little hiccups
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Treasurer Report AGM 2026

I am pleased to present the Treasurer's Report for the financial year ending 2025.

At the end of the 2025 financial year, Little Hiccups held unrestricted funds of **£102,984**, compared with **£112,501** at the end of 2024. While this represents a reduction in unrestricted reserves, it reflects a conscious investment in expanding our support for families and strengthening the long-term sustainability of the charity.

Our expenditure increased significantly from **£96,445** in 2024 to **£133,286** in 2025. This increase was driven by several factors, most importantly the growing number of families accessing our services. Throughout the year we expanded the range of support we offer, delivered larger events with increased attendance, and introduced additional services to better meet the needs of our community.

As a result, the charity recorded a surplus of **£16,056** in 2024, compared with a deficit of **£30,302** in 2025. Whilst a deficit is never our preferred outcome, it reflects a strategic investment in the charity's growth as well as financial pressures.

The wider fundraising environment has also had a significant impact on our financial position. Across the charity sector, unrestricted or "free" funding has become increasingly difficult to secure. Many grant makers and charitable trusts are receiving record numbers of applications and are taking a more cautious approach to awarding funding. At the same time, corporate giving and individual donations are under pressure as organisations and households continue to face economic uncertainty. This has created a highly competitive fundraising landscape, with charities of all sizes finding it more challenging to generate unrestricted income. Against this backdrop, maintaining our income levels while continuing to grow our services has required considerable effort from our team, trustees, volunteers and supporters.

The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

One of the key developments during the year was contracting Noel's services to support the day-to-day running of the charity, strengthen our networking activities and raise the profile of Little Hiccups. Noel has been instrumental in developing relationships with corporate partners, identifying new funding opportunities and creating bespoke partnerships that not only generate financial support but also provide additional services and opportunities for the families we support. We see this as a strategic investment in the future of the charity, helping to diversify our income streams and reduce our reliance on traditional grant funding.

The Trustees have also reviewed how the charity's funds are managed to ensure that our reserves are working more effectively. We have transferred **£40,000** into a **90-day savings account** with an interest rate of **1.93%**, and a further **£20,000** into a **35-day notice account** earning **1.56%** interest. This enables the charity to generate additional income from reserves while maintaining appropriate access to funds when required.

As of **6 July 2026**, the balances held across our accounts are:

- Current Account: **£32,560.13**
- 90-Day Saver: **£40,006.37**
- 35-Day Notice Account: **£20,002.57**
- PayPal: **£2,069.53**
- Stripe: **£1,091.60**
- Events Booking Account: **£64.97**
- **TOTAL of £95,795.17**

We are also improving our financial processes for event bookings. Miriam is changing the way payments are collected by reducing our reliance on PayPal and moving to Stripe following ongoing technical issues with PayPal. Event income will then be transferred into a dedicated events booking account, providing clearer financial reporting, improved reconciliation of event income and expenditure, and greater transparency in our financial management.

Although our unrestricted reserves have reduced during the year, Little Hiccups remains in a stable financial position with healthy reserves. We continue to monitor income and expenditure carefully, ensuring that we balance investment in growth with maintaining the charity's financial resilience. Alongside developing new income streams, strengthening corporate partnerships and maximising the return on our reserves, we remain focused on building a sustainable future that allows us to continue meeting the increasing demand for our services.

Whilst the figures show a deficit this year, they also tell the story of a charity that is supporting more families than ever before. Every pound spent has been invested in delivering more services, creating more opportunities, and building the partnerships that will help secure Little Hiccups' future. As Trustees, our priority remains ensuring that the charity is financially sustainable whilst continuing to make the greatest possible difference to the families who rely on us.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow Trustees, our staff, volunteers, fundraisers, supporters and donors for their continued commitment to Little Hiccups. Their generosity and dedication enable us to continue making a meaningful difference to the families we support. Despite the challenges facing the charitable sector, we remain optimistic about the future and confident that the work we are doing now will strengthen the charity for years to come.