

ANNUAL REVIEW

2018/19

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A WORD FROM THE CHAIR

Action4Youth has a very simple objective and that is to help young people achieve their full potential. With the seemingly ever increasing pressures on young people in the form of social media abuse, body image, gender identification, substance abuse, knife crime, to name only a few of the issues, support for young people has never been more needed. This comes at a time when central and local government funding to provide this support is very restricted, or non-existent.

This is why the role of **Action4Youth** and other charities supporting young people is absolutely vital. Jenifer Cameron and our amazing staff team have had another highly successful year, in both increasing the numbers of young people involved in our programmes and, importantly, maintaining the exceptional high quality of youth work undertaken.

To be able to do more, we need to be financially sustainable; and whilst fund-raising is a continuous challenge, the management team has worked really hard to ensure that we have ended the year with a reasonable surplus.

The Board of Trustees has continued its governance review and has implemented various changes to its operation. During the course of the year, Ted Weston retired after many years of distinguished service as a Trustee and Lucinda Ferguson resigned. In view of the fact that several Trustees will retire at the AGM in September, myself included, we will be recruiting a number of new Trustees and a Chairman to bring the Board up to full strength, both numerically and in terms of skills and experience.

I have been privileged to be part of the Charity for the last fourteen years and I am very confident that **Action4Youth's** new Chair and all the Board members, together with Jenifer and her fantastic team, will lead the Charity to considerable development and successes in the future.

I wish **Action4Youth** well.



"I would again like to thank our Patron, President, Vice Presidents, Trustees, staff team, supporters and volunteers for their immense contribution in all that they do for young people."



Ken Birkby
Chair

A SAFETY NET

At Action4Youth our aim is always to reach more young people, create the conditions where more lives can flourish, to do more and achieve more. This past year has been no different.

An increasing concern for us has been the increase in crime and especially violent crime amongst young people in our area. In consequence, other young people don't always feel safe in their own communities. Working in partnership with Wycombe District Council we have developed, and now rolled out, a mentoring programme intended to catch those young people aged 11 - 15 who are at risk of being groomed into crime or more generally failing to engage with their schools and local community. We are seeing positive results from this programme and are working hard to secure funding which will enable us to extend the reach of the programme across the county and to extend its duration beyond the initial first year.

In this project we work closely with our member organisations who have grass roots knowledge, both the young people who are at risk, and the communities in which they live. This intelligence informs our interventions and solutions as we work with the young people, exploring their interests and then helping them into new relationships in organisations within their community where they can have the sustained support they need to flourish.

We believe that this project is creating an essential safety net for vulnerable young people whose lives may have reached a critical stage and for whom this opportunity with Action4Youth can help them find a positive direction.

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**ACTION
4YOUTH**

INSPIRING YOUNG PEOPLE



A SPRINGBOARD

For the many thousands of young people who enjoy the benefits of our outdoor education, adventure clubs, National Citizen Service programmes, Inspiration Programme or Duke of Edinburgh activities, their time with Action4Youth is a springboard to a new level of confidence and personal achievement.

Our activities challenge the participants to test themselves in a huge range of different ways. For some the test will be of physical courage as they tackle a caving system or the climbing wall, pushing themselves to do that little bit more than they've ever done, to achieve more than they've ever achieved and then to savour that achievement with their peers. These are not small achievements; they are part of positive growth for the individual's development helping them to mature into confident adults able to take on the challenges of adult life.



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NCS is about personal relationships, meeting new people, making connections across communities and building friendships. As they move from close groups in their school life either out into the world or to further or higher education it will be essential for their well-being that they can forge new relationships so this is an essential skill.

NCS also broadens horizons especially in developing an interest in charities and voluntary groups. Many young people will become more socially aware and some will continue to volunteer for a chosen cause into the future. All will have gained greater understanding of the needs of the more vulnerable elements in society. This year more than 660 16 and 17 year olds took part in NCS between the summer and autumn programmes.



The Inspiration Programme gives new experiences, opens windows on the world and creates opportunities to learn about communities and our society, helping each young person to understand their place now and in the future.

The Programme develops the key employability skills every young person will need in adult life so those who take part have a head start for the next stage of their career. Young people in schools from across Bucks and Milton Keynes benefitted from the year long programme.



Taking part in The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is life changing for many young people. It builds their experience, their skills and the adventure of the expedition builds and strengthens friendships and confidence. Hundreds of young people completed bronze, silver or gold awards in the course of the year.



Our outdoor education centre, Caldecotte Xperience, is the home of adventure for many thousands of young people.

Those with special needs can experience the thrills of power boating, sailing, abseiling and a whole range of activities alongside others from their age groups. Our new Wheely boat had its first year of operation and has become a very popular activity especially amongst groups of people with disabilities.

A stay in any of our accommodation at Caldecotte, whether the George Amey Centre, one of the yurt villages or camping gives young people a fun experience all the while building their confidence and helping them to learn more about themselves and to build positive experiences with their peers. During the year our new, second, yurt village came into operation adding more opportunities for more young people.

A PLATFORM

Action4Youth speaks on behalf of the voluntary youth sector in many fora, leading the conversation as we work together to address the many and difficult challenges of our times. Our conference in late 2018 addressed the big issues like youth crime and violence and the alarming rise in the incidence of mental ill health amongst the young, creating the opportunity for all interested parties to come together and share thinking and solutions.

We serve on the Youth Offending Partnership Board, Bucks Children's Partnership Board, Bucks Strategic Partnerships Group and a whole range of other groups all focussed on how the young people of our communities live. We are committed to working in partnership with all of the other groups who aim to make our communities strong and safe.

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4YOUTH**

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ACTION4YOUTH

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES IN CORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

Total funds **2019**

£1,761,751

Total funds 2018 **£1,600,453**

Total funds **carried forward 2019**

£849,438

Total funds 2018 **£772,071**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2019 £	Restricted Funds 2019 £	Total Funds 2019 £	Total Funds 2018 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	2	64,175	14,500	78,675	74,665
Charitable activities	3	1,657,959	-	1,657,959	1,520,540
Investments	5	1,297	-	1,297	1,164
Other income	6	23,820	-	23,820	4,084
Total income		1,747,251	14,500	1,761,751	1,600,453
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	9	1,664,990	26,822	1,691,812	1,589,297
Total expenditure	9	1,664,990	26,822	1,691,812	1,589,297
Net income / (expenditure) before other recognised gains and losses		82,261	(12,322)	69,939	11,156
Other recognised gains		7,428	-	7,428	806
Net movement in funds		89,689	(12,322)	77,367	11,962
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		515,983	256,088	772,071	760,109
Total funds carried forward		605,672	243,766	849,438	772,071

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE COMPANY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

Trustees

- K Birkby, Chairman
- E H Weston (resigned 26 September 2018)
- R H Stansfield
- V F Salisbury
- L D Oldreive
- M Reed
- CR Soames
- J S Chana (appointed 18 July 2018)
- J M Trebble (appointed 18 July 2018)
- D Williams (appointed 18 July 2018)
- G RA Shankland (appointed 18 July 2018)
- LA Ferguson (appointed 18 July 2018, resigned 8 February 2019)
- DJ Carroll (appointed 12 April 2019)
- M Clayton (resigned 21 May 2018)
- G Hill (appointed 29 May 2019)

Our Funders

Action4Youth would like to thank the following organisations and individuals for their financial support during the year.

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| ■ KFC Foundation | ■ Skipton Building Society Charitable Foundation |
| ■ The EM Macandrew Trust | ■ The Childwick Trust |
| ■ Wheely Boat Trust | ■ Berqvist Charitable Trust |
| ■ Vivienne Birkby | ■ The Brian Peppiatt Charitable Trust |
| ■ Mark Aengenheister | ■ Vale of Aylesbury Sponsored Ride |
| ■ Groundwork UK – Tesco “Bags of Help” | ■ The Hobson Charity |
| ■ Leonard L and SP Michael B | ■ Buckinghamshire Community Foundation (Hearts of Bucks) |
| ■ F B Baily – Thomas Charitable Trust | ■ Bedfordshire and Luton Community Foundation |
| ■ The National Hockey Foundation | ■ Buckinghamshire College Group |
| ■ Paradigm Foundation | ■ Mobbs Memorial Trust |
| ■ The Julia Mary Wood Charitable Trust | ■ The Anson Charitable Trust |
| ■ R Godber | ■ Roger and Jean Jefcoate |
| ■ MK Business Leaders Partnership | |
| ■ The Bartle Family Charitable Trust | |



5 Smeaton Close
Aylesbury, HP19 8UN

T: 0300 003 2334
E: office@action4youth.org
www.action4youth.org

Registered charity no. 1033626