

Early Intervention Foundation
(A Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Company Number: 08066785
Charity Registered in England and Wales Number: 1152605



Early Intervention Foundation
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Early Intervention Foundation
Reference and Administrative Details
For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Trustees and Directors

Prof N Pearce – Chair (Appointed 1 April 2020)
M G Pilgrim MBE – Honorary Treasurer
R Auladin OBE
K Beaver
S Burlington
C A Davies CBE (Resigned 29 October 2020)
S Kemp
B C L Lucas
Dr J Menakaya (Appointed 24 May 2021)
Prof P Ramchandani
J L Roney OBE (Resigned 14 October 2020)
R P Shorthouse

Chief Executive

Dr J Casebourne

Company Secretary

C E Razzell

Principal Office and Registered Office

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London
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Company registration number

08066785

Country of Incorporation

United Kingdom

Charity registration number

1152605

Country of Registration

England and Wales

Bankers

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Early Intervention Foundation
Reference and Administrative Details
For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

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The Trustees, who are also the directors of the charity for the purposes of company law, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021. In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees have applied '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)'. The charity operates under the working name of 'EIF'. The report meets the requirements of a directors' report as required by company law.

Objectives and activities

2020/21 was the third year of EIF's five-year strategy. In 2020/21 the charity had total income of £2,724,768, compared to £2,894,572 in 2019/20. The strategy (which was published in the summer of 2018) sets out EIF's vision: that all children are able to achieve their full potential, and our mission: to ensure that effective early intervention is available and is used to improve the lives of children and young people at risk of poor outcomes. The strategy also sets out how we work to achieve our mission, through:

1. engaging our audiences
2. making the case for early intervention
3. generating evidence on what is effective early intervention and what is not
4. using this evidence to change policy and practice.

This is supported by our work on communications, funding, partnerships, and impact.

In 2020/21, the charity did not itself make grants, but was a partner in the Youth Endowment Fund (YEF), which awarded grants to interventions and community partnerships working with children at risk of being drawn into crime and violence. EIF partnered with Impetus and the Social Investment Business (SIB) in order to deliver YEF activity. EIF did not itself make use of social investment or have volunteers during the year. As noted in the section on YEF below, EIF has a new role in supporting the fund's work from 2021/22 onwards.

Engaging our audiences

The strategy outlines the different audiences that EIF has. Political leaders, policymakers, sector bodies, funders and charities at the national level set the rules of the game: they determine the extent to which early intervention is prioritised and invested in across the country as a whole. At the local level, politicians and senior leaders can set a vision and strategy which mobilises local systems and partnerships around an approach that enables early intervention, while commissioners and service managers are responsible for important decisions about investing in and commissioning early intervention services. Lastly, through influencing these national and local audiences, EIF also aims to shift the actions and decisions of practitioners working at the frontline.

The Covid-19 pandemic and lockdowns had a significant effect on our ability to engage directly with our audiences in some traditional ways, and meant that many of our key audience groups were even busier than ever, but we worked hard to identify methods and opportunities to reach these people in ways that were useful and appropriate. Each project in our work programme for 2020/21 set out a specific audience, or set of audiences, that it intended to engage, across the national, local and frontline tiers.

Many projects were developed in partnership with important stakeholder groups, including government departments and national leadership organisations, to ensure that our research or advice is more likely to meet these stakeholders' needs as end-users of our work. In other cases, projects were conducted in direct collaboration, for example with local authorities, services or practitioner groups, to ensure that the experiences, opinions and concerns of these groups are understood and incorporated into our findings and guidance. We continue to develop sector-leading expertise in 'knowledge mobilisation' – a set of theories and techniques for ensuring that evidence-informed content or tools are received and most importantly used by those with the power to make vital decisions – and to experiment with and evaluate different approaches to planning and executing the mobilisation of evidence through all our work.

In addition to this individual project-level engagement with our audiences, our policy and public affairs project provided structure, strategy and planning for engaging with existing and new stakeholders, particularly across Whitehall and national organisations, including major charities, the evidence community and sector leadership bodies. Relationships with government, academics, the voluntary sector and early intervention providers are all vital to the evolution of our work, ensuring that it is directly relevant to the needs of the early intervention sector, as well as creating the foundations for the effective dissemination of our work.

Making the case

Our strategy sets out the need to re-make the case for early intervention. In 2020/21, our work to make the case for early intervention focused on understanding and providing targeted input on the submissions of Whitehall departments as part of the Comprehensive Spending Review process, to support decisions and plans with the potential to increase the prioritisation of and investment in early intervention. This input was developed collaboratively through ongoing discussions with departments for responsibility for policies affecting children and families, to ensure it was well aligned with departments' existing priorities and areas they had identified for reform or growth, and in response to invitations and requests for evidence or expert views on particular policy questions.

We also presented evidence to two parliamentary inquiries on the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, and to the cross-party Early Years Commission. Our national conference, hosted in December 2020 after being postponed from April due to the pandemic and lockdown, brought together over 300 delegates and participants from all levels of the early intervention community, and a range of speakers including both the government ministers with responsibility for children's affairs. And a renewed focus on generating press coverage allowed us to reach public and sector audiences with key messages on early intervention and a range of our issues where we have expertise and evidence to offer.

Generating evidence

The strategy sets out that, over five years, our evidence generation work will include:

- evidence on identifying risk
- evidence on how to effectively assess need
- evidenced-based programmes
- evidence on effective workforce practice
- evidence on how to create effective local conditions and systems to support early intervention.

In 2020/21, our research work was shaped very strongly by the Covid-19 pandemic and the multiple and severe impacts that the pandemic and necessary lockdowns had on children, young people and families. We produced three reports in response to and informed by the first lockdown in spring 2020, on the evidence relating to virtual and digital provision of support, on the disruptions and innovations observed by both local services and early intervention support providers, and on adapting support in the reducing parental conflict (RPC) area to remote delivery.

In recognition of evidence gaps previously identified, and the issues most clearly exacerbated and highlighted by the pandemic and lockdowns, we expanded our research into adolescent mental health and domestic abuse, making significant progress on a major evidence review on what works to support young people's mental wellbeing, and publishing the results of research with national and local bodies to understand the current state of support for children who experience domestic abuse.

We continued our work on evidence-based programmes through adding to and updating the contents of the flagship EIF Guidebook database – following an open call for submissions and our own work to investigate the evidence on RPC programmes – and developed this key portal further by adding new information on the scale of positive outcomes that programmes listed on the Guidebook have produced in past evaluations. At the same time, to expand our view beyond manualised programmes, we commenced a long-term project to identify the 'common elements' of effective programmes in early years education, with a view to providing conclusions about the 'active ingredients' that might be shared across programmes and potentially used outside of manualised programmes altogether.

Supporting high-quality evaluation remains a focus for EIF, both as the engine for new UK-based evidence to be generated, and as a key element of the local system that we know councils, services and others can find daunting or challenging. Based on our evidence and expertise, and engagement during the year with six local areas to support their evaluation plans, we developed an in-depth, step-by-step guide on evaluating services and other activity (such as workforce training) designed to reduce the impact of damaging conflict between parents. We also launched a new 'one-stop shop' hub focused on evaluation, providing how-to resources, evidence and tools for each stage in an evaluation journey.

Other work to support local systems and workforce development happened through our research on current approaches to family hubs and children's centres, including engagement with 14 local areas. This report was published in the autumn, supported by a new Early Childhood Services hub, providing evidence-informed content and guidance for local early years and maternity services.

Using evidence to change policy and practice

The strategy set out a number of mechanisms that we use to disseminate our evidence and to get it adopted in both policy and practice: (1) working with policymakers; (2) working with sector and workforce bodies and large charities; (3) running networks; and (4) working directly with local places.

At the national level, we worked throughout the year to provide input and expertise to departments with responsibility for policies relating to children and families, including to DfE on early years support, family hubs and the impact of Covid-19 on young people; to MHCLG on the use of evidence in the next stages of the Supporting Families (formerly Troubled Families) Programme; and to the Home Office on domestic abuse services. We remain an integral part of the national Reducing Parental Conflict Programme, run by DWP, and in autumn 2020 ran a 'Healthy Relationships Week' series of webinars and blogs, to disseminate evidence and enable information-sharing across the network that supports the RPC programme.

Our major report on adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) from the previous year supported further work to engage the sector and to test or develop consensus on 'where next' for this high-profile agenda, the results of which will be published in summer 2021.

Our early years maturity matrix, published in autumn 2020, provides an evidence-based tool for local areas to discuss and agree on the current 'maturity' of their local system, and make coordinated plans for improvement. While initially developed for use in the English context, interest from the Welsh government resulted in the tool being adapted for use in Wales as well. In all, 20 local areas – 10 each from England and Wales – have completed the maturity matrix process and provided data back to EIF, which will help us to form an improved picture of the state of early years provision.

Following our work on virtual and digital provision, we extended an open offer of support to local areas, which resulted in further work with 16 places or organisations to understand and provide evidence-informed input to their plans.

Communications

EIF communications in 2020/21 focused on raising EIF's profile and disseminating our evidence-informed content in ways that were convenient and engaging for our audiences dealing with the changes brought by the Covid pandemic and lockdowns.

Major milestones included the development of a dedicated press strategy, which led to a doubling of total coverage and a large increase in the number of national press and broadcast appearances; an expansion of the EIF blog, resulting in significant growth in readership; and the creation of a communications officer post. The national conference, postponed from April, was successfully run in December, as a hybrid event with delegates attending online and speakers appearing in person or online. An increased use of webinars saw EIF researchers presenting on topics including the impact of Covid-19 on local services, virtual and digital provision, and the evidence on reducing parental conflict.

Sustainable funding

In April 2020 EIF signed a one-year cross-government grant agreement with central government departments. During the year funding came from the Department for Education (DfE), Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), Public Health England (PHE) and the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG). In April 2021 the charity successfully continued its relationship with Whitehall by signing a further one-year grant agreement for 2021/22, at a similar level of funding. The charity will be participating in the forthcoming government Spending Review with a view to securing longer-term funding beyond March 2022.

During 2020/21 we continued our involvement in the Youth Endowment Fund (YEF) as a delivery partner, which awarded grants to interventions and community partnerships working with children at risk of being drawn into crime and violence. EIF also worked in partnership with the University of Cambridge, with funding from the Nuffield Foundation, to look at common elements of programmes, as a way of strengthening the quality of early years education.

Working in partnership

During 2020/21, we conducted a number of projects in partnership with other sector organisations, including work with What Works Children's Social Care (WWCSC) on trauma-informed care, the ADCS Staff College on training children's services leaders, and the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) on distilling lessons for effective knowledge mobilisation from our previous partnership work on mental health and wellbeing in primary schools. Our work with PEDAL at the University of Cambridge, on common elements in effective early years education, continued.

We continued our work with founding partners Impetus and SIB to deliver the Youth Endowment Fund, and also secured a new role for EIF in the YEF partnership from April 2021, focused on producing evidence synthesis, supporting the YEF toolkit, assessing programmes linked to topics in the YEF toolkit and supporting YEF's forward strategy and planning, engagement with Whitehall and the sector, and communications about evidence.

Understanding our impact

In 2020/21 we focused on enhancing our approach to impact measurement, including by embedding it across all EIF projects, and on developing our understanding of the principles and evidence relating to knowledge mobilisation. Our work through 2020/21 underpinned a paper, targeted at colleagues across the What Works Network and other evidence translation organisations, published in spring 2021.

The impact we had in 2020/21 is set out in the section below.

Our people

Through 2020/21, the charity employed on average 38 people. There was one change to senior management during the year, as the Director with responsibility for EIF's work for the Youth Endowment Fund (YEF) left and this role was not replaced within EIF. During the year, the charity recruited 16 staff members and 2 secondees, replacing 15 staff whose contracts ended, who found other opportunities or who transitioned to work directly for Impetus in delivering YEF.

Achievements and performance

2020/21 was a strong year for EIF, in spite of the disruption caused by Covid-19. We have been able to strengthen our relationships with government, and are actively supporting policy development in critical and potentially game-changing areas, including through the independent review of children's social care, the design of family hubs and the future of the Supporting Families programme. While much of our engagement centres on the Department for Education, we are actively supporting government programmes and providing advice to the Department for Work & Pensions, the Ministry for Housing, Communities & Local Government, the Home Office, Cabinet Office and HM Treasury.

We are also becoming clearer organisationally about how best we can add value in local areas and the specific changes or impacts we should be aiming for in our work. We are working with local areas in a range of ways to support them to use evidence in a way that leads to the demonstrable improvement of services at local level.

Assessing impact

Our impact framework was agreed with our Trustee Board in July 2018 and has become central to the way we design and manage our projects. The framework is rooted in behavioural science and uses the COM-B framework developed by Prof Susan Michie – the theory that for people to behave in the way we want them to, they need to have the Capability, Opportunity and Motivation to do so, and that barriers may exist at any or all of these levels. Our framework specifies the overall behaviour change we want to see as “increased prioritisation of and investment in effective early intervention”, and seeks to describe the intended and actual impacts of our projects in terms of increasing the capability, opportunity or motivation of people in our key audience groups.

Our impact in 2020/21

Response to the Covid-19 pandemic

We responded swiftly to the **Covid-19 pandemic**, producing a series of outputs on pressing issues for the sector. The first, *Covid-19 and early intervention: Evidence, challenges and risks relating to virtual and digital delivery*, was the most downloaded new report of the year, with over 9,000 downloads. Our second report, *Covid-19 and early intervention: Understanding the impact, preparing for recovery*, was downloaded more than 3,000 times.

We also produced thematic outputs, including a report on reducing parental conflict in the context of Covid-19, and a suite of resources for schools to help them support children and young people's social and emotional wellbeing when they reopened after a period of closure.

Beyond this, we have been part of conversations with the Government Office for Science about areas of research interest relating to Covid-19 and we are part of the advisory board for Nuffield research on Covid and childcare. We also used insights from our Covid-related reports to submit evidence to the Commons education committee and the Lords public services committee on the impact of the pandemic on services for children and families, and subsequently gave oral evidence to the Lords' inquiry.

Realising the extent of service adaptation in the light of Covid-19 restrictions, we offered **bespoke evaluation support** to 16 local areas who were making changes to their service models, to enable them to generate useful data about the impacts of the changes to ways of delivering services. The lack of capacity and capability locally to evaluate local services is a significant barrier to improving the effectiveness of services locally and so an important priority for EIF is supporting early-stage evaluation locally. In March, we launched the EIF Evaluation Hub, which brings together a range of practical tools and resources to support people locally who are taking the first steps in trying to evaluate their services. This has already had over 250 users and anecdotal evidence suggests it is both welcomed and useful.

Support for vulnerable children and families

The **independent review of children's social care** offers a hugely important opportunity to reshape the way we deliver support for families in England. We are working closely with the care review team to help them think about what a redesigned family support offer could look like, drawing on our evidence and the expertise we have developed in relation to the functioning of local early help systems. We expect the review's forthcoming 'case for change' report to directly reflect and reference our thinking, and the team has been very positive about the value of our input.

We are also working closely with the **Supporting Families** team at MHCLG, and were named as a partner when the rebranded programme was launched. This reflects our strong reputation within the team, and offers EIF another route to ensuring that a key policy area and crucial local delivery mechanism is informed by robust evidence. We will be supporting the team on programme and evaluation design.

In a related area, our work on **domestic abuse** has enabled us to develop an in-depth and timely (with the Domestic Abuse Bill gaining royal assent) understanding of the issues that affect the provision of support to child victims of domestic abuse, and evaluation of this support. Through highlighting the lack of evaluation in the area, this work has influenced the relevant Home Office team to focus on improving the evaluation of their £8m Children Affected by Domestic Abuse fund, commissioning EIF to advise on the evaluation of their funded projects. In March, we submitted a report and recommendations to the team, highlighting action that is needed to tackle some of the fundamental barriers to improving evaluation of domestic abuse support, such as the lack of any consensus about the outcomes that services are seeking to achieve or how to measure them. They are taking these recommendations forward, and will now require consistent monitoring data from projects (using metrics suggested by EIF) and are also looking into commissioning work to identify a set of outcomes and appropriate measures that they could then use as they fund services over the spending review period.

Following on from our major February 2020 report on **adverse childhood experiences (ACEs)**, over the past year EIF has conducted a Delphi exercise, a multi-stage survey designed to build consensus on the policy and practice implications of the report's findings. A survey we conducted at the start of this process told us that 75% of participants thought the report had increased their knowledge and understanding of the evidence on ACEs, 87% thought it had helped them understand or be aware of some of the evidence gaps in relation to ACEs, and, importantly, 39% said that the report had changed how they worked, suggesting that it was also influencing change in practice.

Our work on **trauma-informed training and care** – which has highlighted the lack of any consistent definition as to what is meant by the term 'trauma-informed care' and the lack of evidence that this approach improves outcomes for children – has also influenced Home Office thinking about evaluation. We have secured agreement from the Home Office that they will work with EIF and the Youth Endowment Fund to enable evaluation of models of trauma-informed care that they are funding, through Violence Reduction Units, as a way of reducing serious youth violence. While the 12-month term for this funding makes evaluation difficult, we have worked with the YEF to identify a solution whereby it will continue to fund any evaluable models for long enough to allow evaluation to be conducted.

Lastly, we continue to support the DWP **Reducing Parental Conflict (RPC)** programme as part of our work on support for vulnerable children and families. Our work this year has focused on supporting local areas with their planning and measuring the impact of their services locally. This has led to measures being used to capture child voice, increased use of validated measures, and increased strategic prioritisation of evaluation – supported by a new, in-depth guide to evaluating interventions and other activity (such as practitioner training) within the RPC space.

We have provided new tools to support local areas in developing and evaluating their services. We have updated our online Reducing Parental Conflict hub – which had over 11,000 visits in 2020/21 – and the *Reducing Parental Conflict (RPC) planning tool*, a variation on the maturity matrix resource that is used by local authorities to understand and examine their local systems and services, as well as expanding the *RPC outcomes framework*, which is designed to help local areas and others to be specific in how they will measure the impact of parental conflict and the effectiveness of RPC interventions.

Early years

Our work on the **early years** continues to be seen as highly credible and has a significant impact on both policy and practice. Through long-running engagement with the DfE, we now have an active role in supporting the development of Family Hubs, as well as advising the early years review team on evidence-based programmes, outcomes frameworks and evaluation. We have also submitted evidence to the cross-party Early Years Commission, which is seeking to build a consensus on the future of early years policy.

Our report on planning early childhood services set out to understand contemporary local practice relating to children's centres and family hubs, and how best to support the future development of early childhood services – and shaped our advice to DfE on family hubs.

We have continued to provide other tools to support local areas to improve their early years systems, including a new EIF maturity matrix for maternity and early years services, which is designed to support local areas to take a system-wide approach to improving outcomes for children and families. This has been downloaded more than 3,400 times. A new Early Childhood Services Hub provides a central repository where local leaders, commissioners and key stakeholders can easily find key EIF evidence resources and planning tools, alongside selected resources from other organisations.

Our **Early Years Transformation Academy (EYTA)** was an intensive 12-month programme, which ran between April 2019 and March 2020, and engaged with five local areas to support the development of integrated maternity and early years systems using the latest evidence on early intervention and early childhood development. An independent evaluation of this programme was conducted following the programme's completion, to capture early learning about the development of the Academy, recruitment and retention of local areas, delivery of the programme and the overall value of the EYTA. The evaluation concluded that 'overall it is clear the EYTA has been a very rich learning opportunity, and the evaluation points to clear strengths in the overall approach, content and delivery'. The evaluation also concluded that there was clear value for participating areas in having taken part, with the greatest impacts being seen in the development of stronger relationships and partnerships, and on systems thinking, particularly the understanding of shared goals and interdependencies.

We have also played a role in supporting **future research** in relation to the early years. We advised the DfE on their early development of the 'Children of 2020' longitudinal study, which they have now put out to tender, taking on many of our suggestions. We were influential in recommending an evidence-based approach in the decision to extend the Study of Early Education and Development (SEED), which will produce evidence on the impact of early years education. We also hosted an early years research roundtable with 12 research and funder organisations, which led to a number of joint bids from participants.

Mental health

Our focus this year has been on a review examining the latest evidence on **the effectiveness of mental health and behavioural interventions** in secondary schools, drawing together evidence from 35 systematic reviews and 98 primary studies. Publication is forthcoming.

The impact of our review and of our work on children and young people's mental health will depend on the strength of our relationships with key influencers in the system. We do not yet have the same relationship with the policy leads in government as we do in the other key areas of our work, and we are keen to use this year's work to establish ourselves as a valuable source of robust and useful evidence that can meaningfully inform policy development.

In the meantime, we have formed **valuable relationships** with other organisations that share our objectives to drive evidence use in policy and practice in relation to children's mental health. We continue our collaboration with the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) on social and emotional learning in primary schools, and our relationships with the PSHE Association, the Anna Freud Centre and the National Children's Bureau have enabled us to disseminate this work effectively to reach schools.

Our work has been well received in the sector. For example, PHE published a series of reports in October summarising the evidence for the effectiveness of universal approaches to improving children and young people's mental health and wellbeing, which referenced EIF and the EIF Guidebook throughout.

Reputation and quality

Our March 2021 stakeholder survey suggested that our community sees us a **highly credible, trustworthy and well-respected** organisation, with 90% of nearly 550 respondents stating that they trust the information provided by EIF, 92% saying they respect the work done by EIF, and 90% finding EIF outputs valuable.

Across all the key areas EIF works in, at least 90% of stakeholders felt that EIF work was useful, with our work in evaluation (97%), Covid-19 response (95%) and mental health and wellbeing (94%) being viewed particularly positively. EIF's work is also viewed as highly credible, particularly in the areas of evaluation (94%), parenting and families (93%), and early years (91%).

Via the same survey, we also tested how effective our work was at **increasing readers' capability** (knowledge and skills) to understand our evidence, see how it applies to their role, and make changes in their work. The impact of our work related to evaluation was seen to be particularly strong, with 51% of stakeholders stating that they had a better understanding of the evidence as a result of our work in this area, and 21% stating that they had made changes to their work as a result. Two other areas – Parenting and families, and Early years – also showed notable results, with 47% and 46% of stakeholders stating they had an increased understanding of the evidence in these areas respectively, and 17% and 19% having made changes to their work as a result.

Reports, resources and activities that appeared to have the most impact on people's understanding of the evidence included *Realising the potential of early intervention* (57% of respondents), *Key competencies in early cognitive development* (56%), *Improving social and emotional learning in primary schools* (52%) and the EIF Guidebook (51%). Those which have had the most impact in terms of improving readers' understanding of how to apply the evidence to their work were *10 steps to evaluation success* (40%), *Planning early childhood services in 2020* (37%) and *Adverse childhood experiences* (37%). Stakeholders are most likely to have made direct changes to their work as a result of their contact with the *Planning early childhood services in 2020* report (27%), our peer challenge support (23%), and the Reducing Parental Conflict Hub (22%).

The **EIF Guidebook** is our flagship resource for commissioners. It is an accessible and searchable database which offers a wealth of information on both the quality of evidence underpinning programmes designed to improve outcomes for children and young people, and vital aspects of implementation, such as the target population, estimated cost and level of practitioner qualifications required.

During the past year, we undertook user testing to help us understand how the Guidebook was being used and how we might make improvements. Dartington Service Design Lab surveyed 169 stakeholders (both users and non-users) and undertook 21 qualitative interviews. In addition to providing a number of avenues for future development, this research showed that the current features of the Guidebook were all seen to be of high priority to those who use it, that the information it contained was clear, and that it was easy to use.

In a significant new development to the content of the Guidebook, in March we added data on the size of improvements from interventions, as measured in past evaluations, so that users can now see not just what kinds of improvements have been observed, but how big and how long-lasting those improvements were.

Reputation, profile and reach

Building and maintaining a stronger **public profile** is an ongoing priority for EIF, both to underpin our own reputation as experts and leading voices in our field, and to ensure our messages and content reach a wider audience.

Supported by a new senior press officer role and investment in coaching for senior managers, our **press activity** and resulting coverage grew considerably year on year, with 119 instances of press coverage in total, including over a dozen national or broadcast items, compared with a total of 49 in 2019/20. We were able to generate coverage for several of our new lines of work, including on the Covid-19 impact and response, on domestic abuse, and on young people's mental health.

The flagship event of the year, our third **national conference**, was held in early December, having been postponed from April due to Covid restrictions. Over 300 delegates and participants took part in a hybrid event, with delegates attending virtually, and participants divided between a physical 'hub' location in central London and home locations. This event had significant reach, with over 70,000 views of EIF tweets on the day and the following day, and over 800 views of recordings of the various speakers and panel sessions in the weeks that followed.

Pre/post survey results suggested that the conference was successful and engaging, with the vast majority of attendees suggesting they would attend again, and that it positively impacted on attendees' understanding of the evidence in key areas of early intervention and how to use this evidence in their work. For example, the breakout on early years led to significant increases in attendees' awareness of the evidence and how to apply it in their jobs: +23% and +14% respectively, comparing pre- and post-event responses. Several respondents mentioned that they intended to use conference content to put pressure on funding decisions to prioritise early intervention or early help in current budget discussions.

Our **digital reach** continues to grow, with website traffic up from the previous year on the EIF website (by about 5%, to over 450,000 visits) and the EIF Guidebook (by about 7%, to 49,000 visits). We are also managing to reach a broader audience, with more than three-quarters of website visitors and four in every five Guidebook users from the UK being located outside London. We introduced two new specialist hubs during the year – on early childhood services and evaluation – each of which attracts several hundred visitors a month.

In total, EIF reports and resources were downloaded nearly 320,000 times during the year, which is down by around 7% from last year, primarily due to the huge success of the ACEs report in February 2020. This ACEs report, along with other key reports from EIF's back catalogue on subjects including youth violence and early child development, were the most downloaded during the year, joined by new outputs such as our report on virtual and digital delivery, with over 8,000 downloads.

The EIF blog, in line with our strategy, was diverse in content and contributors. We increased the number of blogs published this year from 36 to 42 in 2020/2021, covering subjects such as behavioural genetics, maternity & early years system, 'common elements' of effective early education practice, healthy relationships, and early childhood services. In total there were nearly 37,000 'reads' on the EIF blog this year.

We also launched a trio of short, animated films presenting key messages on early intervention and why it matters, and explaining the role of EIF. These videos were viewed over 25,000 times across our social and web channels.

Youth Endowment Fund

Over the past year, EIF continued to deliver the evidence and evaluation function for the Youth Endowment Fund (YEF). This included expanding the evaluation team in order to adapt plans for the delivery and evaluation of the programmes funded through the inaugural grant round in the context of Covid, and launching a Covid-19 grant round, funding 129 organisations to provide targeted support to young people at-risk of being drawn into violent crime and to learn as quickly as possible what works to reach vulnerable young people during a period of social distancing. Alongside this we expanded the data and insight team – which will lead YEF's quantitative work to understand the trends, drivers and risk and protective factors relating to serious violence – and the research and youth understanding team – which will work to ensure youth voice and lived experience is at the heart of the fund's work. Major outputs and achievements included producing the What Works Evidence Review and the Evidence and Gap Map, and winning funding from #Iwill and the Co-op to set up an ambitious peer research network. In addition to our work on evidence and evaluation, EIF staff also supported YEF colleagues to develop the fund's future strategy, identify relevant stakeholders, and determine the focus areas or themes for upcoming grants rounds.

Conclusion

2020/21 was a challenging but highly significant year for EIF, as the Covid pandemic and lockdowns both highlighted many of the issues we care about and work on, and introduced a range of factors that made our job more difficult, particularly in terms of reaching and engaging with our key audiences working across national and local government and hard-pressed public services. We have solidified our role and reputation as a trusted, independent source of evidence-based policy advice for Whitehall departments and sector bodies looking to understand and address the impacts of the pandemic on families and young people. We have continued our work with local areas, in new ways and around the necessary prioritisation of the Covid response, to better understand the challenges they're facing and provide appropriate and useful support. And we have carved out new territory in our work and our communications, in areas such as adolescent mental health and domestic abuse, which are likely to remain in the headlines as the full impact of the pandemic period is gradually revealed, and where we will have new and relevant evidence and guidance to share.

Future developments

2021/22 is the fourth year of EIF's five-year strategy.

Our priorities for the next two years are:

- To be integral to achieving increased government prioritisation of and investment in effective early intervention and family help, for example through the spending review and policies related to the Covid recovery and 'levelling up' agenda.
- To address the most substantive gaps in the evidence-base by generating new evidence, including through running trials or robust impact evaluations.
- That our evidence is changing policy and practice – through applying tested methods to support evidence-use locally and nationally.

Portfolios in EIF's work programme

Our three major portfolios of work cover areas where early intervention can be effective, and where there is considerable demand for evidence and evidence-informed guidance from national, local and frontline stakeholders.

In all three areas, in addition to the activities outlined below, we will provide bespoke advice to stakeholders working in relevant Whitehall departments, to inform and support government policies and programmes.

Improving outcomes for children in the early years

In 2021/22, our work in the early years will:

- Review and refresh existing evidence on the effectiveness of early years programmes, in order to make updates to the EIF Guidebook database.
- Undertake a significant programme of activity to mobilise existing evidence on early years practice, including supporting system planning and evaluation in local areas, supporting children's early language provision, partnering in the DfE's Growing Up Well programme to work with three local areas, being a partner in the DfE's policies to support family hubs as a means of providing localised services, and continuing our work on understanding the maturity of the local early years system, using the EIF maturity matrix tool and gathering data from participating local areas to paint a national picture.
- Continue our research, for the Nuffield Foundation and in partnership with the University of Cambridge, into the common elements of effective early education provision.

Improving children and young people's mental health and wellbeing

Our major review of what works to support adolescents' mental health will be published in early summer 2021.

In 2021/22, our work on mental health and wellbeing will:

- Produce and disseminate guidance for secondary schools, based on the findings of our major evidence review on the effectiveness of approaches to improving adolescent mental health.
- Establish and communicate the links between social and emotional learning (SEL) and the relationships and health education curriculum in primary schools, including building on and mobilising our 2019 guidance on supporting SEL in primary schools.

Supporting the most vulnerable children and families

In 2021/22, our work on addressing child vulnerability will:

- Extend our work on services to support families affected by domestic abuse by facilitating a research-practice partnership with a small number of local areas, to improve the use of evidence in local systems through early-stage evaluation support.
- Support the next phase of the Supporting Families Programme (formerly the Troubled Families Programme), including through providing evidence relating to family support and advice on implementation and evaluation within the programme.
- Continue our practical support for the national Reducing Parental Conflict Programme (administered by the DWP), through focused work with local authorities and evidence synthesis on interparental relations and family interventions.

Cross-cutting projects

A portion of our work is focused on aspects of supporting early intervention beyond or across the particular issues and policy areas covered by the portfolios above.

Policy and public affairs: Our work in this area will focus on the Comprehensive Spending Review process, and maintaining relationships with Whitehall departments that will allow us to support increased priority and investment for early intervention in departmental plans and spending review bids. We also seek to build and maintain productive relationships across political leadership, sector bodies, charities and the evidence community; to improve our understanding of engagement with stakeholders in the NHS; and to continue to input into key, relevant inquiries, reviews and strategic processes.

Race and ethnicity: Our renewed organisational commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) includes a new focus on understanding and addressing the influence of ethnicity in a child or young person's development. Through the impact of social movements such as Black Lives Matter, and wider acknowledgment of how the Covid pandemic has exacerbated existing racial inequalities, there is now a heightened interest in race equality in the UK. As part of our mission for *all* children to fulfil their potential and to improve the lives of *all* children at risk of poor outcomes, we want EIF's work to improve outcomes for children from minority ethnic backgrounds. A key part of doing this is to ensure that we search for and comment on evidence regarding the value or impact of interventions, policies and practices on UK minority ethnic children and families in our research and evidence reviews going forward, and where such evidence does not exist, to highlight these gaps to improve the research that is done in future. Work to identify future EIF projects specifically designed to fill gaps or improve understanding on how issues of ethnicity interact with early intervention commenced in winter 2020, with the support of the Race Equality Foundation, and new work will be scoped out in 2021/22.

EIF Guidebook: The EIF Guidebook is our flagship resource for providing evidence-based content about effective early intervention programmes. In 2021/22, we will undertake a significant review of early years programmes on the Guidebook, and pursue developments informed by the in-depth user research undertaken in 2020/21, including the potential to expand the Guidebook beyond manualised programmes to include information on generalised practices or approaches to early intervention.

Impact: Our work in this area will support EIF project managers to assess the impact of their work, in terms of supporting or causing behaviour change, and to ensure this information is relevant and useful to key organisational stakeholders, including funders.

Other work streams

Youth Endowment Fund (YEF): From April 2021, EIF takes on a new role in supporting YEF, particularly in its evidence-focused functions, after the consolidation of the YEF team within a single organisation at the end of 2020/21. In the year ahead, we will provide research and evidence synthesis on parenting and families, supporting a major YEF grants round in this area. We will support development of the YEF Toolkit, and assess a set of programmes to be added to this toolkit and will support YEF's forward strategy and planning, engagement with Whitehall and the sector, and communications about evidence.

EIF communications: Key objectives for our communications work in 2021/22 are to continue to raise the charity's external profile, including through increased press coverage and activities to reach political and policy audiences; to actively support and promote EIF's commitment to EDI; and to diversify our channels of communication, including an expansion of social media activity.

Structure, governance and management

The Early Intervention Foundation (EIF) is a company limited by guarantee (registration number: 08066785) and a registered charity (registration number: 01152605). EIF is also one of the government's What Works Centres.

The charity was established in 2013 for the public benefit, to advance education, promote health and relieve poverty. The charity is governed by its Memorandum of Association which are lodged with Companies House and which sets out the Objects and Powers of the charity. The Objects are focused on "disseminating evidence concerning best practices in early interventions to improve social and emotional capabilities of babies, children and young people".

The Memorandum of Association further sets out the composition and duties of the Board of Trustees (the Board). The Board currently comprises 10 Trustees and may never be less than three people. The Board elects a Chair from among its members and at present this position is held by Professor Nicholas Pearce. The Board also maintains one Trustee as Honorary Treasurer, this position is currently held by Mr Martin Pilgrim MBE. The tenure on the Board is five or six years, after which time replacements are recruited.

The Board is responsible for the management of the charity's business but chooses to delegate. Delegation of day-to-day management is to the Chief Executive, a position currently held by Dr Jo Casebourne. EIF also has a Senior Management Team which at the year-end comprised three people – Thomas McBride, Director of Evidence; Donna Molloy, Director of Policy and Practice and Charlotte Razzell, Director of Finance and Resources. Collectively their responsibility is to advise, implement and report upon the strategy and budget approved by Trustees. As a whole EIF, employed an average of 38

staff during 2020/21 arranged into three teams and a separate Communications team reporting to the Chief Executive.

To assist in discharging its duties, the Board has further established two Committees for scrutiny and oversight:

- A Remuneration Committee, which reviews the annual pay award to staff and the remuneration of senior staff including the Chief Executive. This committee comprises three Trustees and selects a Chair from among its members.
- A Finance Committee to assist in deeper scrutiny of financial matters and to oversee the annual external audit. This committee comprises four Trustees and is chaired by the Honorary Treasurer.

Decision-making by the Board occurs at meetings which take place quarterly. Additional meetings can be called if needed. The Board must be quorate to make decisions, and this is set at the greater of two persons or one-third of the members. In the event, the Chair has a casting vote to make decisions.

Trustees carefully consider whether they have conflicts of interest to report against any agenda item or decision, and in May 2020 established a formal conflicts of interest policy and associated register of interests, which was most recently reviewed and re-approved in May 2021. Annually they complete a related parties declaration form with any financial transactions declared in note 6 to the accounts. Other conflicts of interest which arose and were managed in 2020/21 were:

- Trustee Kelly Beaver declared an interest due to her employer, Ipsos MORI, joining the Panel of Evaluators for the Youth Endowment Fund (YEF). Kelly Beaver oversees the revenue portfolio at Ipsos MORI that includes this panel work, but is herself not involved in bidding for or delivering the contracts.
- Trustee Sally Burlington declared an interest due to her employer, the Local Government Association, being engaged to give an independent evidence focus to a DfE-funded Peer Challenge process, which EIF ran during the year.
- Trustee Paul Ramchandini declared an interest due to his employer, the University of Cambridge, working in co-operation with the EIF to deliver the Nuffield Foundation Common Elements Research.

As and when required Trustee recruitment is undertaken. Two people with the requisite skills joined the Board during 2020/21 and 2021/22 one of whom was the Chair of the Board of Trustees who took up this position on 1 April 2020 after an open recruitment process, whilst two Trustees departed from the Board. New Trustees are provided with a comprehensive induction in which they meet with key personnel. They are given an information pack about the charity, training in data protection and cyber security and access to past Board papers and minutes. All Trustees are invited to sign the charity's *bring your own device* to work policy or are issued with EIF standard devices through which to access board papers and other relevant material.

Trustees receive reimbursement of relevant expenses to attend meetings but no other compensation for their time or effort on the Board. The Board maintains an expenses policy for Trustees.

Trustees directly oversee the remuneration of the Chief Executive and the Senior Management Team. All other staff are paid according to a remuneration framework. The current framework was launched in May 2020 (replacing a previous framework that dated from 2017) after a process overseen by the Remuneration Committee. The framework comprises three elements:

- i. a job evaluation framework, which is used to allocate each role to a level/grade in a consistent and transparent manner
- ii. a pay structure, comprising the number, breadth and make-up of pay levels allocated to each job level/grade
- iii. pay progression, the means by which individuals can experience pay progression by demonstrating higher performance and value to EIF.

From time to time, as responsibilities change, job descriptions may be re-written, and annually the Trustees consider whether there should be a cost of living increase.

EIF is committed to promoting equality, diversity and inclusion, reflecting the fact we work in one of the most diverse countries in the world. The work we do – ensuring evidence is at the heart of all decisions regarding early interventions that support all children at risk of poor outcomes to achieve their potential – should reflect the realities of the society we live in. Moreover, EIF believes that it has an active role to play in reducing inequalities. Not only must our work programme reflect this, but our workforce too should reflect the society we live in, and be as diverse as the people whose lives are impacted by our work. In Autumn 2020 EIF conducted an audit of its internal practices in relation to equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI). The results have informed the development of an EDI strategy which will be launched in 2021 alongside targets and supporting action plan through to 2027. The charity has made a commitment to create an inclusive workplace where everyone feels valued and respected because of their difference: a place where every member of staff can be themselves so they can reach their potential and help us achieve our goals.

EIF is a What Works Centre. This 'What Works' status places additional responsibility upon the charity to be independent of government and have a clear and relevant policy focus. In all aspects of work EIF adheres by these standards, irrespective of the funder. The work undertaken by EIF clearly fits within the remit of a What Works Centre, by focusing on evidence generation and getting that evidence used in policy and practice.

In furtherance of this, the Board has chosen to establish an Evidence Panel to provide world-class expertise and advice. The Panel's role is purely advisory and comprises academic experts. Their work ensures EIF conducts independent and rigorous assessment of all available evidence on a given topic. Historically, the Panel assisted in the development of EIF's standards of evidence, and it continues to monitor and quality-assure their application to our work. The Panel meets biannually to consider a range of topics as relevant to the charity's work plan. The terms of reference for the panel were reviewed and reapproved during the year; they state that the Panel is to advise EIF on:

- i. the strategic direction and overall content of EIF's evidence generation programme
- ii. technical and methodological aspects relevant to EIF's evidence and research, including approaches to evaluating programmes, practices and systems and approaches to assessing cost and impact
- iii. the future development of EIF's evidence standards
- iv. EIF's approach to quality assurance
- v. EIF's relationship with the research community and wider stakeholders including research funders
- vi. EIF's approach to getting evidence used to change policy and practice.

In 2019 the work of the Evidence Panel started to be enhanced by a Technical Advisory Group that has met once a year to advise on technical aspects of our Evidence Standards and process for assessing interventions to appear on the guidebook.

In February 2021 the Board gave approval to the establishment of an Ethics Committee which is made up of Trustees and external experts and which, once recruited and operational, will provide scrutiny of the very small number of projects which wish to conduct research directly with children or families.

Risk management

Risk management is a key strategic activity for the Board. It is routinely woven into the cycle of Board meetings, senior management meetings and project management. Risks may arise from the environment in which EIF operates, whilst others may relate to the strengths and weaknesses of the charity at this point in its development.

During 2020/21 the Board maintained a risk register in line with best practice. Risks are considered in the categories of strategic and operational risks. Risks are assessed by their impact and likelihood against a clear and consistent criteria. The register also includes a summary of the mitigating actions and the risk owner.

The Board has considered the key risks to which it is exposed and articulated what action it is taking to mitigate or minimise these as appropriate. EIF refers to the Charity Commission guidance for its risk management policy. Some risks are mitigated by holding insurance, which is comprehensive. Insured risks include public and employers' liability, professional indemnity and Trustees' liability. Operational risks are managed by having clear policies and guidance for staff or contractors in the conduct of their work. External risks are managed on a case-by-case basis, and those risks which the charity cannot fully mitigate are managed by the charity holding sufficient reserves.

2020/21 was a challenging year for EIF as the Covid pandemic and lockdowns changed our ways of working. Back in 2019/20 the Trustees reported that Covid-19 was the most significant risk facing the organisation. Since then, EIF employees have worked from home, we have introduced new technology and systems, we introduced a dependent leave policy for the duration of the pandemic enabling staff to balance work and family commitments, and accepted that staff capacity reduced and managed the organisation's financial position accordingly, to allow for some small slippage in the work programme, whilst also reducing costs of our rent (detailed in the financial review section below). Overall, the organisation responded well to the challenge posed by Covid-19 and has been able to both deliver our work and to support our staff.

At the end of 2020/21, the key risk faced by the charity is the uncertainty of funding beyond 31 March 2022. A long-awaited government spending review, where EIF had hoped to put forward a strategic case for long-term and increased funding, has been delayed to 2021/22. In 2021/22 the charity therefore has a 1-year grant settlement with government to continue its work programme (as was also the case in 2018/19 and 2019/20 financial years). The charity is working closely with its funding departments on a range of scenarios for future funding.

Financial review

Review of the year ending 31 March 2021

In 2020/21 the charity received income of £2,724,768, compared to £2,894,572 in 2019/20. 71% of the charity's funds came from the charity's core Cross Government Grant, which combines funding from across Whitehall departments (in 2019/20 this was 68% of all funding). In addition, the partnership to deliver the Youth Endowment Fund (YEF) generated a further £644,886 and represented 24% of all income at year end. YEF funding is granted by Impetus, although the endowment itself was supplied by the Home Office. It remains a challenge for EIF to source income from non-Whitehall origins, but this remains front and centre of the charity's objectives, based on its 2018 financial strategy, not least as a means of building the organisation's reserves, which is discussed in the reserves policy section below.

Overall, the charity spent £3,034,532 delivering projects to funders and meeting its general running costs. The majority of the charity's work programme was delivered as planned, despite the Covid-19 pandemic. A modest amount of work, valued at £112,500, was not completed at year end and therefore no funds were claimed from government in association with this work. These projects have been integrated into the charity's 2021/22 work programme and grant.

The charity delivered a surplus on unrestricted funds for the year of £22,247 and the Trustees are pleased with the cost control exhibited by the charity in a challenging year.

Investment policy

In 2018 the board approved an investment policy which was reviewed and reapproved in 2021. The charity maintains reserves in instant-access cash and short-term cash investments with the aim of maximising interest earned. The principles guiding investment decisions are as follows.

- Cashflow is of paramount importance and the Trustees' primary consideration is to maintain access to sufficient liquid funds to support the smooth running of the charity. The charity is risk-averse in this regard.
- The charity's funds are held in cash or short-term investments, which may include 3–12-month bonds or other fixed-terms savings accounts. At this time, investments which carry risk to the capital (reserves) are not considered appropriate. The charity is again risk-averse in this regard.
- As a small organisation with limited staff resource, it is important to minimise the transaction and organisational costs of any complex banking or investment arrangements. For this reason, although the charity benefits from the Financial Services Compensation Scheme, it does not limit its bank accounts to the £85,000 cap for this scheme.
- EIF believes any banking or investment arrangements chosen for the charity's funds should themselves reflect the values and ethos of EIF and not run counter to its aims. Any relationship is screened by staff for obvious or perceived conflicts with the objectives of the charity.
- In the event that the charity's risk appetite changes in the future and more risky investments are considered, restricted funds and deferred income, to which the charity does not yet have full entitlement, will always be held in cash and not exposed to such investment risks.

Reserves policy

The Trustees have in the year reviewed the needs, risks and opportunities faced by the charity, along with relevant financial forecasts and analyses. The Trustees recognise the need for reserves and specifically identify the following as key reasons for holding unrestricted funds.

1. To provide the charity with working capital, enabling it to pay commitments to staff, premises and contractors, even when funding agreements are delayed or paid to EIF in arrears, which is common in grant funding. This guarantees continuation of operations.
2. To cover losses in income when funding agreements are delayed or cancelled, which itself is considered relatively high-risk for EIF. This risk is especially high during periods of political change, which has characterised the political climate during EIF's strategy period (with elections and change of governments). The nature of many grant agreements is that they lack the termination clauses (more common in commercial agreements) which would otherwise permit EIF to claim compensation or damages under these circumstances.
3. The charity is reliant on a small range of funding sources for unique and innovative work, which can be challenging to scope and execute. It is both high-risk and high-cost to create quality projects out of evidence-based research, policy and practice. Reserves are needed to counterbalance this risk and, in some cases, to absorb cost overruns.
4. To allow for continued operation in years in which the organisation fails to achieve its in-year budgeted fundraising targets. This is considered relatively high-risk due to the increasingly challenging economic environment for fundraising from trusts and foundations and from research councils.
5. To be a going concern, ensuring the charity meets the test for solvency set by law and by the Charity Commission.
6. To enable expenditure at the Trustees' discretion:
 - funding projects of particular strategic importance, in fulfilment of the charity's objects, but for which no other funding can be identified
 - to invest in the generation of income for future years: in continuing to plan for a sustainable independent future, Trustees are mindful of having been directed to create and sustain new funding streams by government.

On this final point, the charity has a Special Projects Fund which has been maintained at £427,202 with no expenditure against the fund this year. In 2021/22 the charity plans to withdraw £40,000 to support the recruitment of fixed term staff to support business development and longer term fundraising. Future use of this fund will be to support projects of strategic importance for which no other funding is available.

At 31 March 2021, EIF's unrestricted General Fund reserves totalled £1,178,791. The charity's Reserves Policy is to maintain at least six months' running costs for the many reasons given above. The charity is presently in line with its reserves policy and the trustees therefor consider it appropriate to prepare the accounts on a going concern basis. Trustees recognise that the charity finds it challenging to build reserves. It is unable to generate any surplus from its primary sources of funding, government grants. In order to grow, the charity will need funding from charitable contracts or donations to build reserves, alongside growth from government sources. The diversification of funding sources is core to the charity's financial strategy as discussed in the 2018 financial review.

How all our activities deliver public benefit

The Charity is established for the public benefit to:

1. advance education;
2. promote health; and
3. relieve poverty

through, in particular, disseminating evidence concerning best practices in early interventions to improve social and emotional capabilities of babies, children and young people in these fields.

In shaping our objectives and planning our activities for the year, the Trustees have given consideration to the duties set out in section 17 (5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit and to the Charity Commission Guidance on public benefit. In particular, the Trustees have considered how the planned activities will contribute to the overall aims and objectives that they have set.

The Trustees believe that the paragraphs, specifically on the "Objectives and Achievements" and for the year, relate in detail the benefit that the charity provides to the public.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also directors of Early Intervention Foundation for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report (incorporating the directors' report) and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements, and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Disclosure of information to auditor

Each of the persons who are Trustees at the time when this Trustees' Report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware, and
- that Trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Trustee in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable company's auditors is aware of that information.

The directors' annual report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The report has been approved by the Trustees on 26 July 2021 and signed on their behalf by:



.....
M G Pilgrim MBE
Honorary Treasurer

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Early Intervention Foundation (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2021 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- Give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' annual report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- The information given in the trustees' annual report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- Adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- The financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- Certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- We have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- The directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' annual report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

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

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We enquired of management and the finance committee, which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the Foundation's policies and procedures relating to:
 - Identifying, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
 - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud;
 - The internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the Foundation operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the Foundation from our professional and sector experience.

- We communicated applicable laws and regulations throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.
- We reviewed any reports made to regulators.
- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

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

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

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

Sayer Vincent LLP

.....

Fleur Holden (Senior statutory auditor)
For and on behalf of Sayer Vincent LLP
Statutory Auditor

Invicta House
108-114 Golden Lane
LONDON
EC1Y 0TL

Date: 27 July 2021

Early Intervention Foundation

Statement of Financial Activities (including an Income and Expenditure Account)

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020-21 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2019-20 Total £
Income:							
Investments		625	-	625	6,319	-	6,319
Charitable activities	2	90,584	2,633,559	2,724,143	23,222	2,865,031	2,888,253
Total income		91,209	2,633,559	2,724,768	29,541	2,865,031	2,894,572
Expenditure:							
Charitable activities	3	68,962	2,965,570	3,034,532	56,254	2,507,825	2,564,079
Total expenditure		68,962	2,965,570	3,034,532	56,254	2,507,825	2,564,079
Net income/(expenditure) for the year		22,247	(332,011)	(309,764)	(26,713)	357,206	330,493
Transfers between funds	11	-	-	-	(7,848)	7,848	-
Net movements in funds for the year		22,247	(332,011)	(309,764)	(34,561)	365,054	330,493
Reconciliation of funds							
Funds brought forward		1,583,746	365,054	1,948,800	1,618,307	-	1,618,307
Funds carried forward		1,605,993	33,043	1,639,036	1,583,746	365,054	1,948,800

The results for the year derive from continuing activities and there are no gains or losses other than those shown above.

The statement of financial activities incorporates the income and expenditure account.

Movement in funds are disclosed in note 11 to the financial statements.

		2021		2020	
		£	£	£	£
	Notes				
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	8		7,703		-
			<u>7,703</u>		<u>-</u>
Current assets					
Debtors	9		586,344		289,125
Cash at bank and in hand			1,494,098		1,898,115
			<u>2,080,442</u>		<u>2,187,240</u>
Liabilities:					
Creditors falling due within one year	10		(449,109)		(238,440)
Net current assets			<u>1,631,333</u>		<u>1,948,800</u>
Total net assets			<u><u>1,639,036</u></u>		<u><u>1,948,800</u></u>
The funds of the charity:					
Restricted funds	11		33,043		365,054
Unrestricted funds:					
General fund	11		1,178,791		1,156,544
Designated fund	11		427,202		427,202
Total charity funds			<u><u>1,639,036</u></u>		<u><u>1,948,800</u></u>

Approved by the Board for issue on 26 July 2021 and signed on their behalf by:



.....
M G Pilgrim MBE
Honorary Treasurer

Early Intervention Foundation
Statement of Cash Flows
For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

		2020-21	2019-20
		£	£
	Notes		
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net movements in funds for the year		(309,764)	330,493
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items:			
Depreciation and amortisation		7,538	-
Interest receivable		(625)	(6,319)
		<u>(302,851)</u>	<u>324,174</u>
Working capital adjustments			
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	9	(297,219)	99,473
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	10	210,669	63,357
		<u>(389,401)</u>	<u>487,004</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received		625	6,319
Purchase of fixed assets		(15,241)	-
		<u>(14,616)</u>	<u>6,319</u>
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities		(14,616)	6,319
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents			
		<u>(404,017)</u>	<u>493,323</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>1,898,115</u>	<u>1,404,792</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u><u>1,494,098</u></u>	<u><u>1,898,115</u></u>
Cash & cash equivalents reconciliation:			
Cash at bank		<u>1,494,098</u>	<u>1,898,115</u>
Total cash & cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u><u>1,494,098</u></u>	<u><u>1,898,115</u></u>

1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are:

1.1 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 the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) – (Charities SORP FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Early Intervention Foundation meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s). All amounts are presented in £ sterling.

In applying the financial reporting framework, the trustees have made a number of subjective judgements, for example in respect of significant accounting estimates. Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The nature of the estimation means the actual outcomes could differ from those estimates. Any significant estimates and judgements affecting these financial statements are detailed within the relevant accounting policy below.

1.2 Going concern

As discussed in the trustees' report, the financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The charity maintains considerable assets and reserves. No material uncertainties exist about the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern and therefore the accounts are prepared on this basis.

1.3 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

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

Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

1 Accounting policies (cont'd)

EIF has a singular activity and therefore costs are allocated to delivery of projects or support costs.

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the charity's activities.

In practice, support costs are recovered across charitable projects in line with funding agreements.

1.5 Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to delivery of activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

1.6 Pension costs

The charitable company operates two defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

1.7 Operating leases

The charity classifies the lease of property and office equipment as operating leases as title remains with the lessor. Rentals are charged on the straight line basis over the term of the lease through the Statement of Financial Activities.

1.8 Fund accounting

The funds of the charity consist of unrestricted, restricted and designated amounts. The amounts and purposes of each fund are set out in the notes to the financial statements. Funds are transferred between unrestricted and restricted funds when there is a deficit in a restricted fund or where permissions have been received to transfer funds to other projects.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the charitable purposes.

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Trustees for particular purposes.

1.9 Tangible assets

Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost or valuation of fixed assets less residual value over their estimated useful lives at the following rates:-

Computer equipment – 100% in the first year of use.
Fixtures and fittings – 100% in the first year of use.

Fixed assets are valued at cost less depreciation. No assets costing less than £500 are capitalised.

1.10 Debtors

Trade and accrued income are recognised at the settlement amount due. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

1.11 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1.12 Creditors

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

1.13 Financial instruments

The charity has financial assets and liabilities that qualify as basic financial instruments. The assets and liabilities include cash, debtors and creditors which have separate accounting policies above. The charity has no overdrafts or loans.

There are no financial instruments held at fair value.

1.14 Taxation

The company is a registered charity and is therefore not liable to corporation tax or capital gains tax to the extent that its income and gains are applicable to charitable purposes only. The charity is using the small trading exemption as permitted.

2 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020-21 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2019-20 Total £
Grants from central government:						
Department for Education	-	-	-	-	48,935	48,935
Cross Government Grant 2018/19	-	-	-	-	48,935	48,935
Department for Education	-	-	-	-	951,924	951,924
Department for Work and Pensions	-	-	-	-	500,000	500,000
Public Health England	-	-	-	-	100,000	100,000
Minister for Housing, Communities and Local Government	-	-	-	-	100,000	100,000
Department for Health and Social Care	-	-	-	-	70,000	70,000
Cross Government Grant 2019/20	-	-	-	-	1,721,924	1,721,924
Department for Education	-	1,512,400	1,512,400	-	-	-
Department for Work and Pensions	-	283,038	283,038	-	201,562	201,562
Public Health England	-	45,000	45,000	-	-	-
Minister for Housing, Communities and Local Government	-	95,500	95,500	-	-	-
Cross Government Grant 2020/21	-	1,935,938	1,935,938	-	201,562	201,562
Balance c/fwd to page 36	-	1,935,938	1,935,938	-	1,972,421	1,972,421

Early Intervention Foundation
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

2 Income from charitable activities (cont'd)

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020-21 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2019-20 Total £
Balance b/fwd from page 35	-	1,935,938	1,935,938	-	1,972,421	1,972,421
Other grants:						
Youth Endowment Fund	-	644,886	644,886	-	796,082	796,082
Battersea Power Station Foundation	-	-	-	-	40,000	40,000
Nuffield Foundation	-	52,735	52,735	-	18,906	18,906
Economic and Social Research Council	-	-	-	-	29,297	29,297
	-	697,621	697,621	-	884,285	884,285
Other sources:						
Contracts with charitable purposes	35,303	-	35,303	23,025	-	23,025
Conferences and events	55,071	-	55,071	-	7,272	7,272
Other income	210	-	210	197	1,053	1,250
	90,584	2,633,559	2,724,143	23,222	2,865,031	2,888,253

The Cross Government Grant is funded by the Department for Education (DfE); Department for Work and Pensions (DWP); Public Health England (PHE) and the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG).

Within the above grants are funds originating from Whitehall sources of £2,580,824 (2019-20: £2,768,503). The only contingency relates to the Cross Government Grant income recognised which is subject to an audit of the statement of income and expenditure for the funds.

Included in other sources of income is consultancy work of £0 undertaken overseas (2019-20: £11,500).

The work we have undertaken in 2020-21 would not have been possible without the support of our funders. Accordingly, we would like to extend our thanks to all these organisations for their support.

3 Expenditure from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020-21 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2019-20 Total £
Direct costs						
Staff costs	10,964	2,124,745	2,135,709	29,505	1,802,572	1,832,077
Venue costs	-	49	49	-	13,703	13,703
Communications	-	77,089	77,089	-	74,978	74,978
Running costs	-	4,960	4,960	-	10,922	10,922
Project direct costs	37,654	434,477	472,131	1,138	243,018	244,156
Human resources costs	-	56,013	56,013	67	62,203	62,270
	48,618	2,697,333	2,745,951	30,710	2,207,396	2,238,106
Support costs						
Accountancy	-	29,305	29,305	-	26,721	26,721
Infrastructure costs	-	108,006	108,006	341	88,404	88,745
Premises costs	-	105,520	105,520	-	124,521	124,521
	-	242,831	242,831	341	239,646	239,987
Governance costs						
Audit fee	-	17,760	17,760	-	17,400	17,400
Trustee expenses	-	-	-	-	1,309	1,309
Legal fees	20,344	7,646	27,990	25,203	42,074	67,277
	20,344	25,406	45,750	25,203	60,783	85,986
	68,962	2,965,570	3,034,532	56,254	2,507,825	2,564,079

4 Wages and salaries

Employment costs	2020-21 £	2019-20 £
Wages and salaries	1,852,504	1,500,857
Social security costs	187,872	162,096
Employer's contribution to defined contribution pension scheme	95,333	92,921
Temporary staff	-	76,203
	2,135,709	1,832,077

4 Wages and salaries (cont'd)

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees on an average head count basis during the year was:

	2020-21	2019-20
Employees	38	33
	<u>38</u>	<u>33</u>

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs and employer's national insurance) were £60,000 or more were:

	2020-21 number	2019-20 number
£60,000 - £70,000	6	3
£70,001 - £80,000	1	2
£80,001 - £90,000	3	2
£90,001 - £100,000	-	1
£110,001 - £120,000	1	-
	<u>11</u>	<u>8</u>

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Trustees, the Chief Executive Officer, the Director of Finance and Resources, the Directors of Evidence and Policy and Practice. Furthermore, during June 2020 the Director of Evidence and Evaluation for the Youth Endowment Fund left the charity and was not replaced, this post no longer exists and is not part of the senior management team.

Key management personnel employee benefits (including employer pension costs and employer's national insurance) amounted to £437,055 (2019-20: £476,293).

5 Trustee remuneration and benefits

The charity Trustees were not paid and did not receive any other benefits as Trustees of the charity in the year (2019-20: £nil). There were no reimbursed travel expenses in the year (2019-20: Four Trustees reimbursed travel expenses of £1,309).

6 Related party transactions

There was one related party transaction for the year ended 31 March 2021 (2019-20: one).

Paul Ramchandani (trustee) is the Director of PEDAL, a centre at the University of Cambridge that is working in co-operation with the EIF to deliver the Nuffield Foundation Common Elements research. In 2020-21 the EIF received income totalling £52,735 (2019-20: £18,906) from the Nuffield Foundation in respect of this project.

There were no donations from related parties which were outside the normal course of business and no restricted donations from related parties.

The board of trustees are committed to transparency where there is or may be perceived to be a conflict of interests with the work of the EIF. Details of any relevant disclosures are made annually in the Trustees' Report.

7 Net income for the year before transfers

	2020-21	2019-20
	£	£
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation and amortisation	7,538	-
Other operating leases	105,520	124,521
Current auditor's remuneration - statutory audit	9,975	9,750
Current auditor's remuneration - grant audits	4,825	4,750
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

8 Tangible assets

	Computer Equipment	Fixtures & Fittings	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 April 2020	4,717	-	4,717
Additions during the year	7,538	7,703	15,241
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
At 31 March 2021	12,255	7,703	19,958
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2020	4,717	-	4,717
Charge for the year	7,538	-	7,538
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
At 31 March 2021	12,255	-	12,255
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net book value			
At 31 March 2021	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	-	7,703	7,703
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
At 31 March 2020	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	-	-	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

All assets are used for charitable purposes. Fixtures and fittings are assets purchased for use when the office reopens and no depreciation has been charged this year.

9 Debtors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade debtors	451,963	7,680
Prepayments	27,650	56,240
Accrued income	106,312	222,013
Other debtors	419	3,192
	<u>586,344</u>	<u>289,125</u>

10 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade creditors	187,859	68,442
Accruals	66,338	48,670
Deferred income	25,646	52,531
Social security	53,571	52,024
VAT	46,544	410
Other creditors	69,151	16,363
	<u>449,109</u>	<u>238,440</u>

	2021	2020
	£	£
Deferred income brought forward	52,531	40,000
Released in year	(52,531)	(40,000)
Received in year	25,646	52,531
	<u>25,646</u>	<u>52,531</u>

Amounts deferred:

	2021	2020
	£	£
National Conference	-	52,531
Welsh maturity matrix	25,646	-
	<u>25,646</u>	<u>52,531</u>

The income deferred in 2021 relates to amounts received in advance for the Welsh maturity matrix. In 2020, income deferred for the National Conference relates to the event postponement to December 2020.

11a Funds

Movement in funds – 2020-21

	Opening balance 1st April 2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Closing balance 31st Mar 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds					
Cross Government Grant	201,562	1,935,938	(2,104,457)	-	33,043
Youth Endowment Fund	163,492	644,886	(808,378)	-	-
Nuffield Foundation	-	52,735	(52,735)	-	-
Total restricted funds	365,054	2,633,559	(2,965,570)	-	33,043
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	1,156,544	91,209	(68,962)	-	1,178,791
Designated fund	427,202	-	-	-	427,202
Total unrestricted funds	1,583,746	91,209	(68,962)	-	1,605,993
Total funds	1,948,800	2,724,768	(3,034,532)	-	1,639,036

General fund

The charity has £1,178,792 of unrestricted general funds remaining at the year end. These funds have arisen historically from start-up and sustainability grant funding and from corporate donations. The funds are available to support EIF's general charitable purpose at the discretion of the Trustees.

Designated fund

In 2016-17 the Trustees established the Special Projects' Fund, ring-fencing £750,000 of unrestricted reserves to future projects in support of the organisation's strategy. Expenditure from the Special Projects' Fund is decided annually by Trustees as and when suitable initiatives are identified that cannot be funded from other sources. In 2020-21 no project funds were used and the trustees consider that the current value of the fund is still appropriate.

**Restricted funds
2020-21**

In 2020-21 the charity received £1.9m in cross government grant funding, the details of which can be seen in note 2, commissioned via the Department of Education (DfE) and including contributions from Department for Work and Pensions, Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government and Public Health England.

11a Funds (cont'd)

Projects associated with this grant are grouped together in thematic areas including:-

- What Works Infrastructure – a budget for the general support for EIF’s work programme, stakeholder management and communications, including the maintenance and expansion of the EIF Guidebook.
- Early Years projects
- Projecting Vulnerable Children projects
- Mental Health and Wellbeing projects
- Reducing Parental Conflict

Further details of the annual work programme are outlined in our Achievements and Performance in the Trustee’s Report.

2020-21 was the last year that EIF worked as a delivery partner with Impetus and the Social Investment Business in the Youth Endowment Fund. This is a £200m endowment from the Home Office which over 10 years will give grants to programmes around the UK aiming to tackle the risks associated with young people becoming involved in violent behaviour and crime. EIF acted as a delivery partner in 2019-20 and 2020-21 and from 2021-22 onwards continues its involvement as a project implementation partner. EIF receives funding to bring its expertise to the partnership.

Funding from the Nuffield Foundation was awarded in partnership with Cambridge University for a research project to improve children’s outcomes in early childhood education, titled Common Elements. This project uses a systematic approach to identify and communicate the common elements of the most effective programmes that enhance children’s cognitive and social-emotional development.

11b Funds (cont'd)

Movement in funds – 2019-20

	Opening balance 1st April 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Closing balance 31st Mar 2020 £
Restricted funds					
Cross Government Grant	-	1,972,421	(1,773,223)	2,364	201,562
Battersea Power Station Foundation	-	40,000	(40,863)	863	-
Economic and Social Research Council	-	29,297	(33,918)	4,621	-
Youth Endowment Fund	-	796,082	(632,590)	-	163,492
Nuffield Foundation	-	18,906	(18,906)	-	-
Other Income	-	8,325	(8,325)	-	-
Total restricted funds	-	2,865,031	(2,507,825)	7,848	365,054
Unrestricted funds					
General	1,013,307	29,541	(31,051)	144,747	1,156,544
Designated fund	605,000	-	(25,203)	(152,595)	427,202
Total unrestricted funds	1,618,307	29,541	(56,254)	(7,848)	1,583,746
Total funds	1,618,307	2,894,572	(2,564,079)	-	1,948,800

**Restricted funds
2019-20**

In 2019-20 the charity received £1.97m in cross government grant funding, the details of which can be seen in note 2, commissioned via the Department of Education (DfE) and including contributions from Department for Work and Pensions, Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government, Public Health England and Department for Health and Social Care. Projects associated with this grant are grouped together in thematic areas including:-

- What Works Infrastructure – a budget for the general support for EIF’s work programme, stakeholder management and communications, including the maintenance and expansion of the EIF Guidebook.
- Early Years projects
- Projecting Vulnerable Children projects
- Mental Health and Wellbeing projects
- Reducing Parental Conflict

Further details of the annual work programme are outlined in our Achievements and Performance in the Trustee’s Report.

11b Funds (cont'd)

2019-20 was the first year that EIF worked in partnership with Impetus and the Social Investment Business to deliver the Youth Endowment Fund. This is a £200m endowment from the Home Office which over 10-years will give grants to programmes around the UK aiming to tackle the risks associated with young people becoming involved in violent behaviour and crime. EIF was a delivery partner and received funding to bring its expertise to the partnership with a particular focus on identifying and improving the evidence base, data and evaluating programmes.

Funding from the Nuffield Foundation was awarded in partnership with Cambridge University for a research project to improve children's outcomes in early childhood education, titled Common Elements. This project uses a systematic approach to identify and communicate the common elements of the most effective programmes that enhance children's cognitive and social-emotional development.

Other funders included Battersea Power Station Foundation for work on Youth and Gang Violence and the European Social Research Council for work on Social and Emotional Learning.

12 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General Designated		Restricted	2021	General Designated		Restricted	2020
	fund	fund	funds	Total	fund	fund	funds	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	7,703	-	-	7,703	-	-	-	-
Current assets	1,620,197	427,202	33,043	2,080,442	1,394,984	427,202	365,054	2,187,240
Current liabilities	(449,109)	-	-	(449,109)	(238,440)	-	-	(238,440)
	<u>1,178,791</u>	<u>427,202</u>	<u>33,043</u>	<u>1,639,036</u>	<u>1,156,544</u>	<u>427,202</u>	<u>365,054</u>	<u>1,948,800</u>

13 Financial commitments

At 31 March 2021 the charity was committed to making the following payments under non-cancellable operating leases:

Land and buildings

	2021	2020
	£	£
Operating lease which expires:		
Within one year	-	52,791
	<u>-</u>	<u>52,791</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>52,791</u>