisations and we know any success here will come from our ability to show the positive difference we can make to the lives of our young people and their families. Demand-driven service growth means our overhead and salary costs will continue to grow in step, so contract negotiation and fundraising will remain key focus areas for us.

We will continue to offer a 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. On the latter item, we continue to enjoy support from the National Lottery and intend to strengthen our links with job providers, the DWP and Job Centre Plus to help many more young people to access work, bringing them greater independence and fulfilment.

Our base for our Social Enterprise, Landport Community Centre continues to thrive, providing a community hub for people in the Charles Dickens Ward. Amongst the facilities on offer are a cafe, a larder scheme, a drop-in advocacy service and facilities for faith groups, parties and youth groups and an increasing variety of other hirers such as advice groups from health, council and voluntary organisations. With support from local council grants, we have undertaken a number of enhancements and plan a relaunch of the centre towards the end of 2023.

Enable Ability will seek to expand and evolve our school holiday schemes for children in main stream education but with behavioural challenges, utilising funds from HAF (Holiday Activities and Food), and these will continue at two sites



*Mia and Georgia receive the regional HAF award at the House of Commons*



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 and continue to gain recognition from the City Council.

Our holiday Playscheme services, Saturday clubs and Befriending services are thriving and we will consider how these might be expanded to meet the ever-growing demand. We also plan to evaluate Social Club provision for young adults and this may lead to the creation of an additional offering in the year ahead.

The social enterprise and employability scheme has constantly shown positive results with many young people who've passed through the programme now enjoying employment, apprenticeships or voluntary work. We are considering expanding our computer repair shop and moving to bigger premises as well as potentially adding further activities in the IT and video production area to the menu of options available, as well as widening our referral net, to ensure as many young people who are eligible for the service can benefit from it.

We believe investing in our staff is critically important for their own success and that of the organisation. As an outcome from last year's successful re-accreditation by Investors In People, we established a manager training programme for all team leaders and project leaders. This commenced in January 2023 and was a great success. We will use feedback from that programme, along with input from our twice yearly staff/trustee forum, to further enhance the education and training of our staff.

Finally, we look forward to expanding our links with organisations who partner with us, fund us, support us and help us in providing an excellent service to the clients and participants in our care.



Sky-diving fundraisers

## Special thanks to:

Abri Housing  
 Anglo Bangla  
 Arimathea Trust  
 Arnold Clark  
 ASDA Foundation  
 Autek CIC/Steve Bond  
 BBC Children in Need  
 BBC Radio Solent  
 Benefact Group  
 BH Live  
 Bingo Bango  
 The Bivol Trust  
 Castle View Academy  
 Charles Dickens Centre  
 City of Portsmouth College  
 CM Sports UK  
 Connors Toy Libraries  
 Councillors Yinka Adeniran, Cal Corkery & Kirsty Mellor  
 Co-op  
 Co-op Neighbourly Fund  
 Southern Co-op  
 Edward Gostling Foundation  
 European Social Fund  
 Sam Fisher  
 Giselle Dance Academy  
 Hampshire Cosplay for Charity  
 Hants & IOW Community Foundation/  
 Rob Armstrong  
 Hampshire County Council  
 Emma Hartburn  
 Havant Lottery  
 Havant & South Downs College  
 Hayling Golf Club  
 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  
 Milton Arms Public House  
 Stephen Morgan MP  
 Morelands Primary School  
 Morrisons Anchorage Park  
 Morrisons Victory Park  
 Ms F Mort  
 One Box of Fudge  
 Paulsgrove Community Centre  
 Peter Ashley Activity Centre  
 Pompey in the Community  
 Portchester Community School  
 Portsmouth City Council  
 Portsmouth Guildhall  
 Portsmouth Lottery/Players  
 Portsmouth Irish Club  
 Portsmouth Party Hire & Events  
 Portsmouth Property Association  
 Portsmouth/SE Hants Chamber of  
 Commerce  
 Potters House Church  
 Premier Group  
 Quality Wrestling  
 Steve Ramsey & Family  
 Red Funnel Ferries  
 Rotary Club of Portsmouth & Southsea  
 Ready to Rock School  
 Shaping Portsmouth  
 Southern Co-Op  
 Southsea Castle Rotary Club  
 Southsea Skiffle Orchestra  
 Southwick Revival  
 The Stacey Centre  
 Starbucks Burrfields Road  
 Staunton Country Park  
 Stoney Ridge

Tesco Fratton / Tesco Community Fund  
 The Big Lottery Community Fund & Lucy  
 The Buskateers Choir  
 The Southsea Belles  
 Tennant  
 University of Portsmouth  
 Victorious Festival  
 Village Hotel, Portsmouth  
 Vivid Housing Association  
 Waitrose & Partners Southsea  
 Mark Wheeler  
 Wave 105 Cash for Kids  
 Zurich Community Trust

### Patrons

The Bishop of Portsmouth  
 The Lord Mayor of Portsmouth  
 Penny Mordaunt MP  
 Fred Dinenage MBE  
 Dr Caroline Williams  
 Daniel Hodson

### Trustees (2022 -23)

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 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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 [www.enableability.org.uk](http://www.enableability.org.uk)

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 Company No: 1405937



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