

# Annual Report & Financial Statements 2022



**ChildVision**  
National Education Centre for Blind Children



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# Our Vision

To provide a supportive and inclusive learning community where disability does not create a barrier to the fulfilment of aspiration or ambition.



For more information visit [www.childvision.ie](http://www.childvision.ie)

# Our Chair's Statement

ChildVisions commitment to delivering the best possible services for children with sight loss and complex needs has been unwavering, and the results are a testament to the dedication of our entire community.

In 2022, we embarked on a thorough review of our strategic objectives, laying the groundwork for a new Strategic Plan to be unveiled in 2023. Simultaneously, we continued to advance our current strategic goals, with a particular focus on our commitment to delivering timely and responsive services for our beneficiaries.

The highlights of 2022 showcase our determination to provide certainties for learning and hope, returning the focus to our young people and their futures. The implementation of a visionary master plan for our campus, securing planning for our new campus, and exploring future collaborations for our 18+ programs underscore our dedication to providing world-class opportunities for learning and therapies.

One of the significant milestones achieved was the approval and commencement of the campus redevelopment, ensuring a world-class national campus for children and young people with sight loss and complex needs. Additionally, we embarked on raising funds for our National Equine Assisted Therapy Centre through philanthropic means as funding targets were met for other elements of our campus plan.

As Chairperson, I am immensely proud of the strides we have taken, and I express my gratitude to the Board, staff and every individual who has contributed to our success. Your support has been pivotal in making a positive impact on the lives of children and young people facing the significant challenges of sight loss, often accompanied with complex needs.

Together, let us continue our journey toward a future where every child can belong, grow, and live their best and brightest life.

Thank you for your unwavering support.



**Shane Cowley**  
Chair

# Our CEO's Statement

As we stand at the threshold of a new chapter in our journey, I am privileged to address you as the Interim CEO of ChildVision. The year 2022 has been instrumental in shaping our path forward, marked by a commitment to reviewing and evolving our strategic objectives.

Our dedicated team has been diligently working on the development of a new Strategic Plan, set to be unveiled in 2023. This plan is not merely a document; it represents our collective vision, aspirations, and determination to push the boundaries of what we can achieve for the children and young people we serve.

In the spirit of continuous improvement, we recognised the need to align our goals with the evolving landscape and the changing needs of the children and families we support. This ongoing work is a testament to our dedication to excellence and responsiveness.

Our commitment to delivering the best possible, prompt, and attentive services remains at the core of our mission. The visionary master plan for our campus and the secured planning for our new campus are crucial steps toward providing world-class opportunities for learning and therapies.

The services provided in 2022, including therapeutic interventions, assisted technology resources, and pilot programs for independent living, reflect our commitment to enhancing independence and interaction. We aim to build on these initiatives in 2023, collaborating in partnership with the HSE, ensuring that no child is turned away for a shortage of spaces and expanding enhanced specialist services.

In 2022, we took significant steps toward growth, sustainability, and innovation. Launching the philanthropic capital plan, completing the CRM system implementation, and adopting our fundraising strategy are indicative of our commitment to securing resources for sustaining programs and capital plans. The sustainability audit and measuring our carbon footprint align with our broader responsibility to the environment. In 2023, we will continue working on our philanthropic capital plan and develop a sustainability strategy for the organisation.

As we move into 2023, the development of our new Strategic Plan will guide our endeavours. Together, we are creating a roadmap for a future where every child and young person at ChildVision not only receives essential services but also thrives, learns, and lives their best life.

Thank you for your interest, support and participation on this transformative journey.

Warm regards,



**Mary Leonard**  
Interim CEO



# Our Values



## **Person-Centred Inclusivity**

Delivering a person-centred, inclusive service that embraces diversity and encourages participation.



## **Safety and Integrity**

Integrity of care and utmost safety are the pillars of all our interactions with our young people.



## **Professionalism**

Professional and critical practice.



## **Valuing Uniqueness**

Valuing the unique attributes of each child and young person.



## **Transparency and Accountability**

Transparent and accountable decision making made in consultation with stakeholders.

# What We Do

ChildVision, is a unique service in Ireland for children and young people with a visual impairment and complex disabilities.

We believe every child should have every opportunity to live their very brightest future. We see the possibilities and hope in every child. We are not limited by the services we provide, we fit to every child's needs; whatever is needed we find a way. ChildVision is a place where children and young people with unique, individual, and often complex disabilities can grow, play, learn and belong, in a way that is totally specialised for each young person.

We are a National Therapeutic and Education Campus of Excellence for the young people who come to us, 90% of whom have additional, complex disabilities and require new, innovative and individualised programmes to meet their needs.

Our team form new alliances with other service providers around the country to ensure our service provision reaches all who need it in good time.

Our staff are specialists in their fields, and our therapies are all about finding new and personalised ways of reaching into, and realising the potential of every child. Our expertise, ability to innovate and service delivery is world class. Our work is about being creative, constantly looking and learning to be the best in the world at what we do, and be ahead of research so we are ready before the children and young people come to us. Our current capital plan seeks to deliver a world class facility, a new campus for our families that will transform their time with us.

[www.childvision.ie](http://www.childvision.ie)

# Our Services



## Clinical Services

### Therapies

Speech and Language  
Occupational Therapy  
Physiotherapy  
Psychology

### Nursing

### Clinics

Low vision  
Ophthalmology

### Equine Assisted Activities

Equine Assisted Occupational Therapy



## National Network Services

### Adapted Cognitive Assessment

Early Years Arena  
Multi-Disciplinary  
ADOS2, autism  
Functional Vision Assessment

### Family Events

### Professional Training Events



## Reading Services

### Braille

Large Print and Daisy Education Transcription

### National Children's Library

### Assistive Technology

### Professional Resource Library



## Education Services

### Lifelong Learning

### Social Enterprise programmes

### Education Supports

### Habilitation, Technical, Orientation and Mobility

### Early Years

### Residential Term living

# ChildVision 2022

at a glance



**2,500**

Young people and their families with visual impairment benefitted from the services of ChildVision



**€4.4m**

raised for capital programmes through fundraising



**€775K**

raised through fundraising



**€8,513,505m**

total cost to run ChildVision



**4 weeks to  
24 years**

Age of students



**1 international  
conference**

attended by 54 countries





## Reading Services

**6,951**

alternative format books produced

**1,200**

members borrowed library books



**59**

external assessments  
delivered

## 1:1 Interventions

**6,730**

therapy sessions

**9,800**

nursing interventions

**2,700**

orientation & mobility sessions



**147 staff**

across two locations

# Early Years Service - 21 additional conditions (0-6 years)



# Meeting Our Strategic Objectives

In 2022, we commenced the process of reviewing our strategic objectives with a plan to publish a new Strategic Plan in 2023. That work is ongoing.

In the meantime, we continued our work on delivering on our current strategic goals.

**Strategic Objective 1:** To deliver the best possible, prompt and attentive services to help children belong, grow and live their best and brightest lives.

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## Highlights of 2022

- Working on our next strategic plan to deliver our essential services.
- As part of the implementation of a visionary master plan for our campus which will provide world-class innovative opportunities for learning and therapies, we have engaged a design team and worked on the tender process for the master plan.
- Secured planning for our new campus.
- Continued to explore the possibilities and develop plans for third-level collaboration on delivery of postgraduate programmes with a view to providing future options for our young people coming to the end of their time on campus.
- Embracing the best of hybrid learning and working for greater sustainability and work efficiencies, while re-invigorating our in-person services with compassion, care and reassurance.

## Impact

- Providing future certainties for learning and hope.
- Returning the focus to our young people and their futures.
- Progressing the plan for a world-class national campus for children and young people with sight loss and complex needs.

## In 2023, we will

- Develop and publish the next strategic plan to deliver our essential services.
- Move into implementation mode of our campus redevelopment.
- Seek to raise funds through philanthropic means for our National Equine Assisted Therapy Centre.

**Strategic Objective 2:** To support friendships and relationships with a person-centred ethos and campus.

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## Highlights of 2022

- Working with the HSE to provide vital supports for children with complex needs, whilst also supporting the roll out of Progressing Disabilities, New Directions and championing the impact of these changes for children with vision impairment and complex disabilities.
- Extended the provision of respite and care to families.
- Opening our campus to partners from other disability services to ensure the facilities helped many children with disability to benefit in this period of significant upheaval.

## Impact

Greater inclusion, more equality of access to vital services in a time of significant anxiety, change and challenge for these families. Continue to provide respite and a lifeline for families and services who had been significantly affected by Covid-19.

## In 2023, we will:

- Continue to promote and implement the HSE New Directions programme.
- Deliver and design programmes for our young people identified as requiring further support on transition from our service.

## Meeting our strategic objectives (continued)

### Strategic Objective 3: To improve the outcomes for young people with a visual impairment and multiple disabilities.

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#### Highlights of 2022

- Continued to deliver a wide range of services to fit the needs of students as required, notably in therapeutic intervention, delivering intervention, workshops and clinics to a wide range of stakeholders to improve early intervention in complex disabilities in combination with visual impairment.
- Provision of greater assisted technology resources to students and children at home.
- Ran a pilot programme of independent living, as a transition for students from our term-time living programme.
- Worked in partnership with the HSE to ensure the sustainability of our Cork service and agreed to have an SLA put in place for that service.
- Agreed to develop an enhanced service for the HSE under the Progressive Disabilities framework.
- Further development of our 3D printing service to include a dedicated 3D hub on campus to facilitate the demand for orders.

#### Impact

Increased concentration on capacity for independence and better interaction through assistive technology as a response to Covid-19, vital skills to foster for this cohort of young people throughout 2022.

#### In 2023, we will

- Continue to ensure that no child is turned away for shortage of spaces.
- Work with the HSE for an agreed SLA for our Cork service.
- Look to implement our enhanced specialist services for Progressing Disabilities.

### Strategic Objective 4: To focus on the growth, sustainability and innovation of our service delivery.

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#### Highlights of 2022

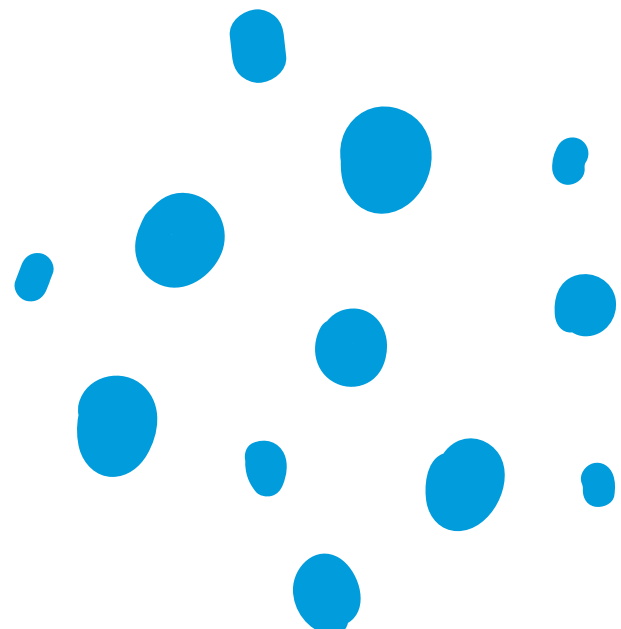
- Launched the engagement part of our philanthropic capital plan.
- Completed the implementation of the CRM system.
- Adapted our fundraising strategy focusing on sustaining programmes and providing funding for the capital plans.
- We are working with HSE Estates and the SEAI to ensure sustainability of the campus redevelopment.
- Completed a sustainability audit and commenced measuring of our carbon footprint.

#### Impact

- The CRM enhances our ability to monitor our services and to report on impact.
- Capital funding secured will provide a world-class campus for young people with complex disabilities and visual impairment.

#### In 2023, we will

- Continue working on our philanthropic capital plan.
- Develop a sustainability strategy for the organisation.



## Strategic Objective 5: To engage, develop and value our people.

### Highlights of 2022

- Delivered the rescheduled International Conference Vision 2022 in July. The conference attracted over 300 in-person attendees and an additional 105 virtual attendees.
- ChildVision continued as the chair of MDVI Euronet, a European network of organisations working with children and young people with sight loss and complex needs, and engaged in shared learning projects to ensure quality of service.
- Significant upskilling of staff in 2022 across all disciplines: autism awareness; Horseboy Method Level 3; clinical training to include infection control, seizure and dysphasia; new technology for assistive technologies.
- A high percentage of staff also continued with third-level studies in areas of study chosen to complement their input to the organisation.

### Impact

- International recognition and opportunity to showcase our work in ChildVision.
- Awareness of ChildVision on a European level alongside shared expertise within the MDVI community.
- Chairing MDVI Euronet and hosting the international conference elevates the awareness of ChildVision on an international stage, giving us a platform to highlight our work, grow our network, share learning and bring the impact back to our children and young people.

### In 2023, we will

- Continue to support remote and hybrid working, for those who can avail of it, for better retention of staff, improved cost-effectiveness through more sustainable ways of working.
- Encourage collaborative projects with European networks on research projects.
- Continue to encourage CPD as an integral part of our culture.





# Dillon, a little girl and her therapy horse Cody

**Dillon started to display signs of autism when she was one, she then became fully non-verbal. She was soundless – no noise, no babble, just silence. It was like she was coming in and out of consciousness during that time, I was worried she was having seizures as she would just go off in to another world, with only a few moments of engagement or clarity for me to go on. When I put myself back to that time, it was very dark – feeling so alone and with that came all the negative thinking around what Dillon couldn't do.**

Through ChildVision, Dillon started equine assisted activities at age 3, with a clear focus to support communication. During her first sessions, Dillon moved from complete silence to taking command of her horse – she slowly started to babble – we called it her Minion language. Just before Christmas, she came out with her first word. Over the six weeks of equine assisted activities with help from Lucy and the team, Dillon is now fully engaging, conscious, in the moment, and with that comes communication – way beyond the arena. Yesterday, I couldn't find her soother, and Dillon ran in to the kitchen and found it saying "There we are! There we are!". The difference in Dillon is indescribable – I can't think of an aspect of her life that has not been improved by equine assisted activities.

It's a lot of guesswork with a child with autism as to whether they are enjoying what they are doing. With equine assisted activities the guesswork is over. Every week, I help Dillon with cues for her activities – a uniform for each helps her to understand what is coming next – and when I get out her horse riding gear she is at her happiest – waiting at the door.

As a parent of a child with autism, you are in fight or flight mode all the time – and what I have found since we started equine assisted activities is that from Wednesday, when she has her session, on to the weekend, Dillon is calm and content – and I am not in fight or flight for this time either. The whole family settles. I often say Mondays and Tuesdays are my bad days – because that is when she is beginning to need the regulation that equine assisted activities brings again – I can see it in her – until she resets at the Wednesday session. It's a recurring trend that after equine, things are so much smoother in our lives.

If you had told me six months ago that Dillon would be on a horse – and with that talking, engaging and communicating – I would have said you are lying. Without equine assisted activities we would never have tapped in to her potential.

It's not that I now have hope Dillon is going to do things – I now *know* she can. The fear is gone.

**Her mom, Sarah.**





# Clinical Services

2022 brought the establishment of our first in-house **psychology** department. The psychology service in ChildVision is a new service that commenced in October 2022 with Dr Sandra McNulty, taking up the role of Principal Specialist Clinical Psychologist. The vision for the service is that all children, adolescents and adults who attend ChildVision or St Joseph's Primary School will have access, to specialist psychological assessment and intervention where that need is not being met in community services. Making sure that our population of children are receiving appropriate services is important to us and this means building relationships with local child network disability teams, the National Educational Psychology Service and any other community-based services working with those attending ChildVision. A national assessment service is also offered, alongside a consultation framework to support psychologists around Ireland in their work with children who are blind or visually impaired.

The **equine team** turned the Covid pandemic into an opportunity and used the time to write the Therapeutic Riding Coaching course. The course is in conjunction with Horse Sport Ireland and AIRE. In 2022, the team were able to roll it out around the country when restrictions were lifted. The course aims to provide comprehensive training to equine professionals in therapeutic riding and equine-assisted activities. Developing the course involved engaging with communities across the country, focusing on people with disabilities, people who are educationally disadvantaged and from disadvantaged communities.

In August 2022, the equine team looked at creating two distinctive branches to their service provision. The team now provides; equine assisted occupational therapy and equine assisted activities.

Equine assisted occupational therapy (EAOT) is an occupational therapy led programme in which an occupational therapist works with children and young people to develop skills that enable them to participate in daily routines and activities to their maximum potential. Each session is tailored to meet the needs of the child with collaborative goals set by the therapist, parent and child together. In ChildVision equine assisted activities Unit, the occupational therapist specialises in the use of equine movement (hippotherapy) and the equine environment to meet the needs of the child.

Equine assisted activities (EAA), incorporates all of the key elements and benefits of the Horse Boy Method and combines it with our therapeutic riding programme. Working particularly with children and adults with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and other neurodiverse conditions. It is the aim of this service to support the cognitive, physical, emotional and psycho-social development of both children and adults.

In November 2022, the equine team were recognised at Newbury for their outstanding contribution to their equestrian community with an "Unsung Hero" award from the British Horse Society.

The team also presented at Vision 2022 in liaison with One Equine Trust in Northern Ireland. Our **Senior Physiotherapist** has been working at innovative ways to provide physiotherapy services to those across campus. 2022 saw Rebound Therapy reintroduced since before Covid-19. Rebound Therapy describes a specific methodology, assessment and programme of use of trampolines to provide opportunities for enhanced movement patterns, therapeutic positioning, exercise and recreation for a wide range of users with additional needs. It is used to enhance movement patterns, develop and promote motor skills, body awareness, balance, coordination and communication. It is a highly enjoyable activity and is used to great effect as a cross-curricular teaching tool.

A new strength and fitness area was also created for our Life Long Learning Students with new equipment purchased from donations. This is an invaluable resource to be able to provide for our older students.

The clinical team provided much needed outreach support to the Cork preschool in the form of multidisciplinary assessment days. In 2022, eight preschool students availed of reports from the team.

In **speech and language therapy**, a new team member was welcomed onto the team as the Senior SLT took on the Director of Clinical Therapies role. The team were busy with assessments and intervention, responding to the backlog created due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Senior SLT has begun a Postgraduate Certificate in Healthcare Innovation through Trinity College's Tangent Business School. This is delivered both online and in person. The aim of the course is to look at innovative ways of solving health care related problems.

A high priority for the **nursing team** was to re-establish the eye clinic. A consultant ophthalmologist now attends campus every Thursday and sees the entire caseload from preschool to Life Long Learning. Assisted with our Functional Vision Assessor, the eye clinic can now diagnose Cerebral Visual Impairment (CVI) on campus for the first time.

Liaison with the neuro-disability department in Temple Street has led to the continuation of our paediatrician support. A paediatrician attends campus every 6-8 weeks, at the request of the nursing team, to review complex medical cases on site and to provide a much needed communicative liaison between the children's hospitals and ChildVision.

While restrictions may have eased in terms of Covid-19 generally, the nursing team were required to provide an increased level of infection prevention control support with some members of the team now trained as infection prevention control practitioners.

## Continuous Professional Development

The team were busy upskilling and attended the following courses in 2022:

- Module One Lamh Course
- School-based intervention Irish Association of Speech and Language Therapists (IASLT) webinar
- Developmental Language Disorder IASLT webinar
- Augmentative and Alternative Communication Study day
- Eye conditions workshop
- Adapting sensory stories workshop
- Jigsaw webinar on supporting clients' mental health
- EIPEN training from Nursing
- Sight and Sound Assistive Technology workshop

The team also provided a number of training events within the year which include:

- Differential Diagnosis; Autism and Blindisms
- Epilepsy training in-house as recognised by Epilepsy Ireland
- Patient and Manual Handling(PMH)

## Future Plans:

### Progressing Disabilities

Progressing Disabilities (**PDS**) provides an exciting opportunity for ChildVision to extend its national remit and to become the specialist support provider for children and young people with a visual impairment in Ireland.

A proposal is currently underway which will look at how we can achieve a more holistic and equitable service provision, providing continuous assessment and intervention for all across Ireland and not just for those who can geographically access our service.

Assisting us with this proposal is Professor Malcolm "Mac" MacLachlan, Clinical Lead for Disabilities, and Minister of State for Disability, Anne Rabbitte.

The plan for 2023 for **psychology** is to continue assessing the type and level of need for psychology within ChildVision and at national level in order to shape our service effectively. We will aim to provide placements to students on doctoral programmes in clinical, counselling and educational psychology in order to train psychologists in this specialist area.

Research will also be an important area of development going forward and we are working to establish connections with university researchers with an interest in rare diseases in order to contribute to the knowledge base worldwide and ultimately increase our understanding of what is most helpful for this population.

**Equine** are working towards new funding to continue the rollout of the Therapeutic Riding Course project in conjunction with Horse Sport Ireland and AIRE.



# Bonnie, a curious and bright girl who loves to read

**When Bonnie was a few weeks old, I noticed that her eyes started quivering. At first we thought it was just her eyes building strength but I knew deep down that it was something more urgent so we brought her to her GP who sent us straight to A&E.**

After a few weeks of tests, scans and various appointments we were told the devastating news that Bonnie had a brain tumour, specifically on her optic nerves, which was causing the tremble in her eyes. We were so scared, but then we had an appointment with her oncologist, the statistic was a 1.5% chance of fatality. The tumour was sight threatening not life threatening. Bonnie endured four long years of chemotherapy.

During this time we really wanted Bonnie to start preschool. I remember googling, finding ChildVision, I called them and they said – come tomorrow. The relief was indescribable.

Every other preschool saw us as a horror story, ChildVision saw Bonnie, nothing was a problem. Bonnie started immediately and was soon ruling the roost. Some days I would go in and take her bloods to send to the hospital, and that was no issue. If there was a germ in the room the staff would take Bonnie outside and give her one to one time to make sure she wasn't exposed to anything that might risk her getting an infection but still ensure she got her time at ChildVision. They were amazing, for her and for us.

Now Bonnie excels at gymnastics, she loves floor work and also spends hours on the trampoline when she comes home from school. She also loves art. She's really fluent at her braille now too, I've stopped trying to keep up with her.

Braille has become very important to Bonnie in the last couple of years, preventing eye strain and her fluency is quite astounding, I stopped trying to keep up with her, she is reading so well now. Although she is wonderfully supported by the fabulous team in her school, without ChildVision reading services, Bonnie would struggle to access the curriculum. She requires all her text books in large print, digital format and Braille. They go above and beyond to ensure that Bonnie has whatever resources she needs to support her education and this is provided free of charge. Her reading and her schoolwork is so supported by ChildVision reading services.

Until you are living with somebody who is living with sight loss, it's very difficult to understand the real-life implications that it has. We are continuously learning and reliant on ChildVision for practical and emotional help. We would genuinely be lost without them.

*'Bonnie says'... "I love ChildVision, it's such a fun and friendly place. I can't read normal books like my friends because the print is too small and it hurts my eyes, so the ChildVision library is perfect for me because it has all the large print books that I can see well. I can get braille books there too if I like! Anytime I ask for a book, they get it for me. They always have my favourites like David Walliams and Roald Dahl. I definitely wouldn't be as good a reader if I didn't get books from them. Thanks ChildVision!"*





## Reading Services

Reading services empowers students with a registered visual impairment to learn and access their educational materials in a variety of ways. It is a national service that is dedicated to transcribing and providing educational and leisure reading materials in alternative formats including braille, large print, digital, text-file, tactile and 3D to students across Ireland. In addition to schoolbook provision, our children's library, which contains a vast selection of children's and young adult alternative format books, our extensive resource library and our provision of assistive technology support, allows us to support students, families, teachers and professionals.

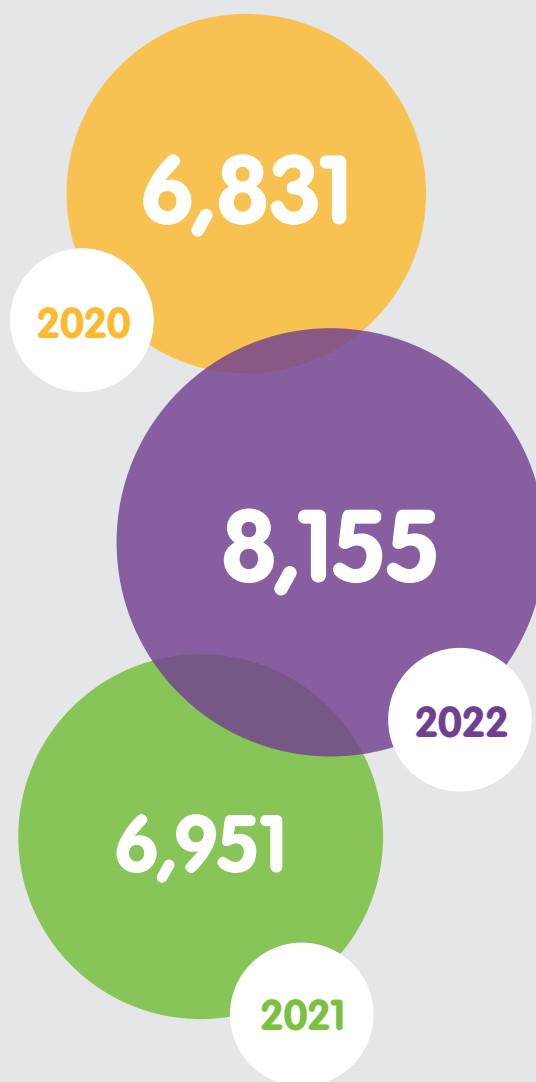
### Production of educational material

2022 was another strong year of production where we provided more than 8,000 transcribed titles to our students. Our sustained production strength comes from the dedication of our team and is supported by our hybrid-working model which we adopted due to Covid. The majority of transcription work is done remotely and the final stages of production, including printing, embossing, binding and the posting of books, takes place on campus. Impacts of Covid on our service included an increase in students requesting additional copies of their books and an increased demand for digital formats as students transitioned to the remote education environment and have continued using this format, often in addition to a hard-copy version of their books.

### Towers and Tales Festival in Lismore, Co. Waterford

Reading services was delighted to be involved with the Towers and Tales Festival 2022, along with the Early Years' Cork team, after its postponement due to Covid. This imaginative festival on the picturesque grounds of Lismore Castle allowed us to raise awareness about visual impairment and the work that reading services and ChildVision do. We exhibited braille and other alternate format books, 3D objects, and interactive toys for children with a visual impairment. We also introduced children and adults to braille through braille games and the highly popular 'Your Name in Braille' which kept us busy with our Perkins braille machines throughout the day. A schedule of sensory stories was offered throughout the day and was booked up early. We hope to continue this great collaboration in 2023.

### Orders Fulfilled – Year on Year Comparison



### Library

September 2022 saw the reopening of our refurbished library following our extended Covid closure. While we continued to offer our postal book delivery service all throughout our closure, this reopening allowed the library to welcome back in-person visits and the recommencement of our popular story times which students and staff enjoy being part of every day of the school week.

The demand for our library service continued to grow as we received nearly 80 new members and loaned over 1100 titles. This increase can also be attributed to our ever growing library catalogue which increased by over 650 items last year across all areas including tactile books, alternate format leisure reading books and research materials. Our ever-popular tactile book range now includes a variety of new stimulating books that we can barely keep on the shelves. We have also added hundreds of titles to our braille, twin vision, large print, audio and digital catalogues across all reading levels. These new additions include popular titles such as the latest Julia Donaldson and David Walliams' books. Our sensory story time sessions were also in great demand. Our Resource Library has also expanded with the addition of titles across a range of subjects including disability law and advocacy, leadership, and social enterprise and the latest books on assessment and the development of children with a visual impairment. We plan to continue to grow our catalogue in 2023 to ensure our members have access to the greatest variety of library materials for both leisure reading and research.

Drawing on the high demand of our specialist sensory story sessions, our staff developed and presented a workshop on sensory stories entitled "Bringing Stories to Life: Adapting Stories for a Sensory Experience". This workshop was presented to international audiences at the Vision 2022 Conference in Dublin and as a webinar through the Low Vision Centre of Learning based in South Africa.

## Assistive Technology

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With the increased demand for digital books comes the increased need for assistive technology equipment and support. In 2022, thanks to a generous donation from the Essilor Luxottica One Sight Foundation, reading services, acquired a large number of assistive technology devices to better support to our service users in using their books and devices, to facilitate the testing of our digital books across various devices and operating systems and to enhance our role in assistive technology assessments. Devices include the Braille Note Touch, Connect 12, Mercury 13 and iPad with smart keyboard. These have been an asset to our assistive technology support and we hope to expand our availability of devices in 2023.

## 3D Printing

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This exciting area of work continued to develop throughout 2022 and our new dedicated 3D print hub, created in 2021, allowed us to raise further awareness of our 3D printing facilities and inspire collaboration of 3D print projects across ChildVision campus. One such collaboration was between reading services and Early Years where we worked together to develop a set of 3D printed braille letters inspired by our 3D braille cell kit. This began as a request to create a specific set of 3D braille letters that could be fixed to the back of a student's chair to assist them in identifying their chair and resulted in the creation of a full alphabet of hand-held 3D braille letters. These and all of our 3D printed materials are available to any of students.

To further raise awareness of how 3D printing can support education, reading services staff presented on the "Use of 3D objects for accessible learning in primary school education" at the Vision 2022 Conference and as a webinar with the Low Vision Centre of Learning in 2022. This allowed us to share our expertise on the design and creation of 3D objects for the education of children with a visual impairment with an international audience.

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*"Just an email to thank you for your help, assistance and swift manner in helping my pupil receive her books. In what is an extremely difficult time for her, you have made school life that little bit easier and somewhat normal for her again. She is beyond delighted to be able to read the text in her books again, mar sin míle buíochas for your help on this matter. It is very very much appreciated."*

## Feedback from a teacher on behalf of a service user

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# Áine, littlest learner from Early Years Dublin



**Áine is a beautiful little girl who was referred to our service in March 2022. In May 2022, Áine came in to visit with her mother Sarah and from that first visit, Sarah made the decision that ChildVision would be the perfect fit for Áine.**

In September 2023 Áine started in our morning preschool in the Early Intervention room at two years old. This was her first ever preschool place and the first time that she was in another setting other than a hospital. Áine had a very hard first two years of life. Having received a rare diagnosis of infantile osteopetrosis at only eight months old, Áine then required a shunt insertion as a result of hydrocephalus at 11 months old and then spent her first birthday fighting sepsis. Áine then needed a life-saving bone marrow transplant in June 2021 requiring her to spend five months in hospital. Áine also has a severe visual impairment having no vision in her left eye and limited vision in her right.

Despite these challenges Áine is a very loved and valued member of her class. She has already moved up to the Montessori room to be with the 'big kids' and will attend three days per week from September 2023 onwards.

Since beginning with us we have seen Áine develop in confidence, now walking steadily on her feet and becoming more independent in every aspect of her little life. She loves to play with dolls and interact and observe the other children in her class. She enjoys art, proudly displays it outside her classroom and even got the award of 'Student of the Week' recently.

With Áine's condition, all areas of development can become a challenge, and this year the

winter was particularly difficult for her. She missed a considerable amount of time as she battled with different viruses that another child would easily shake off. However, it was with great joy that she was welcomed back to class in late January with her wonderful little smile much to the delight of staff and classmates alike.

Áine accesses her therapies outside ChildVision in her local team, but is assisted by the ChildVision therapy team. Áine also attends equine assisted activities weekly and always wears her pink wellies on her equine day. For a few days, those pink wellies were worn everywhere as she was so proud of them. Our nursing team keep updated with the changes in medication and are on hand when necessary, as the teaching staff manage Áine's medical status while in class.

Áine's family are very supportive of everything we do here in ChildVision. Sarah, Áine's mam was very happy to be part of a MDVI Euronet rare conditions group that was discussed when the group met in ChildVision in November. Sarah is also currently fundraising for ChildVision and is very active on promoting Áine's achievements on social media. We look forward to having Áine with us for another year and increasing her days with us. Regardless of the challenges Áine faces we will be there with her to support her and her family every step of the way and enjoy all the little achievements she makes.





# Education Services

## Early Years

ChildVision Education Services cover the full age spectrum from birth to 25 years. In the Early Years age group and for young adults, ChildVision provides full and direct services. For children of school-going age, ChildVision's therapy services, reading services and National Network Services expand on and supplement the education offered by schools.

In order to achieve the best possible outcome for a child with a visual impairment, ChildVision believes that early intervention services are crucial. Those are provided in the Early Years Services in both Dublin and Cork. They implement a play-based, child-centred curriculum supported by Aistear, the Montessori approach and holistic therapeutic and special educational supports.

### Early Years Service (EYS) Dublin

Within ChildVision Early Years Service we implement both the Siolta and Aistear national framework as part of our curriculum. In addition we also have a specialised curriculum (Carolina Curriculum) aimed at the education of children with a range of with special needs and the Learning Tracks Framework.

It is widely considered that up to 80% of a child's early learning comes through vision, and because infants and toddlers learn by watching and imitating others during daily activities, blindness or low vision can impact their development in a vast number of ways. To have their best start in life, young children who are blind or have low vision and their families benefit from specialised intervention.

### Individualised Programming

Our Early Learning Service caters, for children ages birth to six years old. Our service is available to any child nationwide and we provide different sessions to try to ensure that all families who contact us have the opportunity to avail of our service.

Family is a critical part of each child's team and a key teacher is assigned to each child before the start in the preschool to facilitate the development of a good support network for the parents and to ensure good communication between school and home. Each key teacher works to advocate for the child within the therapy team and to prioritise individualised learning objectives and help parents with carrying on these activities learning at home.

We use a team-based approach to develop individual educational plans for children that incorporate compensatory skill development, multi-sensory instruction and the efficient use of residual vision.



Our Early Years team consists of specialised and related services

- Early Years Teachers with specialised training in the education of students with visual impairment
- Functional vision and vision sessions
- Speech-language therapy
- Occupational therapy
- Physical therapy
- Orientation and mobility
- Psychology

Given the facilities within ChildVision, we are able to expand each child's learning beyond the classroom to our outdoor play areas, sensory garden, pet farm and equine centre, where students use hands-on learning and new sensory experiences to engage with the world around them.

Alongside the regular curriculum of a preschool, ChildVision Early Years Service offers a very specialised curriculum known as an Expanded Core Curriculum. This is specific instruction young children will need because of their vision loss. There are nine specific areas of the Expanded Core Curriculum, including:

### *Compensatory Skills*

These critical skills include concept development and organisational skills, as well as communication skills, such as speaking and listening, sign language, tactile symbols, braille or print reading and writing, and accessing recorded materials.

### *Orientation and Mobility*

Skills to help a child to know where she is in space and to move safely, independently and efficiently in the environment.

### *Social Interaction*

Skills needed to participate actively and appropriately in social situations.

### *Independent Living*

Skills of daily living needed to care for oneself independently, including personal hygiene, food preparation, cleaning, clothing care and money management.

### *Recreation and Leisure*

Skills to promote the enjoyment of leisure activities, including learning new leisure activities and making choices about how to spend leisure time.

### *Sensory Efficiency*

Skills that help students to use all of their senses, including functional vision, hearing, touch, taste, smell.

### *Assistive Technology*

Skills to use computers and other electronic equipment to function independently and effectively at school, home or work.

### *Career Education*

Skills that encourage students to explore career options and learn about the world of work.

### *Self-Determination*

Skills that enable students to become effective advocates for themselves based on their own needs and goals.

Our service supports parents by having a weekly parent/child group and afternoon individual sessions where parents have access to the expertise of one of the Early Years teachers who will provide an hour long intensive play session focusing on use of residual vision and incorporating vision and tactile awareness into everyday play. During these sessions we aim to assist the parents become more confident in helping their child in all areas of development and to increase each child's sense of self confidence and age-appropriate independence skills.

## *Statistics for 2022*

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This overall approach easily explains that, as in previous years, the Early Years Service was highly in demand and has added and extended some of its service to young children with a visual impairment and other disabilities.

Thirty-five children attended in the academic year 2021/2022 with a higher level of complex conditions and disabilities across all rooms. The Early Years operated on a staff of four full-time and two 30-hour positions from January to June with one part-time staff working 20 hours.

Similar to last year there was a larger demand on places for children under two years of age. While COVID did not impact greatly on the service in terms of the day to day running of the service, the number of referrals increased greatly over the summer months.

Our service was under increased pressure with lack of spaces available. One child was offered a five-day placement as he was not successful in attaining a primary school place. Thus, the lack of primary school places for some EYS graduates, especially in special schools, leads to enforced changes in the service provision.

## Education Services (continued)

### Attendance in EYS September 2022

Children by Age	Total	Attend 2 Days Per Week	Attend 3 Days Per Week	Parent/Group Session 1 Hour Per Week
0-1 year				1
1 year	1	1		5
2 years	8	7		1
3 years	10	6	1	
4 years	5	1		
5 years	1		1	

Daily pre-school and early intervention sessions took place every morning from 10am – 1pm. Individual sessions with children were offered on two afternoons, and a parent/child group every Friday morning. Respite sessions were offered on Thursday afternoons.

Workshops for parents were offered in line with the Family Resource Calendar of Events and in co-operation with therapies.

This year saw the return of our Christmas party which was attended by the majority of families from the EYS and it was lovely to be able to host an on-campus event for parents.

The preschool did have vacancies from September onwards but due to staffing issues these places in both the morning and afternoon sessions were put on hold. This situation was resolved in early 2023.



## Assessments and Vision Work

The EYS co-ordinator provides input in most assessments carried out on campus and has particular expertise in CVI and in working with the Eye Gaze equipment. The EYS co-ordinator is part of a nationwide CVI working group and also links in with Temple Street Children's Hospital. This high level of expertise benefits all of our children.

Functional Visual Assessments (FVA) are carried out very regularly on internal and external children, as required. Requests for assessments per week are received and timetabled. ADOS assessments are carried out, as requested. On average 4 EYS assessments, 6-8 FVA and 1 MDT assessment required an EYS staff to be present.

This work forms a core part and is the basis for the specialist vision work provided by the EYS.

Within ChildVision the children present with a wide variety of visual impairments and additional disabilities.

## Visual Impairments included

- CVI
- Albinism
- Retinal Detachment
- ROP
- Congenital Cataracts
- Coloboma
- Microphthalmia
- Optic Ataxia
- Nystagmus
- Delayed Visual Maturation
- Bilateral Hemipopia
- ONH
- Glaucoma
- Rod Dystrophy
- Leber's Syndrome
- Buphthalmos

90% of children in ChildVision Early Years service have a wide range of complex and multiple disabilities and also very rare conditions, including:

- Hydrocephalus
- Osteopetrosis
- Bardet-Biedl syndrome
- Global developmental delay
- Cerebral palsy
- Microencephaly
- MICPCH
- ASD

- Down syndrome
- BRPF1 related disorder
- Hormone deficiency
- Polymicrogyria
- Hypertonia
- Dystonia
- Acquired brain injury
- Translocation T91.5
- Dyspraxia
- Norrie's syndrome
- Stickler's syndrome
- Septo-Optic dysplasia
- Schizencephaly
- Epilepsy
- Cardiac conditions
- Renal conditions
- CHARGE syndrome

## Compliance

Due to the multi-faceted work of the EYS, colleagues are linking in and comply with several bodies, i.e., AIM/ECCE, Tusla, DES and others. This requires work in attending consultation processes, national conferences within the Early Years and complying with all the relevant administrative work.

## Training

Consequently, our staff stay up-to-date and attend relevant training on a continuous basis. In 2021/22, all staff completed onsite training with our nursing team and speech and language in regards to seizure and dysphasia training. Staff also took advantage of online ASD training for Early Years. Staff also received comprehensive training in how to use ChildVision's new CRM, which will help with tracking the children's progress throughout their time with us.

## Future Challenges

Currently we are looking at our 2022/23 enrolment. Again this year, we face the situation of having our Early Intervention Room divided into an ECCE room. This is as a direct result of the lack of primary school places available to children with MDVI. This impacts on the younger children as we are only able to give these children the maximum of one hour per week as part of an individual session or parents group. It also means that children are coming into our morning session at the age of three rather than one or two.



## Education Services (continued)

### Early Years Service Cork

ChildVision's Cork Service offers a fully integrated pre-school, assessments and one-to-one VI support sessions, orientation and mobility support and low vision intervention. In addition to that, the pre-school offers Easter and summer camps, which form part of the service for families.

ChildVision Preschool Cork works from the core preschool curriculum using Aistear and Síolta as its basis, which we then modify and expand on to meet the needs of the children who attend. Our activities include pre-braille activities and sensory play incorporated in to each day. We are fortunate to have an O&M instructor onsite allowing us to incorporate mobility training into the daily schedule also. The preschool programme goes at the pace of each individual child. We look at the different development levels of each child and set goals according to their ability.

We have specialised equipment in the preschool that is used with the children who are visually impaired. This equipment has been secured through AIM level 5, the Visiting Teachers service and ChildVision fundraising and is of huge benefit to all children in the service.

What makes us different is that we are an inclusive preschool, the only one of its kind in the Cork area. We have children without additional needs attending alongside their peers who are visually impaired and who have complex medical needs. This leads to an environment of children who are kind, considerate and understanding of their friends who learn at a different pace to them.

At ChildVision we appreciate that all of our children are capable learners and we facilitate that learning at their own pace.

Twenty-five children attended the pre-school during the 2021–22 academic year, out of which 14 attended morning sessions across the week and 11 afternoon sessions. Due to its fully integrated nature, our pre-school in Cork has a very high level of AIM level 7 support. This was availed of by five children in the morning and six children in the afternoon sessions. In terms of staffing, the AIM support translates into two additional staff members shared in both mornings and afternoons. A further four children with additional needs were fee-paying in the afternoon sessions.

	1 Day	2 Days	3 Days	4 Days	5 Days
<b>Morning</b>	1	1	2	1	9
<b>Afternoon</b>	1	4	2	1	3

	AIM support	No additional needs	Additional needs and fee paying	Total
<b>Morning</b>	5	9		14
<b>Afternoon</b>	6	1	4	11

### Staff

The staff in Cork comprises of one permanent pre-school teacher, two additional staff members for the preschool under level 7 support from AIM (30 hours x 2 posts), one orientation and mobility instructor and the Early Years service manager. In November 2022, we received further funding for an additional staff member through AIM level 7 and this staff member started in January 2023.

### Special Events and New Developments

Our staff team in Cork continued to be very active in offering events to families and in expanding co-operation and services:

- Albinism group in February.
- Parent evening with Sight and Sound Technology.
- We held an Easter camp over the Easter holidays.
- Team from the USA (OT & SLT) visited in April.
- Towers and Tales festival in April.
- We developed a new outdoor area outside the preschool and had a parent coffee morning to show it to everyone.
- We held an end-of-year graduation in the garden for our preschool graduates, which was a huge success and a fantastic day for all our families. Eight children graduated in June 2022.
- We ran a full summer programme over seven weeks, which included a mixture of preschool summer camps, VI summer camps and pay as you go days.
- Assessment team from Dublin saw 10 children for assessments in October.
- ChildVision Cork participated in the online toy show hosted by ChildVision.
- We liaised with the Glucksman Gallery (UCC) to facilitate staff training for them for a particular exhibition.
- We finished the year with a Christmas party for our preschool students and our one to one clients.



## Compliance

ChildVision Preschool Cork liaise and comply with several Government regulatory bodies, including: ECCE, AIM, Tusla and DES. We have not had any further inspections since the unannounced Tusla inspection on 8th November 2021.

## Training

Staff training has always been valued and encouraged in ChildVision Cork. Throughout 2022, the staff team engaged in numerous CPD training as well as attending webinars on relevant topics. Training included:

- Assistive Technology with the Ann Sullivan Foundation.
- Functional vision assessments with ChildVision Dublin.
- First aid responder training.
- Fire warden safety training.
- Training and webinars offered directly through Cork County Childcare Committee.
- SNA tracheostomy training.

Staff have commenced their own further education training in the following areas:

- MA in Play Therapy.
- BA in Inclusion Studies.
- MA in Inclusive and Special Education.

## Assessment & One to One VI Support

40 children attended in 2022 for one to one vision support sessions, this included 16 new referrals. None of the children presented with just VI, all have additional needs and medical and developmental delays including the following:

- Global developmental delay
- Cerebral palsy
- Microencephaly
- ASD
- Down's syndrome
- Hormone deficiency
- Polymicrogyria
- PDD – pyruvate dehydrogenase deficiency
- Tuberous sclerosis
- Acquired brain injury
- Albinism
- Long QT syndrome
- Nicolaides syndrome
- Crouzon syndrome
- Epilepsy
- Tethralogy of the heart
- Cones and Rods dystrophy

- Moebius syndrome
- Leber's syndrome
- CDKL5 mutation
- CHARGE syndrome

The referral sources were either parent referrals, through the Jack and Jill liaison nurse, local disability services, hospital therapists, private physiotherapists or Co Action West Cork.

## Engagement with the HSE

Although the service was very active yet again in 2022, it became very clear how stretched ChildVision's resources are in maintaining and further developing the service. Following consultation with the parents of the children attending the Cork Service, ChildVision embarked on protracted negotiations with the HSE and government and is pleased to report that we have received some backdated funding for the first time ever for Cork and are awaiting a service level agreement to be put into place in 2023. This is a huge step forward for the service and will allow ChildVision to develop the service in line with the children's needs.

## Future Challenges

As we look towards our enrolment for September 2023, yet again we are faced with the challenge of having a high number of applicants with significantly high needs. Engaging nursing support through the HSE and AIM Better Start has been a hugely progressive move for us and it has paved the way for further collaborations. We foresee that more children will be able to avail of this support and, if we had our own nursing staff we would be able to provide a service to a much higher number of children.

Furthermore, we are faced with the challenge of having limited space for further development where we are. As the children who attend our service have multiple pieces of equipment in order for them to attend and meaningfully participate in the preschool setting, we subsequently have reduced capacity to take more children and to open a second room in the premises we currently occupy.

# Christian – in his own words

**My name is Christian Hernandez. I was born in Venezuela to an Indian mam and a Spanish dad. We moved to Ireland almost six years ago and I started my journey in ChildVision 3 years ago.**

When I started in ChildVision, I could not speak English and I have worked very hard to learn this language and all of the Irish slang. I have a vision impairment from birth because I did not get enough oxygen and I also have microcephaly which effected my brain a little bit.

Since I started in ChildVision I have learned how to use a long cane. This allows me to be independent in areas that I know and helps me move around in new places.

This year I am learning how to travel independently on public transport – that is a big step for me. If only it would stop raining!! have also learned different skills for work by working in all the enterprises. My favourite is the CanDo Soap – just don't tell my horticulture teacher.

In the soap enterprise I can package the soap, bevel the soap bars, fill the hand creams and label the products. All of this I can do on my own, but I also like helping the other students to do their jobs too. I also work in the shredding enterprise and horticulture.

Through ChildVision I have learnt how to work in a Café. I organise the drinks, clean up after the public and help JoJos staff. I am also learning to bake and how to stay safe in the kitchen. I love it here! I love taking part in everything that I can. It's a really good service, the staff are amazing, I love them.

When I was in Venezuela, I was never able to be independent, for lots of reasons. There were schools for people with disabilities, but they were not like ChildVision. Ireland also helps with me being independent, by having sound at traffic lights to let people with visual impairments, know when it is safe to cross the road.

This year I have started college in the ETB in Parnell Square. I hope to improve my English enough to go onto a course for working with people with disabilities. Deciding to go to college has meant that I have to learn new routes in and out of college. I have had to learn how to move about the college building on my own and I had to learn to adapt to a new learning environment.

In the future, I would love to work with people with disabilities, supporting them how I can, within my ability. Maybe ChildVision will give me a job!



Jack Wills  
EST. GREAT BRITAIN  
OF - 1982  
FORE STREET



# National Network Services

## Empowering Students and Fostering Growth

In 2022, ChildVision's Lifelong Learning programme experienced significant growth, with the enrolment of four new students, bringing the total to 26 — the highest number of students the programme has ever worked with. Despite staff absences, which affected the quantum of activities provided within the department, the easing of restrictions allowed for improved service delivery.

The department ensured that all participants had individual personal plans, catering to their unique needs. Scheduled annual reviews were also completed, both in person and through virtual platforms like Zoom, accommodating the convenience of working parents.

The focus on comprehensive education extended beyond academics, with over 100 Relationship and Sexuality Education sessions delivered to students on a one-to-one basis or in group settings. Furthermore, 30 Human Rights and Self-Advocacy training sessions, facilitated by a social work student from Trinity College, empowered students to express themselves confidently.

Educational attainment remained a key priority, with 96 modules successfully put forward for certification in QQI Levels 1-3, ASDAN Short Courses, and Towards Independence modules.

Notably, two students secured paid, part-time employment at The Handmade Soap Company, while three others accessed college in the local community.

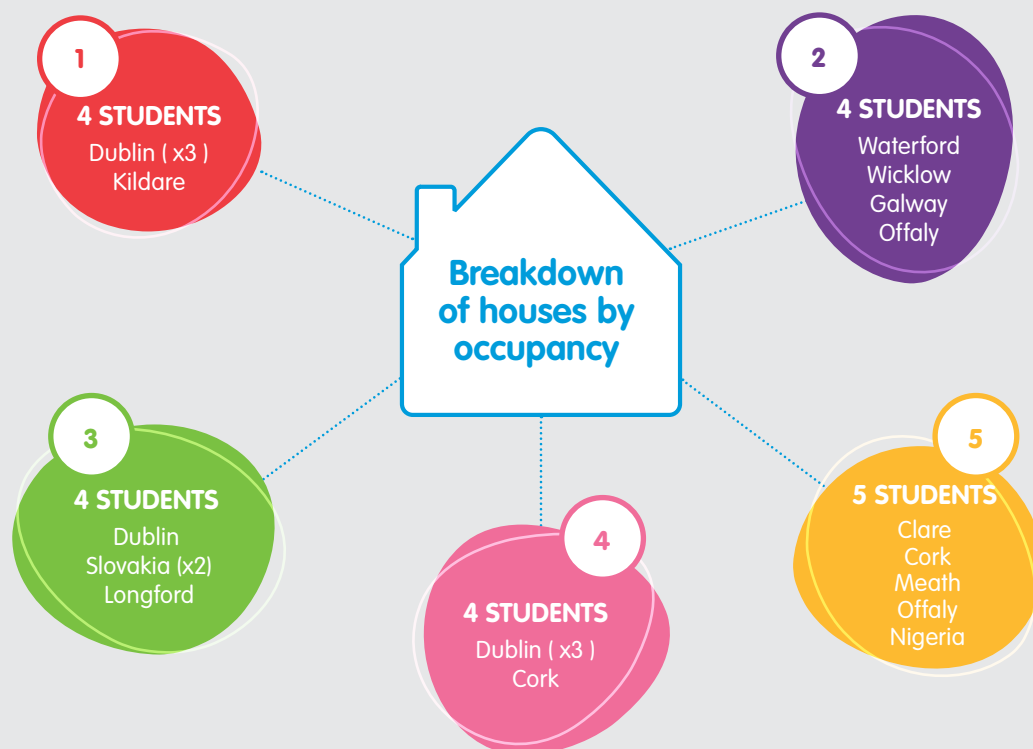
ChildVision's commitment to innovation and sustainability was recognised through multiple achievements, including winning a Dublin City Council Social Enterprise Award and grant, participating in exhibitions like SoCircular in the Mansion House, and receiving a grant from ESB to develop new products. The introduction of new soap branding, packaging, and equipment streamlined production, and new products such as CanDo candles and Castille Soap made from 100% olive oil were launched. The department also engaged in environmentally friendly practices, shredding two tonnes of paper for recycling, saving 32 trees.

With the merger of Lifelong Learning programs and the appointment of new managers, ChildVision demonstrated its commitment to staff development. Support was provided for a variety of staff members pursuing further education and training, which included an MSc in Management, BA in Art Therapy, RUA practitioners, ASSIST and Safe Talk mental health training and an MSc in Special Education - ensuring a skilled and motivated workforce.





## Term Time Living - 5 houses



### Term Time Living: Promoting Social Engagement and Independence

ChildVision's term-time residential programme plays a crucial role in supporting visually impaired students, providing a safe and nurturing environment that fosters growth and independence. Throughout 2022, despite the residual effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, ChildVision's term-time living initiative demonstrated its commitment to empowering students through a variety of enriching activities and experiences.

The return to full-service capacity allowed students to re-engage with one another, their teachers, and the various social activities offered within the programme. As the old adage goes, "absence makes the heart grow fonder", and this was evident in the students' joy as they reunited with their peers. Activities such as judo, cinema and bowling trips, horse-riding, coding, baking and cookery classes, among others, were reintroduced to the delight of the students. These outings not only provided opportunities for

fun and adventure but also promoted social interactions and the development of important life skills.

One notable highlight in 2022 was when some of ChildVision's visually impaired students got behind the wheel of racing cars, tearing up the track at Mondello Park. This thrilling experience not only pushed the boundaries of what visually impaired individuals could achieve but also demonstrated their determination to overcome challenges and pursue their passions.

Moreover, students took part in canoeing trips in Carlingford Lough and found freedom in abseiling and long walks along forest trails. The programme provided a platform for students to showcase their talents, with one student receiving two Gaisce awards - a silver award and a special achievement award, highlighting her outstanding accomplishments.

Another student revealed her extraordinary talent for poetry, and one of her compositions was published on the Fighting Words website, a testament to the creativity and capabilities of visually impaired individuals.

## National Network Services (continued)

ChildVision's term-time residential service also launched a new summer programme in 2022, addressing the issue of summer isolation for many young people. This programme provided over 515 hours of high-quality, imaginative activities over six weeks, catering to 15 young participants. The programme included history exploration, swimming trips, nature outings and various other engaging activities. These experiences not only kept students active during the summer break but also served as valuable learning opportunities.

Furthermore, the programme aimed to foster independence and equip students with essential life skills. Activities such as archery, indoor rowing and sailing were introduced, allowing students to step out of their comfort zones and gain confidence in their abilities. The carefully designed programme also encouraged social interaction, enabling students to make new friends and develop lasting connections.

ChildVision's term-time living initiative plays a vital role in the lives of visually impaired students, providing a nurturing environment that supports their physical, emotional and social development. As the organisation moves forward, it continues to explore new avenues for growth and development, ensuring that every student has the tools and opportunities they need to lead independent and successful lives. The dedication of staff and the unwavering commitment to the well-being of visually impaired children and young adults make ChildVision's term-time living programme an indispensable asset in their journey towards a brighter future.

### National Network Services (NNS) Providing Dynamic and Innovative Supports

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The NNS department of ChildVision focuses on family services, outreach and transitions. The year 2022 was marked by the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, which led to significant changes in the way services were delivered. The NNS team had to adapt and find creative and virtual methods to support children and families effectively. The team provided telephone and virtual support to ensure the basic needs of children and families were met. Safety planning, establishing routines and managing crises became essential aspects of the service. The transition to virtual education was supported, ensuring children could continue their learning despite the challenges posed by the pandemic.

NNS operated an annual Events Calendar, offering a wide range of activities for children and young adults with visual impairments and their families. Additionally, workshops and training events for professionals working with visually impaired students were included. Despite the constraints

of Covid-19, NNS demonstrated flexibility by introducing blended learning options, including virtual delivery of workshops and activities.

The transition to virtual delivery allowed NNS to reach participants from all over Ireland, strengthening partnerships and growing the database. This approach also facilitated virtual one-to-one support for children and group sessions, fostering peer support and enhancing the learning experience.

### Outreach and Networking

Outreach continued to play a vital role in supporting students' access to compensatory life skills. Collaborations with the biomedical student group at NUI Galway enabled volunteering support for the Summer Programme. The student group presented a project on ChildVision's services, raising awareness at a national level.

The return to in-person attendance at conferences and school presentations provided opportunities to engage with families and professionals, leading to increased assessments and referrals. The Summer Programme 2022, with new activities like archery, indoor rowing and sailing, was a resounding success, boosting participants' confidence and self-esteem.

### Transitions

ChildVision recognises the significance of transitions not only for the child or young adult but also for their families. Transition theory emphasises the need for collaboration between schools, services and families to ensure successful transitions.

ChildVision strives to support effective transitions through professional collaboration and careful planning, aligning with best practices.

However, recent changes in state funding structures have introduced uncertainties in the transition process, particularly for school leavers. Early Years services and primary school children also face challenges with school placements and resources, further complicated by recent diagnoses of visual, sensory, physical or autistic spectrum conditions.

To bridge the gap and provide comprehensive support, ChildVision established the role of Transitions Manager within the NNS team. The Transitions Manager acts as a key point of contact for families, liaising with various teams and agencies involved in the child's or young person's care.

They facilitate clear communication and support through home visits, service visits, zoom meetings and telephone calls.

During transitions, the Transitions Manager actively participates in assessments, feedback meetings and case management, ensuring a smooth pathway of care and planning. Transitioning out of ChildVision services can be particularly challenging for families, as they often struggle to find appropriate services to meet their young person's needs.

ChildVision's person-centred and heart-centred approach, coupled with the Transitions Manager's role, highlights the organisation's commitment to providing exceptional support throughout the transition journey. While working with children, families and young adults during transitions can be complex and challenging, ChildVision aims to empower them to be active participants in the process, leading to a fulfilling life of their choice with ample opportunities.

The success of NNS in 2022 was possible due to the dedication of its staff and volunteers. The team's ability to adapt, innovate and incorporate virtual elements into service delivery allowed them to continue supporting children and families effectively. With a focus on enhancing digital literacy through Tech Fest in 2023, NNS remains committed to achieving better outcomes for children, young adults and their families.

## International Low Vision Conference – Vision22 Dublin

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ISLRR's 13th International Low Vision Conference, Vision22, was successfully held at the Convention Centre Dublin (CCD) after a two-year postponement due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Local Organising Committee (LOC), led by ChildVision, worked diligently to make the event happen and introduced a hybrid format, accommodating both in-person delegates from 5th to 7th July and virtual attendees on the Digital Day, 8th July 2022.

### Programme Overview

The conference featured an impressive line-up of presentations, workshops, posters, and keynote speakers, with a total of 300 abstracts from leading researchers and practitioners in the low-vision community. The programme included 91 oral presentations, 40 digital day oral presentations, 12 case studies, 26 workshops (including two on Digital Day), and 48 in-person posters along with 55 Digital Day posters. Additionally, there were 11 hot topic poster oral presentations and 18 on Digital Day. Panel discussions, featuring 53 presenters across 10 panels, provided engaging discussions during the conference.

## ChildVision's Contributions

ChildVision, as the driving force behind the LOC, made a significant impact on the conference. The organisation presented five oral presentations and conducted five workshops, showcasing their expertise in various areas, including, therapies, reading services, social care and the Equine Assisted Activities Unit.

## Attendance and Networking

The conference attracted over 300 in-person delegates from 54 countries and an additional 105 virtual attendees, bringing the total number of delegates, exhibitors, facilitators and volunteers to 448. Networking opportunities were thoughtfully integrated into the event, including a welcome reception and a gala evening, fostering a friendly atmosphere and facilitating meaningful interactions among participants.

## Site Visits

The morning of Friday, 8th July 2022, featured site visits to each of the VISPA partners, including ChildVision, which received the highest number of registrations. Over 30 visitors from various countries attended the visits and praised the quality and range of services provided by ChildVision.

## Impact and Recognition

Following the conference, the LOC received numerous emails praising the organisation and the success of Vision22 Dublin. Delegates appreciated the opportunity to connect in person after the pandemic and commended the welcoming atmosphere. ChildVision garnered national and international recognition for its dedication, professionalism and organisational skills, further strengthening its position in the low-vision research and rehabilitation community.

## MDVI Euronet

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In 2022, ChildVision also played a vital role in MDVI Euronet, participating in virtual meetings and hosting the first in-person meeting since 2019. The network expanded with the addition of new member organisations from Iceland, Greece, Denmark and Sweden. Efforts are underway to develop a new website, establish a contact network for parents and families of children with rare eye diseases, and facilitate staff exchange visits among members.

## National Network Services (continued)

### Blended Learning

As part of the INDie4All Erasmus Plus Project, ChildVision developed learning units on visual impairment and inclusive education, which were incorporated into their staff induction programme using Moodle. The organisation successfully conducted in-person sessions for Safer Manual Handling after an online theory element, and the Learn Braille course commenced as a blended learning program.

In conclusion, ChildVision's impactful services in 2022 have significantly enhanced the lives of visually impaired individuals. The Lifelong Learning programme's growth and innovative educational approaches empowered students to achieve academic and personal success. Term-time living played a vital role in fostering independence and social engagement through diverse and enriching activities.

Despite the challenges of the pandemic, the National Network Services demonstrated flexibility and support to families through blended learning and outreach collaborations. ChildVision's involvement in international conferences further showcased its leadership in the low-vision community.

Looking ahead, the organisation's plans to upgrade platforms and develop new courses emphasise its commitment to continuous improvement and inclusive education. ChildVision's unwavering dedication and innovation make it a driving force in empowering visually impaired individuals and their families, leaving a lasting impact on their journey to a brighter and more fulfilling future.

### Orientation and Mobility

Orientation and mobility sessions are a vital part in each child's learning journey with ChildVision and are provided in Dublin and nationwide. Three dedicated O&M specialists work with all the children in the EYS Dublin, St. Joseph's Primary School for Children with Visual Impairment and Rosmini Community College as well as with the young adults in the Lifelong Learning programme, reaching ca. 125 children and young adults in total. One further colleague provides O&M sessions in Cork and via outreach nationwide.

Due to a maternity leave in Dublin, the second half of 2022 was covered by a smaller team than usual, however, the team worked closely with the different departments to ensure that each child was seen regularly.

Thankfully, with the lifted COVID-19 restrictions, O&M sessions could return to the full spectrum of scenarios being experienced and taught, as reservations around using public transport etc. diminished.





The Orientation and Mobility service we continue to offer provides a **unique and vital support** to our clients across all age groups. This has included:

- Pre O&M with babies
- Tactile awareness/spatial awareness
- Movement concepts
- Systematic searching techniques
- Self-protection skills
- Environmental sounds and cues
- Introducing cane skills
- Getting ready for primary school
- Liaising with primary school teachers, IGDB, NCBI and the Visiting Teachers

In addition to the services listed above, O&M instruction has been carried out in the clients' home areas and localities where required and as a follow-up service from Covid workarounds. Support has also included phone contact and advice for parents.

We continue to offer a significantly high level of outreach work to our clients. This has proven to be a huge success in terms of client participation and achieving goals.

In addition to direct one-to-one O&M instruction, our team also advise other colleagues on best practice, ensure that techniques are being used well and devise activities that can be safely undertaken. For instance, the EYS Dublin offer sensory walks with children during which learned techniques are applied. Indirect or "mini" O&M sessions take place during EYS time, during time in residential care and in many everyday situations across the departments.

In total, 125 students took part in direct O&M sessions and a total of 1,430 sessions were carried out. In addition to that, indirect sessions counted for a total of 980, so the total number of sessions in 2022 is 2,410.

## Implementation of New CRM system

ChildVision's new database, the CRM system, was delivered by Intuity in early 2022, with the sign-off on the major functions on the services side in March 2022. This followed the design of the fundraising side, which started to be used in the previous year.

The CRM was introduced to a staff working group and then to the wider relevant staff audience in September 2022. This required a lot of tailored workshops and suggestions from staff led to the add-on of further functionalities which were deployed in January 2023.

As the CRM is an application on Microsoft Dynamics, the implementation for all staff also requires training on MS Teams, Sharepoint and general IT user training. This is a process, but the engagement with staff in 2022 was positive, with several departments now using the CRM for all therapy notes and more and more client records. This project continues to be ambitious, but the co-operation between IT, the project lead and all departments is showing good results.

The next step will be the full implementation of tracking all the activities and appointments in September 2023.



# Governance

## Implementation of Governance Review Recommendations

Following a 2021 Board-commissioned review of the functioning of current governance of ChildVision, the company worked on implementing the recommendations during 2022.

The report included twelve recommendations, progress on the recommendations included:

1. Significant work on the development of a **new Strategic Plan**. This plan will be launched in 2023.
2. We completed the design and are working on implementation of a **Board/SMT Governance Development Plan**, with a significant focus on joint activity to accelerate shared understanding of governance principles and practice, and to maintain a high degree of organisational, sectoral and policy knowledge.
3. We **formalised Chair/CEO meetings** outside Board meetings, to reinforce the focus on strategic direction and decision-making consistency.
4. We developed an **internal governance coordination led by and within** office of the CEO, and *supported* by L&P as Company Secretary, which coordinates the flow of quality information, and support planning of effective SMT/Board and Sub Committee meetings.
5. We are in the process of ensuring that there are **sufficient supports** required to resource the work, develop good practice and embed the systems for internal governance administration practice and accountability.
6. The Board has continued to focus on the **senior management team structure and succession planning**.



7. We have **revised the Board and sub-committee** agendas to ensure progression of strategic priorities, key developments, decision making requirements and oversight matters.
8. We continue to work on **improving information systems** to enable reporting of information and analysis relevant to both the Board, Sub Committees and the CEO/SMT.
9. **As governance policies and systems are improved** we are working on the adoption of policies accompanied by planned implementation by the Executive.
10. We have **redesigned of the reports** to the Board and the Board Pack ensuring concise, timely and relevant information – this improvement process is continuing.
11. We are working on a process to table actions against the new strategic plan indicating progress, exceptions, challenges and outcomes and sign-posting next opportunities or challenges and long-term factors to inform thinking about what is best for our children and young people.
12. We are continuously working towards a systematic approach to **effective delegation**.

We will continue the process to improve governance within the organisation, taking into account latest legal and best practice requirements.

## Governance Roles

### Board

Responsible for ensuring CV achieves its mission – the intended social outcome - through:

- a. effective strategic development/direction well informed by the community we serve;
- b. overseeing implementation of strategy/agreed mission driven plans;
- c. oversight of compliance/regulation and the efficient operation of the organisation.

### Sub Committees (Standing)

A 'clearing house' for matters coming to the Board, and/or where more in-depth consideration of issues (strategic/oversight) happens; a place to fine-tune the information/basis for discussion/recommendations to come to the Board; providing support/guidance in specific areas to the management team responsible for delivering the strategy and overall management of CV.

### Sub Board Structures – time bound

The Board may agree other working groups/task forces if required, which will be time bound, with terms of reference, membership and role defined.

### Chair

Oversight of Board effectiveness; meeting with the CEO in preparation for/follow-up to Board meetings; advising on and giving final assent to the Board agendas and meeting arrangements; chairing Board meetings.

### CEO

Implementation of governance standards; leading preparation of draft Board agendas/meeting planning; overseeing coordination of the information necessary to enable the Board to do its job; implementing decisions.

### SMT

Ensuring that at all times the sub committees and the Board have the necessary information for informed discussion and decision-making to guide and support the CEO/SMT and deliver good governance.

### Office of the CEO - Governance Secretariat

Coordinating and organising all sub committee and Board meetings in a timely manner; tracking issues across Board and s/cs for inclusion in relevant meetings; ensuring that all documentation including Agendas, accompanying docs and reports are circulated on time; making meeting and IT arrangements; circulating material after meetings as agreed with the Chair.

### L&P - Company Secretary

Ensuring all legal/regulatory/compliance/good governance practice standards are being met by the Company; making CRO and CRA returns; advising and guiding the Board, CEO and the Secretariat on these matters; arranging AGMs/EGMs with the support of the CEO/office of the CEO; carrying out occasional audits of governance practices and recommending improvements.

# Risk Management

At ChildVision, we are committed to proactively managing all risk associated with providing our services in healthcare, social care supports and educational support. We have a detailed risk management framework to help us manage risk at all levels across the organisation. Managed risk-taking is essential for growth, development and innovation across all the services that we provide.

During 2022, we continued to develop our ability to manage risk in the organisation. As well as managing our organisational risk we are committed to providing support to our service users in a manner which promotes their rights, independence and social inclusion. As we continued to adapt and respond to the challenges of the pandemic, it was critical that we could continue to rely on our detailed risk management framework.

We worked in partnership with our staff, clients, stakeholders, funders and regulators to ensure we could continue to provide safe, effective and person-centred care to all our service users.

We continued to maintain our Risk Register in line with our risk management framework, drawing from all areas of the organisation. We reviewed and managed this register at our Senior Management Team meetings and this was reviewed and overseen by the Audit and Compliance Committee and Board.

## Risk Management Framework and Risk Appetite

The effective management of risk requires the involvement of people at every level of our organisation. We are committed to ensuring that risk is identified, managed and reduced through implementing our risk management framework. This framework consists of the frontline management of risk by department managers and escalation through local risk registers.

These local risk registers are then used to update the overall Company Risk Register to help identify strategic risk. Risk is governed by our Audit and Compliance Committee which reports to our Board of Directors. However all risk deemed relevant for other Board Sub-Committees are made available during the year. This comprehensive framework for managing risk ensures the appropriate management of risk.

In keeping with our risk framework, we have several lines of defence to support risk assurance:

- **Level 1:** Local management and operations are guided by approved policies, procedures and processes.
- **Level 2:** We rely on our formal risk management structures in tandem with our incident reporting system.
- **Level 3:** Our internal audit team, RSM and our external auditors, Crowe.

This overall approach runs parallel with our obligations to regulators and funders.

Our risk appetite statement sets out the level of risk acceptable to the ChildVision in key areas. Risk 'tolerance' is the minimum and maximum risk we are willing to accept. While we advocate for our service users' rights to engage in positive risk-taking, we will support them to realise their potential, working within the limits of the risk appetite statement.





Risk Appetite

ChildVision operates within a high overall risk range due to the nature of our clients and services. Risks can be analysed into the following categories:

Operational:

Risk that policies, procedures, systems or activities would fail, thus, restricting progress towards achieving organisational objectives.

Financial:

Risk of failing to safeguard the organisation's assets, financial misreporting or failure to achieve value for money.

Strategic:

Risk that the organisation would take a strategic direction or engage in activity at variance with its mission statement or fundamental objectives.

Reputational:

Risk that the organisation would engage in activities or be perceived to engage in activities that would threaten its good name, brand and public image.

However, ChildVision has a low appetite to avoidable risk in relations to safety and compliance objectives of the organisation, including student and staff health and safety. ChildVision has a low risk appetite towards its reputational, strategic, reporting and operations objectives. This means that reducing to reasonably practicable levels the risks originating from the delivery of services to children, and the public while our legal obligations will take priority over other business objectives.

ChildVision maintains a risk register allows for the capture of risk information from the 'bottom up' within ChildVision. The risk register will be the primary tool for risk tracking, containing the overall system of risks and the status of any risk mitigation actions.

The use of a consistent approach to risk management is set out in the company's policies and procedures in order to assure good risk management at all levels and areas within ChildVision. The risk management cycle within ChildVision incorporates the following elements:

ChildVision monitors and review corporate risk register on a regular basis.

Risks are rated as high, medium and low based on the scales set out in ChildVision's risk policies. The table below provides an overview of the risks identified, together with the ratings for residual risks.

	High	Medium	Low
Number of risks	4	16	45



## Risk management (continued)

The four high risk identified as a result of the risk review are as follows:

### **Risk 1: IT server room has no automatic fire suppression.**

#### **Movement**

- Increased during the year as our IT strategy developed.

#### **Principle Control Measures**

- IT Strategy developed.
- Investment in servers.
- Plans to move the IT server room.

#### **Focus for 2022 and 2023**

- Planned a move of our IT server room for 2023.

### **Risk 2: Inherent infrastructural defects of the building due to age of the premises.**

#### **Movement**

Planning for campus redevelopment sought and received in 2022.

#### **Principle Control Measures**

- Devise and implement a campus redevelopment project.
- Seek funding for the redevelopment.
- Appoint advisors to help identify and resolve defects in the building and ensure resolved as part of the campus redevelopment.

#### **Focus for 2022 and 2023**

- Campus redevelopment plan received planning permission in 2022.
- Funding plans have been put in place to fund the redevelopment plans – Funding will take a number of years to be received.
- We have appointed relevant advisors.

### **Risk 3: An ability for all staff to be on current HSE scales and over reliant on key staff.**

#### **Movement**

- Increased from the previous year given historical pay scales.

#### **Principle Control Measures**

- HR policies and procedures in place.
- Cross training.
- Succession planning.

#### **Focus for 2022 and 2023**

- Renewed and revised succession planning.
- Address the historical pay scales we are paying when finances allow.

### **Risk 4: Need to target unrestricted funds.**

#### **Movement**

- New for 2022.

#### **Principle Control Measures**

- Budgeting and forecasting.
- Revised fundraising strategy.

#### **Focus for 2022 and 2023**

- Implement fund raising strategy.

The following describes the key risk areas and the tolerance acceptable to us.

Theme	Tolerance Level	Specific Areas
<b>Quality</b>	Strongly averse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Poor quality care</li> <li>Unacceptable clinical risk</li> <li>Non-compliance with national and professional standards</li> <li>Poor clinical or professional practice</li> </ul>
<b>Safety</b>	Strongly averse	Safeguarding vulnerable children and adults
<b>Service Delivery and Design</b>	Moderately averse	If consistent with the achievement of client safety and quality improvements
<b>Finance</b>	Strongly averse	Only consider exceeding this limit if financial response is required to mitigate risk associated with service user safety
<b>Workforce</b>	Zero tolerance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unprofessional conduct, bullying</li> <li>Competence to perform roles or tasks safely</li> <li>Incidents which may compromise the safety of others</li> </ul>
<b>Regulation</b>	Strongly averse	Non-compliance with legislation/regulatory frameworks in which we operate
<b>Information</b>	Zero tolerance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Data protection breaches</li> <li>Non-compliance with data protection and/or privacy legislation/regulatory information governance</li> </ul>
<b>Reputation</b>	Zero tolerance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Breaches in high standards of conduct/ethics/professionalism</li> <li>Risks or circumstances that could cause reputational damage to the CRC or our stakeholders</li> </ul>
<b>Technology and Innovation</b>	Moderately averse	Will consider risk associated with new technologies if this enables us to realise innovative care solutions, safety improvements or efficiency gains

## Education, Training and Support

We are committed to ensuring our staff have the knowledge, skills and training required to manage risk proactively. We work with all departments to ensure our risk management systems are robust and in place. We encouraged and supported staff to be innovative and transformative when managing risk, particularly when supporting person-centred care. We ensured all our staff were trained in infection prevention and control methods and the correct use of personal protective equipment. We also worked closely with our clients and their families, carers and advocates to ensure a holistic and personalised approach to risk throughout the pandemic.

## Plans for 2023

For 2023 and beyond, the risk team together with the Board and senior management team will agree a priority list for progression, for the items identified in our risk assessments.

## Audit and Evaluation

Our internal audit team assures that all risk management governance and internal control processes are effective. We have appointed a third party internal auditor allows us to be fully transparent and provides our Board with an independent level of scrutiny. While the internal audit provides this assurance, it also provides consultation and expertise on how we can improve our systems and

processes. Internal audits cover both financial-related matters but also include all risk profile areas across ChildVision in our annual audit plan. Our Board Audit Committee sets the audit plan for the year ahead and tracks progress against audits throughout the year.

## Child Protection and Adult Safeguarding Training

All of ChildVision's activities and undertakings are premised on a strong commitment to put child protection and vulnerable adult protection at the heart of everything we do. This commitment is expressed in our strict adherence to relevant legislation, to child protection and vulnerable adult guidance documents and in a suite of in-house policies and procedures, all of which contribute to an organisational culture which seeks to demonstrate a zero tolerance of abuse of any kind.

Regular child protection and vulnerable adult staff training, encompassing in-person training and on-line training, is required of all staff working in frontline roles and all staff, including volunteers, are Garda vetted at regular intervals. Aware that issues of disability adds further complexity to the area of good safeguarding practice all ChildVision's in-house training addresses these complexities and requires staff to reflect on the continuous improvements needed to ensure they act in a person-centred, dignified and respectful manner in their interactions with children, young people and their families. Listening to our young people is a core organisational value, as is being alert to any and all signs of abuse. At senior management team level the organisational risk register is utilised to ensure child protection and vulnerable adult protection is regulatory and rigorously reviewed.

As required by the Children First Act 2015, ChildVision has a Child Safeguarding Statement. This statement sets out all potential risks to children availing of our service as identified in a comprehensive risk assessment and outlines the procedures in place to reduce these risks. In addition, ChildVision maintains a list of its mandated persons, all of whom have a statutory function to report any concerns about child abuse to the authorities. There is also a trained in-house child and vulnerable adult protection officer who, as a senior manager, is available as a resource to staff and who regularly advises ChildVision's board on.





# Report of the Directors

The directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022.

## 1. Objectives and Activities of ChildVision

ChildVision was established to provide care and education, through comprehensive and high quality services provided within a Christian ethos, for children and young adults who are visually impaired.

ChildVision is a registered charity and operates as a not-for-profit organisation in partnership with the Health Service Executive and the Department of Education.

The national services we provide in our Centre for multiple disabled and visually impaired (MDVI) children and young people include pre-school and early intervention services, family resource services, primary and secondary schooling supports, vocational training, residential services, therapy services, nursing and ophthalmic services, professional training, a National Braille Production service and a children's library.

### 1.1 The Vision

Our vision is to provide a supportive and inclusive learning community where disability does not create a barrier to the fulfilment of aspiration or ambition.

### 1.2 The Mission

ChildVision is Ireland's only dedicated centre for children and young people with a visual impairment, some of whom have profound sensory impairments and additional disabilities. ChildVision, located on a site in Drumcondra dedicated to the care of the blind in Ireland since the 1850's, provides a national resource for families and professionals who need expert help in the area of visual impairment or visual impairment and additional disabilities. We also operate a satellite service from our Cork centre. Our work is divided into four different areas Education, Clinical, National Networks and Reading Services providing a full range of supports for children and young people from birth to 23 years. We are a registered charity and operate as a not for-profit Organisation in partnership with the Health Service Executive as a Section 39 provider, part funded, and the Department of Education. We rely on the kind support of donors for so much of the work that we do.

### 1.3 ChildVision's Focus and Objectives

The focus of ChildVision's work is to advance the education and care of children and adults with visual impairments and/or multiple disabilities, throughout Ireland and within a Christian ethos; and to provide specialist education and training to professionals and parents working or living with people with visual impairments and/or multiple disabilities. This focus is represented by the following seven detailed objectives.

**Objective 1.** To provide pre-school and early intervention services.

**Objective 2.** To provide primary and secondary education supports, including a special curriculum for pupils with a visual impairment.

**Objective 3.** To provide assessment and therapies, including occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, mobility training and nursing.

**Objective 4.** To provide lifelong learning to meet the particular needs of young adults with a visual impairment.

**Objective 5.** To provide residential services.

**Objective 6.** To create educational aids and technologies including formats in Braille, large print and digital formats; to produce textbooks in Braille, large print, and alternative formats (for primary and secondary level students).

**Objective 7.** To offer training and development opportunities for those who are visually impaired, and for those working with the visually impaired.

### 1.4 ChildVision's Values

#### Person-Centred Inclusivity

Delivering a person-centred, inclusive service that embraces diversity and encourages participation.

#### Professionalism

Professional and critical practice at all times.

#### Transparency and Accountability

Transparent and accountable decision making made in consultation with stakeholders.

#### Safety and Integrity

Integrity of care and utmost safety are the pillars of all our interactions with our young people.

#### Valuing Uniqueness

Valuing the unique attributes of each child and young person.

# Report of the directors (continued)

## 2. Structure, Governance and Management

### 2.1 Legal status

ChildVision is a public benefit entity, and was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee on 21 February 2008.

ChildVision is the registered company name and is recognised as a charity by the Charity Regulatory Authority.

Company Number	453711
Revenue Commissioners CHY Number	CHY 817
Charity Regulatory Authority (Registered Number)	20001278
How the charity is governed	Constitution

### 2.2 Governance

ChildVision has five Members, who are nominated by the Institute of Charity (Rosminian) CLG and are responsible for appointing a Board of Directors. The Members meet annually to receive and consider the annual report and audited financial statements of ChildVision. Other meetings take place as required.

The Board of Directors is responsible for the affairs of ChildVision and reports to the Members of the company. The objective of the Board of Directors is to ensure that ChildVision serves the needs of children who attend our service. Board members undergo an induction programme to ensure that collectively they have the capacity necessary to ensure the proper governance of the organisation. Ongoing training for board members is arranged on a regular basis. ChildVision's directors bring to the organisation a variety of experience in areas such as education, health, social care, business, legal matters and finance, including directors who are ex-students of the organisation.

A list of the directors who served at any time during the financial year and since the year end are listed on page 69.

In April 2023, after over 40 years of dedicated service with ChildVision, Brian Allen retired as CEO from the organisation. During his time with ChildVision, Brian has overseen the transformation of the organisation to the open and inclusive community based campus operating today. The Board, and all involved with ChildVision, would like to thank Brian and wish him well in his retirement. Mary Leonard has been appointed as Interim CEO.

### Subcommittees of the Board

The Board of Directors has five subcommittees.

#### Finance Committee

The Finance Committee is responsible for all matters relating to the financial affairs of ChildVision and provides the Board with an independent review of the budgetary process. Its defined responsibilities include:

- Monitoring and reviewing the accuracy and integrity of ChildVision's financial statements (annual and monthly), and reviewing operational and capital budgets prior to approval by the Board of Directors.
- Assisting the Board in areas relating to strategic financial planning to include: raising, collection, investment, borrowing and outlay of all monies to fund the company's activities.
- Ensuring that effective systems, financial controls and procedures are in place and that proper records are maintained.

#### Audit and Compliance Committee

The Audit and Compliance Committee is responsible for monitoring the audit and compliance obligations of ChildVision. Its responsibilities include:

- Overview of the risk management framework surrounding strategy, operations, including child welfare, finance and compliance.
- Review of the effectiveness of systems, financial controls and procedures.
- Oversight of the arrangements in place to facilitate the making and investigation of "whistleblowing".
- Overview of the annual service level agreement with the Health Service Executive and the related compliance statement provided by the directors.
- Overseeing both internal and external audits.

#### Governance Committee

The Governance Committee takes the lead role in shaping the governance of ChildVision. It provides a review of the organisation's legal and regulatory responsibilities, ensures oversight of policies and procedures, and is responsible for Board recruitment and training. The Committee's core responsibilities are:

- Managing ChildVision's Governance Policy – which entails monitoring the integrity of the statements of compliance with the Code of Practice for Good Governance of Community, Voluntary and Charitable Organisations and other such codes of practice required by legislation and regulatory authorities.
- Reviewing the adequacy of the internal governance controls and risk management systems – in particular those relating to governance matters.

### Development Committee

The primary responsibility of the Development Committee is facilities management – to ensure the provision of suitable premises/location for the children who avail of the services at ChildVision.

### Quality and Assurance Committee

The Quality and Assurance Committee has been established by the Board of Directors to assist the Board in fulfilling its governance obligations for quality and safety to help ensure that service users receive the care they need in a safe, nurturing, open and just environment in which there is corporate accountability for service performance.

### Child Protection

ChildVision has a comprehensive child/vulnerable adult protection policy and is committed to protecting the rights and dignity of children and young adults, in particular those who avail of our services in whatever capacity. The key principle is that the welfare of the child is paramount, meaning that a culture of listening to young people and a culture of respect and vigilance are central to how we work. We underpin this by ensuring that appropriate training, policies and reporting procedures are in place to address any complaints, concerns and allegations that arise.

All staff who work directly with young people receive Children First training. In addition, in conformity with Tusla and Health Service Executive guidance, ChildVision has designed and implemented its own in-house training specific to the protection needs of visually impaired young people, including the needs of those with additional disabilities. There is a designated liaison person for child protection/vulnerable adult protection and a designated deputy liaison person operating at senior management level to ensure compliance with the State's reporting requirements in respect of any concerns for the protection or welfare of a child or vulnerable adult. In addition, young people in ChildVision's residential service have access to an external monitor in case any issue or complaint arises that they do not wish to bring directly to the attention of ChildVision staff.

Overall accountability for ensuring that ChildVision is implementing appropriate child protection and safeguarding measures lies with the Board of Directors, who ensure that organisational policies and procedures are in place and are in line with national guidelines. ChildVision's CEO and senior management team are responsible for ensuring that the policies and procedures are promulgated and implemented in an open, accessible manner, that they are regularly reviewed and updated as required, and that training in this area remains current for all staff

## 2.3 Compliance Statement

### The Governance Code for Community, Voluntary and Charitable Organisations in Ireland.

We commit to all donors that we operate to and adhere to, the highest levels of governance, transparency and accountability. We have adopted the Charities Governance Code. We are fully compliant with Guidelines for Charitable Organisations on Fundraising from the Public.

We have adopted the Charities SORP (FRS 102). We comply with the Charities Act 2009 and are registered with the Charities Regulatory Authority (CRA), Ireland's national statutory regulatory agency for charitable organisations.

ChildVision is a registered provider of disability service under the purview of HIQA. We operate in compliance with the Health Act 2007 (Care and Support of Residents in Designated Centres for Persons with Disabilities Regulations 2013). The centre's IDs are 0002091, 0002092, 0002093, 0002094 and 0002095.

## 3. Activity During 2022

ChildVision provides programmes under four main service delivery categories; Clinical, Education, National Networks and Reading Services. These service categories provide a range of specialist therapeutic intervention, education programmes, term time living, training and outreach and textbook transcription services for children and young people experiencing vision impairment and complex disabilities throughout Ireland.

The organisation helps families find new pathways and, with the guidance of our expert staff, helps families see the potential for each child and young person with a visual impairment and complex disabilities.

The main campus is situated in Drumcondra with a satellite centre in the south of the country in Cork and employs 145 staff. There were only 20 volunteers on campus last year working across equine, the garden centre, lifelong learning and reading services. The Board of Directors of ChildVision is very grateful to all staff and volunteers for their continued hard work and commitment to ChildVision and their efforts over the last year.

Throughout 2022, service delivery returned to pre-Covid levels, pandemic fear and uncertainty began to ebb and the focus was once more on learning and therapeutic innovation. The organisation continued to operate a hybrid model of working where possible for those staff who can avail of it.

## Report of the directors (continued)

Focusing on the development of our people, ChildVision, in partnership with other Irish low vision charities, hosted Vision 2022 at the Convention Centre, Dublin. This International Low Vision Conference was attended by low vision researchers and specialists from over 70 countries, one of our senior staff was the overall conference organiser and another member of staff sat on the Scientific Committee with many more colleagues presenting during the week-long event.

ChildVision have met the main objectives of their strategy 2018-2023. During 2022 a series of stakeholder consultations and staff workshops took place to identify the key objectives and interrogate the Vision, Mission and Values of the organisation to ensure the Board, SMT, and all our colleagues have an ambitious and comprehensive roadmap for development and delivery over the next five years. In parallel the organisation also undertook a Sustainability Audit and strategic process to ensure we are approaching our work with the highest values of ESG practice. Work on both pieces of strategic planning will conclude in 2023.

Throughout 2022 the Board continued to meet the strategic objectives of the organisation:

- To deliver the best possible service in a prompt and attentive manner.
- To support friendships and relationships within a person-centred ethos and campus.
- To improve the outcomes for young people with a visual impairment and multiple disabilities.
- To focus on the growth, sustainability and innovation of our service delivery.
- To engage, develop and value our people.

## 4. Review of the Year

### 4.1 Income and Expenditure

ChildVision is financed by a mix of state and voluntary funding. In 2022, ChildVision raised a total income of €12,640,557 (2021 €7,665,852) for charitable purposes, an increase of €4,974,705. Of this increase, €4,400,000 represented a restricted funds increase due to recognising income raised to fund the planned Campus Redevelopment. Previously this income was deferred awaiting planning permission which was received in 2022.

ChildVision's income was generated through four main sources:

- Government funding, primarily allocated through the Health Service Executive and the Department of Education increased in 2022 by €494,753. The increase was principally because increased grant amounts received in 2022 in relation to pay restoration and contribution towards some capital spending and increased overhead costs.
- Income received from donors through the Department of Justice's International Investor programme – this is new for 2022.
- Other fundraising activity (€775,098 down 4% on 2021) and,
- the balance from on-campus social enterprises and rental income (€465,884 up 24% on 2022 – primarily due to the receding effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic).

We are always grateful and amazed by the generosity of our donors for all their contributions. We would like to thank them for their continued support during the year.

### Expenditure

Financial statements analyse expenditure between charitable activities (provision of services in ChildVision) and the cost of raising funds. Total expenditure for 2022 was €8,513,505 (2021 €8,064,177). This represents an increase of €449,328. The main underlying reasons for the increase in expenditure relate to:

- increased salary costs as we restored some historic pay cuts for staff
- Increased rents for our residential houses due to rental inflation.
- General inflationary pressures.

Our charitable activities accounted for 88 per cent of all our expenditure (88 percent in 2021).

Capital expenditure during the year included:

- IT infrastructure.
- Improvements to our Café and Garden centre locations.
- Design work on the new Campus re-development.

ChildVision would like to acknowledge donations received via our corporate partners without which many pieces of vital equipment could not be purchased.



## 4.2 Investment and Reserves Policy

ChildVision's policy is to maintain a prudent level of reserves to enable us to manage financial risk, to deliver on our commitments and to achieve our objectives.

At the end of 2022, ChildVision had funds of €6,152,317 (2021 €2,025,265). Of this, €4,903,033 (2021 €495,989) is held for restricted purposes, as the funds were donated for specific projects or services – principally the Campus redevelopment project which received planning permission in 2022.

At 31 December 2022, the unrestricted funds amounted to €1,249,284 (2021 €1,529,276). The directors have set a target that cash reserves are sufficient to provide for two months expenditure, and will continue to monitor this target given the financial position of the company. For prudential purposes, the Board has decided to keep cash reserves in bank deposit accounts and not to make any other form of investment. As deposit rates are at an all-time low the yield is expected to be below inflation.

## 5. Risk Management

The directors have responsibility for, and are aware of, the risks associated with the operating activities of ChildVision. The directors have identified that ChildVision operates within a high overall risk range because of the nature of our clients. The directors have taken the decision that ChildVision has a low appetite to risk. This means that while acknowledging our legal obligations, we will give priority to reducing to reasonably practicable levels the risks originating from the delivery of services to children and to the public.

ChildVision's Board and its sub-committees in conjunction with senior management, ensure that risk management is:

- An integral and ongoing part of its management process.
- As simple and straightforward as possible.

The key mechanisms that we rely on to assist us in fulfilling these responsibilities include:

- Properly functioning internal control systems that ensure efficient and effective use of ChildVision's financial resources, that safeguard its assets, and that maintain the integrity of the financial information produced.
- Access by senior management and staff in ChildVision to Board members, individually or collectively, to discuss matters of concern to the charity's efficient and effective operation.

Risk Management Monitoring is achieved by the Board of Directors setting the risk appetite, risk policy and a risk register that identifies risks to the organisation. Management of risk is delegated down to senior managers and the board reviews the risk register at each board meeting.

The key risks associated in providing services at ChildVision are:

- Inherent infrastructural defects of the building included IT server room.
- Potential reduction in funding either from the State or fundraising income.
- Overreliance on key staff and Inability to pay HSE scales to staff.
- Need to target unrestricted funds.

## 6. Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The war in Ukraine commenced on 24 February 2022 and is still ongoing. It has continued to contribute to general business risks. These include disruptions to energy supplies alongside a sharp increase in prices, supply chain disturbances and the potential for further increases in price levels, as well as a reduction in economic activity and the level of consumer spending and also a reduction in fundraising income.

## 7. Taxation Status

ChildVision has been granted charitable status under sections 207 and 208 of the Taxes Consolidated Act 1997.

## 8. Events after the Year End

The directors are not expecting to make any significant changes in the nature of the business in the near future.

## 9. Lobbying and Political Donations

There were no political donations in 2021 and 2022, and as a result, no disclosures are required under the Electoral Act, 1997.

As required under the Regulation of Lobbying Act 2015, ChildVision now records all lobbying activity and communications with Designated Public Officials (DPOs). It has made the returns and submissions required by the Act.

## Report of the directors (continued)

### 10. Accounting Records

To ensure that proper books and accounting records are kept in accordance with Sections 281 to 285 of the Companies Act 2014, the directors have engaged appropriately qualified accounting personnel and have maintained appropriate computerised accounting systems. The company's accounting records are located at the company's premises at Grace Park Road, Drumcondra, Dublin D09 WK0H.

### 11. Plans for the future

In 2023, we will begin our new Strategy with renewed objectives to deliver a world-class service to children and young people with sight loss and complex needs. Our core values of compassion, reflection and innovation will underpin our Strategy and sustain an enduring culture of dignity.

We will continue with the next phase of the campus re-development in partnership with the HSE and begin the detailed phased project planning of our build, ensuring an uninterrupted flow of service to our families at all stages. We will also continue to strive for a sustainable model of funding in a challenging environment, seeking to maximise all channels and business development opportunities available. As always, our people will be at the centre of everything we do.

### 12. Disclosure of Information to Auditors

All of the persons who are directors at the time when this Directors' Report is approved have confirmed that, as far as they are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware; and
- They have taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as directors in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

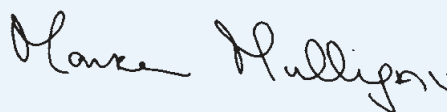
As far as the directors are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware; and the directors have taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as directors in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

### 13. Auditors

Crowe Ireland are eligible and have expressed their willingness to continue in office as our auditors in accordance with Section 383(2) of the Companies Act 2014.



Shane Cowley



Maureen Mulligan

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE DIRECTORS  
1 June 2023

# Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing this Annual Report and the accompanying financial statements in accordance with Irish law and regulations.

Irish company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under the law, the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland, including FRS 102 – the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland as promulgated by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland and with the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102 (effective 1 January 2019).

Under company law, the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the company for the financial year end date and of the surplus or deficit of the company for that financial year and otherwise comply with the Companies Act 2014.

In preparing these financial statements, the Directors are required to:

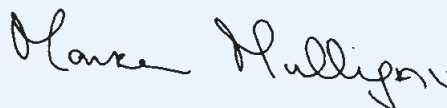
- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors confirm that they comply with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

The directors are responsible for ensuring that the company keeps or causes to be kept adequate accounting records which correctly explain and record the transactions of the company, enable at any time the assets, liabilities, financial position and surplus or deficit of the company to be determined with reasonable accuracy, enable them to ensure that the financial statements and Directors' Report comply with the Companies Act 2014 and enable the financial statements to be audited. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The Directors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the company's website.



**Shane Cowley**



**Maureen Mulligan**

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE DIRECTORS  
1 June 2023

# Independent Auditors' Report to the Board of Directors of ChildVision CLG

## Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of ChildVision CLG for the year ended 31 December 2022, which comprise Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the Notes to the Financial Statements. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is Irish law and Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and in accordance with "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 (FRS102)" ("Charities SORP").

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the Company as at 31 December 2022 and of its net movement in funds for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with FRS 102 as applied with regard to the Charities SORP; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2014.

## Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (Ireland) (ISAs (Ireland)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of financial statements in Ireland, including the Ethical Standard issued by the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA), 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 directors' 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 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 directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

## Other information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report, other than the financial statements and our Auditors' report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial statements, 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 audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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 2014

Based solely on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, we report that:

- in our opinion, the information given in the Directors' Report is consistent with the financial statements; and
- in our opinion, the Directors' Report has been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2014.

We have obtained all the information and explanations which we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit.

In our opinion, the accounting records of the company were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited, and financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records.



## Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Based on the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Directors' Report.

The Companies Act 2014 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion, the disclosures of directors' remuneration and transactions required by sections 305 to 312 of the Act are not made. We have nothing to report in this regard.

## Respective responsibilities

### Responsibilities of directors for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Directors' responsibilities statement, the directors 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 directors 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 directors are responsible for assessing the 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 management either intends to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

### Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

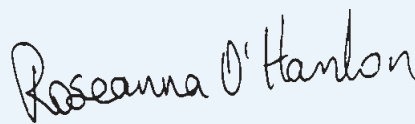
Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (Ireland) 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.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the IAASA's website at: [https://www.iaasa.ie/Publications/ISA-700-\(Ireland\)](https://www.iaasa.ie/Publications/ISA-700-(Ireland)). The description forms part of our Auditors' report.

## The purpose of our audit work and to whom we owe our responsibilities

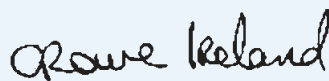
This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Section 391 of the Companies Act 2014. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Signed by:



**Roseanna O'Hanlon**

For and on behalf of:



Crowe Ireland  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm  
40 Mespil Road, Dublin 4.

# Statement of Financial Activities

(incorporating the Income and Expenditure Account) for the year ended 31 December 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds €	Restricted Funds €	Total 2022 €	Unrestricted Funds €	Restricted Funds €	Total 2021 €
<b>Income and endowments from</b>							
Donations and legacies	4	655,934	4,428,500	5,084,434	597,054	51,144	648,198
Other trading activities	5	556,548	-	556,548	533,902	-	533,902
Charitable activities	6	11,416	6,988,159	6,999,575	22,853	6,460,891	6,483,744
Investment	8	-	-	-	8	-	8
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<b>1,223,898</b>	<b>11,416,659</b>	<b>12,640,557</b>	<b>1,153,817</b>	<b>6,512,035</b>	<b>7,665,852</b>
<b>Expenditure on</b>							
Charitable activities	10	468,481	7,009,400	7,477,881	375,131	6,586,503	6,961,634
Raising funds	11	1,034,494	-	1,034,494	1,101,304	-	1,101,304
Other expenditure/(income)	13	915	215	1,130	( 2,824)	4,063	1,239
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1,503,890</b>	<b>7,009,615</b>	<b>8,513,505</b>	<b>1,473,611</b>	<b>6,590,566</b>	<b>8,064,177</b>
<b>NET MOVEMENT OF FUNDS</b>		<b>(279,992)</b>	<b>4,407,044</b>	<b>4,127,052</b>	<b>( 319,794)</b>	<b>( 78,531)</b>	<b>( 398,325)</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD</b>	25/26	<b>1,529,276</b>	<b>495,989</b>	<b>2,025,265</b>	<b>1,849,070</b>	<b>574,520</b>	<b>2,423,590</b>
<b>TOTAL FUND CARRIED FORWARD</b>	25/26	<b>1,249,284</b>	<b>4,903,033</b>	<b>6,152,317</b>	<b>1,529,276</b>	<b>495,989</b>	<b>2,025,265</b>

All income and expenditure arises from continuing operations.

The notes on pages 55 to 68 form part of these financial statements.

# Balance Sheet

as at 31 December 2022

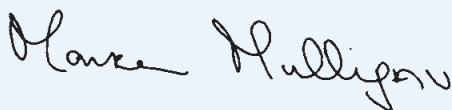
	Notes	2022 €	2021 €
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible assets	18	2,201,171	2,229,325
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	19	316,088	60,408
Stocks	20	1,452	1,478
Cash at bank and in hand	21	5,693,232	5,662,306
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		6,010,772	5,724,192
<b>CREDITORS (amounts falling due within one year)</b>	22	(1,047,126)	(4,878,252)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		4,963,646	845,940
<b>CREDITORS (amounts falling due after one year)</b>	23	(1,012,500)	(1,050,000)
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>		6,152,317	2,025,265
<b>FUNDS OF THE CHARITY</b>			
Unrestricted funds	25	1,249,284	1,529,276
Restricted funds	26	4,903,033	495,989
<b>TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS</b>		6,152,317	2,025,265

The notes on pages 55 to 68 form part of these financial statements.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 1 June 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Shane Cowley



Maureen Mulligan

# Cashflow Statement

as at 31 December 2022

	Notes	2022 €	2021 €
NET CASH GENERATED FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	28	<b>183,688</b>	2,397,052
NET CASH USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES	28	<b>(906)</b>	(126)
NET CASH USED IN FINANCING ACTIVITIES	28	<b>(334,205)</b>	(415,308)
CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS IN THE REPORTING PERIOD	29	<b>(151,423)</b>	1,981,618
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE REPORTING PERIOD	29	<b>5,426,108</b>	3,444,490
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE REPORTING PERIOD	29	<b>5,274,685</b>	5,426,108

The notes on pages 55 to 68 form part of these financial statements.



# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2022

## 1. General Information

ChildVision CLG, a company limited by guarantee (Company Number 453711), was established to provide care and education for children and adults who are visually impaired. The company's registered office is 75 St Stephens Green, Dublin D02 AR55.

## 2. Accounting Policies

The following accounting policies are applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the company's financial statements:

### 2.1 Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland and Irish statute comprising of the Companies Act 2014 and in accordance with the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP) issued by the Charities Commissioner in the UK.

The preparation of financial statements in compliance with FRS 102 requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise judgement in applying the company's accounting policies. (see note 3).

The following principal accounting policies have been applied:

### 2.2 Restricted Funds

Restricted funds are funds received which can only be used for particular purposes specified by the donors and binding on the company. Such purposes are within the overall aims of the company.

### 2.3 Unrestricted Funds

Unrestricted funds are those which are expendable at the discretion of the company in furtherance of the objects of the charity. The company has long term obligations in respect of the provision of education and services to the visually impaired. If part of an unrestricted fund is earmarked for a particular project, it may be designated as a separate fund, but the designation has an administrative purpose only, and does not legally restrict the company's discretion to apply the fund.

### 2.4 Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the company is entitled to the income and the amount can be measured with reasonable accuracy and is probable. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

**Grant and Service Income:** Grant income from the Health Service Executive, the Department of Education and other sundry sources are credited when receivable to the Statement of Financial Activities. Expenditure and service-related grants are credited to the Statement of Financial Activities upon the recognition of the associated expense for which the grant was originally received.

**Fundraising Income:** Fundraising income is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which it is received by the company.

**Trading and Rental Income:** Income raised in the operation of the restaurant, equine centre, garden centre and rental income is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.

**Investment Income:** Income earned on funds held on deposit is treated as unrestricted income and is credited when earned.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2022

## 2. Accounting Policies (continued)

### 2.5 Resources Expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred and is recorded as part of the expenditure to which it relates. Cost of raising funds comprises of the costs associated with attracting voluntary income and the costs of trading for fundraising purposes. Expenditure on charitable activities are those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them. Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity. Where costs cannot be directly attributed, they have been allocated in proportion to estimated benefits received.

### 2.6 Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment loss. Cost includes all costs that are directly attributable to bringing the assets into working condition for its intended use.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value, of each asset systematically over its expected useful life, as follows:

Plant and machinery	33% Straight Line
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	12.5% Straight Line
Renovations	10% Straight Line
Land and Buildings	0% Straight Line
Motor vehicles	20% Straight Line

At each reporting date, the company assesses whether there is any indication of impairment. If such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is determined which is the higher of its fair value less costs to sell and its value in use.

An impairment loss is recognised where the carrying amount exceeds the recoverable amount.

The assets' residual values, useful lives and depreciation methods are reviewed, and adjusted prospectively if appropriate, or if there is an indication of a significant change since the last reporting date.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing the proceeds with the carrying amount and are recognised within the Statement of Financial Activities.

### 2.7 Debtors

Debtors are measured at transaction price, less any impairment.

### 2.8 Stocks

Stocks comprise food and beverage stock and are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

### 2.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours. Cash equivalents are highly liquid investments that mature in no more than three months from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

### 2.10 Financial instruments

The company only enters into basic financial instrument transactions that result in the recognition of financial assets and liabilities like trade and other accounts receivable and payable. Basic financial instruments are recorded at transaction price.

### 2.11 Creditors

Short term creditors are measured at the transaction price.

## 2. Accounting Policies (continued)

### 2.12 Foreign Currency Translation

**Functional and presentation currency:** The company's functional and presentational currency is euro.

**Transactions and balances:** Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the spot exchange rates at the dates of the transactions.

At each period end foreign currency monetary items are translated using the closing rate. Non-monetary items measured at historical cost are translated using the exchange rate at the date of the transaction and non-monetary items measured at fair value are measured using the exchange rate when fair value was determined.

Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of transactions and from the translation at period-end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities. All other foreign exchange gains and losses are presented in the Statement of Financial Activities.

### 2.13 Holiday Pay Accrual

A liability is recognised to the extent of any unused holiday pay entitlement, which is accrued at the Balance Sheet date and carried forward to future periods. This is measured at the undiscounted salary cost of the future holiday entitlement and accrued at the Balance Sheet date.

### 2.14 Pensions

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Pension benefits are funded over the employees' period of service by way of contributions from the company and from employees. Employer contributions are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which they become payable.

### 2.15 Operating Leases

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as incurred over the term of the lease.

### 2.16 Taxation

No charge to taxation arises as the company has been granted charitable status. Value added tax is recovered on the trading activities of the café, Garden Shop and public equine lessons. Irrecoverable value added tax is expensed as incurred.

### 2.17 Going Concern

The Directors have assessed whether there are any significant doubts regarding the company's ability to continue as a going concern and are unaware of any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt upon the company's ability to continue as a going concern.

## 3. Judgements and Key Sources of Estimation Uncertainty

The preparation of these financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses.

Judgements and estimates are continually evaluated and are based on historical experiences and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The company makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2022

## 3. Judgements and Key Sources of Estimation Uncertainty (continued)

### Establishing lives for depreciation purposes of property, plant and equipment.

Long-lived assets, consisting primarily of property, plant and equipment, comprise a significant portion of the total assets. The annual depreciation charge depends primarily on the estimated lives of each type of asset and estimates of residual values. The Directors regularly review these asset lives and change them as necessary to reflect current thinking on remaining lives in light of prospective economic utilisation and physical condition of the assets concerned. Changes in asset lives can have a significant impact on depreciation and amortisation charges for the period. Details of the useful lives are included in the accounting policies.

### Income recognition

The company makes assumptions when estimating the value of deferred income. The company reviews the progress of all projects on an on-going basis and adjusts the deferred income as deemed appropriate.

## 4. Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 €	Restricted Funds 2022 €	Total 2022 €	Unrestricted Funds 2021 €	Restricted Funds 2021 €	Total 2021 €
Donations	655,934	4,428,500	<b>5,084,434</b>	597,054	51,144	648,198

ChildVision generates fundraising income from a variety of sources, recurring individual donations, trusts and foundations and corporates in order to maintain its services. ChildVision has an active donor campaign to inform donors how monies are spent. During 2022, ChildVision received planning permission for its planned Campus Redevelopment, hence it has released €4,400,000 income from Deferred Income into Restricted Funds.

## 5. Other Trading Activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 €	Unrestricted Funds 2021 €
Income from commercial social enterprises	<b>358,683</b>	275,725
Fundraising campaigns and events	<b>90,664</b>	157,876
Rental income	<b>107,201</b>	100,301
	<b>556,548</b>	533,902

ChildVision operates a number of social enterprises, Equine Assisted Activities, Garden Centre, Charity Shop and Café, which enhance the provision of services to our service users and which provide additional income to the charity. For many of our students at ChildVision, taking part in our social enterprises activities forms a vital part of their education and training. ChildVision also organises events and fundraisers which are a valued additional source of funds. ChildVision received income from responses to a number of direct mail donor newsletters during 2022. Additionally, ChildVision received rental income from the Department of Education, and the Learning Tree Crèche which related to the renting of classrooms.



## 6. Income from Charitable Activities

		Unrestricted Funds 2022 €	Restricted Funds 2022 €	Total 2022 €	Unrestricted Funds 2021 €	Restricted Funds 2021 €	Total 2021 €
	Notes						
Health Service Executive	(a)	-	5,395,342	<b>5,395,342</b>	-	4,885,385	4,885,385
Department of Education	(b)	-	1,325,904	<b>1,325,904</b>	-	1,327,874	1,327,874
Other performance grants	(c)	-	266,913	<b>266,913</b>	-	247,632	247,632
All other sources of income	(c)	11,416	-	<b>11,416</b>	22,853	-	22,853
		11,416	6,988,159	<b>6,999,575</b>	22,853	6,460,891	6,483,744

(a) ChildVision is a 'Section 39 organisation' and receives funding from Health Service Executive as assistance towards a wide range of services including the provision of pre-school, residential care, Life Long Learning, therapeutic services and business supports.

(b) ChildVision received funding from the Department of Education. ChildVision is a national service, which provides access to educational materials by transcriptions into a range of formats accessible for children with a visual impairment. The formats currently catered for are: Braille, tactile diagrams, MOON, large print, text-only files, DAISY books, and our children's library.

(c) ChildVision generates income from other sources to supplement the provision of its primary services.

## 7. State funding

	Restricted Funds 2022 €	Restricted Funds 2021 €
HSE Dublin North/Dublin North Central/Dublin West – Ongoing services grant	<b>4,555,899</b>	4,531,114
HSE Dublin North/Dublin North Central/Dublin West – Capital contributions	<b>243,110</b>	-
HSE Other West/North west	<b>19,000</b>	13,000
HSE Community Healthcare East	<b>21,000</b>	21,000
HSE Other South/South West	<b>253,332</b>	30,000
HSE South East Community Healthcare	<b>26,427</b>	26,427
HSE Ireland East	<b>60,000</b>	60,000
HSE Dublin North East/Dublin Midlands	<b>118,013</b>	118,005
HSE Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation	<b>80,757</b>	75,919
HSE other	<b>17,804</b>	9,920
Pobal - Early Childhood Care and Educational	<b>119,729</b>	93,439
Pobal - Dormant accounts fund	<b>59,087</b>	118,173
Department of Education - Braille Grant	<b>1,280,000</b>	1,280,000
Department of Education - Executive Salary grant	<b>45,904</b>	47,874
Dublin County Council - School Meals	<b>29,357</b>	9,795
	<b>6,929,419</b>	6,434,666

Included in Restricted Funds are the above amounts which have been received from Government agencies for the provision of services to our Service Users, with the exception of €243,110 which represents contributions toward capital expenditure.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2022

## 7. State funding (continued)

	Restricted Funds 2022 €	Restricted Funds 2021 €
Department of Justice	4,400,000	-
	4,400,000	-

Income from the Department of Justice is from its Immigrant Investor Programme (IIP) and was recognised in 2022 in Restricted Funds as the Campus Redevelopment for which the funds have been received over the last three years received planning permission during the year.

## 8. Investment

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 €	Unrestricted Funds 2021 €
Investment income	-	8
	-	8

## 9. Interest Payable and Similar Charges

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 €	Unrestricted Funds 2021 €
On bank overdrafts	906	134
	906	134

## 10. Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 €	Restricted Funds 2022 €	Total 2022 €	Unrestricted Funds 2021 €	Restricted Funds 2021 €	Total 2021 €
Provision of education and related services	260,668	4,686,067	4,946,735	171,731	4,367,909	4,539,640
Provision of residential services	1,167	281,926	283,093	301	221,172	221,473
All other services and charitable activities	117,468	2,041,407	2,158,875	124,760	1,997,422	2,122,182
Governance Costs (see note 12c)	89,178	-	89,178	78,339	-	78,339
	468,481	7,009,400	7,477,881	375,131	6,586,503	6,961,634

## 10. Expenditure on Charitable Activities (continued)

Of ChildVision's expenditure, 88 per cent is dedicated to charitable purposes (2021: 86%). There are two large categories of expenditures

- i) Services directly related to children and young adults who are blind or partially sighted; and
- ii) Production of Braille books and alternative formats for primary and secondary education nationally.

ChildVision provides a pre-school, and residential, vocational, family resource and therapeutic services. The National Braille Production unit produces Braille book volumes, large print book volumes, text files, DAISY files, EPUB files and 3D printed objects. During 2022, the overall production was 7,367 compared to 6,951 in 2021.

## 11. Cost of Raising Funds

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 €	Unrestricted Funds 2021 €
Payroll costs of Fundraising	159,935	121,641
Payroll cost of Commercial enterprises	186,914	96,010
Commercial enterprises	284,392	212,420
Other costs of raising funds	393,344	662,527
Governance Costs (see note 12c)	9,909	8,706
	<b>1,034,494</b>	<b>1,101,304</b>

Generation of funds accounts for approximately 12 % of expenditure (2021: 14%). Costs are broken into costs of operating ChildVision social enterprises and direct fundraising costs. ChildVision operates an Equine Centre, a café and a garden centre.

## 12. Support Costs and Allocation of Expenditure

### (a) Support costs

ChildVision's support services include Finance, Human Resources, ICT, Procurement, Administration, Training and Health & Safety. Costs are charged to each service and activity in proportion to direct staff numbers, which is considered to reflect estimated benefits received.

### (b) Allocation of expenditure

	Charitable activities €	Cost of raising funds €	Governance costs €	Total expenditure €
Direct expenditure	6,312,682	887,519	81,135	7,281,336
Depreciation of fixed assets	323,729	-	-	323,729
Allocation of support costs	752,292	137,067	19,082	908,441
	<b>7,388,703</b>	<b>1,024,586</b>	<b>100,217</b>	<b>8,513,506</b>

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2022

## 12. Support Costs and Allocation of Expenditure (continued)

### (c) Governance Costs

	Raising Funds €	Charitable Activities €	2022 €	2021 €
Company secretarial services	1,968	17,712	<b>19,680</b>	11,685
External governance review	2,847	25,622	<b>28,469</b>	22,097
Wages and salaries	1,908	17,173	<b>19,081</b>	21,029
Internal audit	492	4,428	<b>4,920</b>	6,150
External audit	2,079	18,708	<b>20,787</b>	20,049
Pension audit	615	5,535	<b>6,150</b>	6,035
	9,909	89,178	<b>99,087</b>	87,045

The Board of Directors is voluntary and directors do not receive remuneration for their services as directors. Expenses directly incurred by the Directors in carrying out their role were re-imbursed in 2022 to the value of €177 (2022 € 155). A related party of a director was caretaking one of the company's properties which was vacant and was not charged a rent. The arrangement ended in December 2022. A Director is also a Director of L&P Trustee Services Limited. There were no other related party transactions with directors during the year.

Governance costs relate to the annual external, internal and pension audits, company secretarial services provided by L&P Trustee Services Limited and an allocation of wages incurred for governance purposes.

## 13. Other Expenditure

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 €	Restricted Funds 2022 €	Total 2022 €	Total 2021 €
Loss on disposal of tangible assets	915	215	1,130	1,239

## 14. Net Movement in Funds

	2022 €	2021 €
<b>Net movement in funds is stated after charging:</b>		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<b>323,729</b>	307,249
Loss on disposal of tangible assets	<b>1,130</b>	1,239
Auditors remuneration		
– Statutory audit	<b>20,787</b>	20,049
Operating lease rentals – Buildings	<b>231,000</b>	206,879



## 15. Employees and Staff Costs

The average number of employees (full-time, part-time and hourly rated) during the year was 145 (141 in 2021).

The aggregate amounts paid to or on behalf of the staff are as follows:

	2022 €	2021 €
Wages and salaries	5,290,849	4,980,103
Social welfare costs	568,294	537,812
Pension costs	287,123	280,061
	<b>6,146,266</b>	<b>5,797,976</b>

The number of staff earning salaries over €60,000, and their pension contributions is:

Salary Range	2022	2021	Employer Pension Contribution 2022 €	Employer Pension Contribution 2021 €
€70,001 - €80,000	4	2	9,995	9,995
€80,001 - €90,000	3	2	11,580	11,580
€90,001 - €100,000	-	3	19,000	19,000
€100,001 - €110,000	1	-	-	-
€110,001 - €120,000	-	1	8,088	8,088

### Key Management Personnel

Key management personnel include the CEO (remuneration of €107,582) and the senior management team for whom the total remuneration cost was €592,396 (2021: €638,204) in the year. Pension contributions were €41,553 (2021: €43,601).

## 16. Pension Costs

Qualifying employees, who opt in, are members of the ChildVision Pension Scheme, which is a defined contribution scheme operated by the company. Employer contributions of 7% of wages are made for all members of the scheme. The assets of the pension scheme are held separately from those of the company in independently administered funds. The pension charge represents contributions due from the company and amounted to €287,123 (€280,061 in 2021).

## 17. Taxation

No charge to taxation arises as the company has been granted charitable exemption by the Revenue Commissioners.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2022

## 18. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Plant and machinery €	Fixtures, fittings and equipment €	Motor vehicles €	Land & Buildings €	Building Renovations €	Total €
COST						
At 1 January 2022	508,359	1,642,092	370,153	1,334,849	766,450	4,621,903
Additions	111,469	91,884	-	-	93,352	296,705
Disposals	( 4,071)	-	-	-	-	( 4,071)
At 31 December 2022	615,757	1,733,976	370,153	1,334,849	859,802	4,914,537
DEPRECIATION						
At 1 January 2022	424,255	1,314,251	286,994	-	367,078	2,392,578
Charge for the year	90,524	118,053	29,172	-	85,980	323,729
On disposals	(2,941)	-	-	-	-	(2,941)
At 31 December 2022	511,838	1,432,304	316,166	-	453,058	2,713,366
NET BOOK VALUE						
At 31 December 2022	103,919	301,672	53,987	1,334,849	406,744	2,201,171
At 31 December 2021	84,104	327,841	83,159	1,334,849	399,372	2,229,325

In 2017, ChildVision purchased the freehold to its campus in Grace Park Road, Drumcondra. The Directors consider the consideration paid relates to the acquisition of land and the buildings have a negligible value.

## 19. Debtors

	2022 €	2021 €
Amounts owed by connected parties	-	16,634
Other debtors	265,585	29,527
Prepayments	50,503	14,247
	316,088	60,408

## 20. Stocks

	2022 €	2021 €
Food and beverage stock	1,452	1,478

## 21. Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2022 €	2021 €
Cash in bank	5,693,232	5,662,306

## 22. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022 €	2021 €
Bank overdraft	418,547	236,198
Trade creditors	88,124	132,063
Accruals	297,377	273,230
Deferred income	-	4,000,000
Payroll taxes	192,751	186,370
Institute of Charity (Rosminian) CLG	37,500	37,500
Value Added Tax	12,827	12,891
	1,047,126	4,878,252

Deferred income in 2021 represented endowments from IIP investors. This income was deferred until 2022 when the relevant project – Campus Redevelopment - received planning permission and is now included in restricted reserves.

## 23. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year

	2022 €	2021 €
Loan - Institute of Charity (Rosminian) CLG	1,012,500	1,050,000

The movement in the Loan from the Institute of Charity (Rosminian) CLG was as follows:

	2022 €	2021 €
Opening balance	1,087,500	1,125,000
Loan repayments	( 37,500)	( 37,500)
	1,050,000	1,087,500

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2022

## 24. Reconciliation of Net Assets

	Unrestricted funds €	Restricted funds €	Total funds €
Tangible assets	2,201,171	-	2,201,171
Current assets	1,107,739	4,903,033	6,010,772
Creditors	(2,059,626)	-	(2,059,626)
Net assets	1,249,284	4,903,033	6,152,317

## 25. Unrestricted Funds

	Balance at beginning of year €	Incoming resources €	Resources expended €	Balance at end of year €
<b>Unrestricted funds 2022</b>	<b>1,529,276</b>	<b>1,223,898</b>	<b>(1,503,890)</b>	<b>1,249,284</b>
Unrestricted funds 2021	1,849,070	1,153,817	(1,473,611)	1,529,276

Unrestricted funds are funds that have been raised by ChildVision and which are expendable at the discretion of the company in furtherance of the objects of the charity.

## 26. Restricted Funds

	Balance at beginning of year €	Incoming resources €	Resources expended €	Balance at end of year €
<b>Restricted funds 2022</b>	<b>495,989</b>	<b>11,416,659</b>	<b>(7,009,615)</b>	<b>4,903,033</b>
Restricted funds 2021	574,520	6,512,035	(6,590,566)	495,989

Restricted funds primarily reflect the donations for specific purposes, which have not been spent at year end.

## 27. Details of Borrowings

Maturity analysis	Within 1 year €	Between 1 & 2 years €	Between 2 & 5 years €	After 5 years €	Total €
REPAYABLE OTHER THAN BY INSTALMENTS					
Bank overdraft	418,547	-	-	-	418,547
REPAYABLE IN INSTALMENTS					
Loan Institute of Charity (Rosminian) CLG	37,500	37,500	112,500	862,500	1,050,000
At end of year	456,047	37,500	112,500	862,500	1,468,547



## 28. Cash Flows

	2022 €	2021 €
<b>Net cash generated from operating activities</b>		
Net Movement of funds	<b>4,127,052</b>	( 398,325)
<b>Adjustments:</b>		
Depreciation	<b>323,729</b>	307,249
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	<b>1,130</b>	1,239
Decrease in stock	<b>26</b>	1,879
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	<b>(255,680)</b>	123,035
(Decrease)/Increase in creditors	<b>(4,013,475)</b>	2,361,849
Interest receivable	-	( 8)
Interest payable	<b>906</b>	134
	<b>183,688</b>	2,397,052
<b>Net cash generated from/(used in) financing activities</b>		
Interest received	-	8
Interest paid	<b>( 906)</b>	( 134)
	<b>( 906)</b>	( 126)
Net cash used in investing activities		
Payments to acquire tangible assets	<b>( 296,705)</b>	( 383,059)
Receipts from sale of tangible assets	-	5,251
Loan repayments - Institute of Charity (Rosminian) CLG	<b>( 37,500)</b>	( 37,500)
	<b>( 334,205)</b>	( 415,308)

## 29. Analysis of Cash and Cash Equivalents

	Opening balance €	Cash flows €	Closing balance €
Cash at bank and in hand	5,662,306	30,926	5,693,232
Overdrafts	( 236,198)	(182,349)	(418,547)
Total cash and cash equivalents	5,426,108	(151,423)	5,274,685

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2022

## 30. Related Party Transactions

The residential houses that the company operates from are owned by the Irish Province of the Institute of Charity (IPIC), which is the ultimate controlling party. Rent was paid to the IPIC during the period amounting to €231,000 and €50,000 in pastoral services.

The Learning Tree shares common members with the company. MPC Learning Tree had a related party transaction of €181,725 during the year. The Learning Tree occupies rental space on the premises of ChildVision campus and the majority of related party transactions are associated with the payment of rent to ChildVision.

The company secretary, L&P Trustee Services Ltd, provided consultancy services to the company, on a commercial basis, during the period. The amount charged in respect of these services during the period was €19,680 (€11,685 in 2021).

## 31. Commitments Under Operating Leases

Leasing commitments on non-cancellable operating licence payable as set out below:

	2022 €	2021 €
Not later than one year	231,000	231,000
Later than one year and not later than five years	924,000	924,000

ChildVision operates one large value licence, for the rental of residential properties from the Institute of Charity.

## 32. Capital Commitments

The Board of Directors have approved capital commitments amounting to €585,500 for 2022 which are not provided in the financial statements. There is a level of uncertainty regarding an aspect of capital commitment due to timings of receiving external restricted funds and when work needs to be completed.

## 33. Company Limited by Guarantee

The company is one limited by guarantee not having a share capital. The liability of each member, in the event of the company being wound up, is €1.

## 34. Going Concern

ChildVision continues to operate, since the year end and has not seen a significant effect on its income. The directors have prepared budgets and cash flow projections to the close of the year which show that the company can continue as a going concern. The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

## 35. Post Balance Sheet events

There are no significant post Balance sheet events since the year-end.

## 36. Ultimate Controlling Party

ChildVision CLG is under the control of the members.

## 37. Approval of Financial Statements

The Directors approved the financial statements on the 1 June 2023.

# Directors and Other Information

## DIRECTORS

Shane Cowley (Chairman)  
Joseph O'Reilly  
Michael Monaghan  
Marian Harte  
Maureen Mulligan  
Aine Myler  
Maureen Winston  
Ray Bowe  
Vincent Keenan  
Raffaella Bonomonte (appointed 3 February 2022)  
Michael O'Keeffe (resigned 15 December 2022)  
Stephen Brewer (resigned 15 March 2023)

## SECRETARY

L & P Trustee Services Limited

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

Ray Bowe  
Maureen Mulligan  
Shane Cowley  
Aine Myler

## GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Vincent Keenan  
Michael Monaghan

## DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Aine Myler  
Shane Cowley  
Joseph O'Reilly  
Vincent Keenan  
Ray Bowe

## QUALITY AND ASSURANCE COMMITTEE

Joseph O'Reilly  
Marian Harte  
Maureen Winston

## AUDIT AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

Maureen Mulligan  
Michael Monaghan  
Maureen Winston

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Brian Allen (retired April 2023)

## MANAGEMENT TEAM

<i>Interim Chief Executive</i>	Mary Leonard
<i>Director of Finance</i>	Richard Murphy
<i>Director of Care</i>	James Forbes
<i>Director of Education</i>	Ilka Staeglin
<i>Director of Clinical Therapy Services</i>	Sinead Fitzpatrick

## CHILD PROTECTION OFFICER

James Forbes

## COMPANY NUMBER

453711

## CHY No

CHY817

## CHARITY NUMBER

20001278

## REGISTERED OFFICE

Cantor Fitzgerald House  
23 Stephen's Green  
Dublin 2  
D02 AR55

# Directors and Other Information (continued)

**PRINCIPAL ADDRESS**

Grace Park Road, Drumcondra  
Dublin 9  
D09 WK0H

**AUDITORS**

Crowe Ireland  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm  
40 Mespil Road  
Dublin 4

**BANKERS**

AIB Bank  
Clonmel  
Co. Tipperary

Bank of Ireland  
O'Connell Street  
Dublin 1

**SOLICITORS**

Drumgoole Solicitors  
102 Upper Drumcondra Road  
Drumcondra  
Dublin 9

Byrne Wallace  
88 Harcourt Street  
Saint Kevin's  
Dublin 2













**ChildVision**

National Education Centre for Blind Children

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