

Deputy Inna Gardiner
Chair
Public Accounts Committee
Scrutiny Office
States Greffe
Morier House
St Helier
JE1 1DD

6th August 2025

Dear Deputy Gardiner

Re: Arm's Length Bodies, Grants and Subsidies Review

Thank you for your letter (undated) regarding the information required in respect of the Arm's Length Bodies, Grants and Subsidies Review.

In response to your questions:

About Centrepoint

Centrepoint is one of the largest children's charities on the island, dedicated to providing high-quality care and support to children from birth to 14 years. Our mission is to ensure that every child—regardless of their background or ability—has access to safe, nurturing, and enriching experiences throughout their early years and childhood.

Structure and Services

Centrepoint operates across multiple sites and services, delivered by a dedicated team of 152 staff members (including permanent and zero-hours employees). We care for over 600 children through a broad range of programs, including:

- **Centrepoint nurseries** – Providing nursery care for children aged 3 months to 5 years.
- **Centrepoint play care** – providing play care services (breakfast, afterschool and holiday clubs) for children aged 4 to 14 years of age.



Playcare, The Space & La Pouquelaye Nursery

Le Hurel, La Pouquelaye,
St Helier, Jersey JE2 3FU
Call 01534 735151



Green Street Nursery

Rope Walk, Green Street,
St Helier, Jersey, JE2 4UU
Call 01534 878850



Administration & Finance Team

admin@centrepoint.je
finance@centrepoint.je
Call 01534 735151



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- **Centrepont@home&more** – The island’s only registered Home Care service for children, offering vital in-home and community support for families in need.
- **Child Contact Centre** – Supporting families through safe, structured environments for supervised or supported child contact.
- **The Space** – Our specialist Additional Needs Unit, tailored to care for children with complex or additional needs.
- **Outreach Project** – Designed to support children who are struggling in mainstream education by offering alternative, hands-on learning experiences that re-engage them with their development.
- **Emergency Care Scheme (ESML)** provides immediate, short-term, fully-subsidised childcare for the children of parents and/or the siblings of children who have experienced some adversity or crisis which has resulted in them requiring immediate, short term, childcare. We also provide heavily subsidised medium term and long-term childcare where it is felt that the welfare and the emotional and/or physical wellbeing of the child is at risk.

Our Purpose

At the heart of Centrepont is a deep commitment to putting children first. We work in close partnership with families, schools, and professionals to ensure each child receives care that is compassionate, inclusive, and tailored to their individual needs. Through our wide-ranging services, we aim to empower every child to thrive—emotionally, socially, and developmentally.

Centrepont received a “Connect Me” grant totalling £4,800.49 from the Director of Local Services, Customer and Local Services Department in 2023 (£4,500 on 24.03.23 and the balance of £300.49 on 07.12.23).

The total cost of the project was £4,800.49, so this was fully funded by the Government Grant. Centrepont’s total income for this year (academic year 2022/2023) was £3,117,233. This grant equated to 0.15% of our total income.

The total amount of funding raised independently in 2022/2023 was £367,742. This equates to 11.8% of our total income.

Centrepont is overseen by the Board of Governors, who hold overall responsibility for the charity’s strategic direction and legal compliance. The Chief Executive is responsible for the day-to-day management of the charity, and reports to the Board of Governors. The Treasurer holds lead responsibility for overseeing the financial health of Centrepont Children’s Charity. Working closely with the Chief Executive and Finance Manager, the Treasurer ensures that effective financial controls are in place, budgets and forecasts are robust, and the charity’s resources are managed in line with its aims, legal obligations, and good practice. She presents clear, accurate financial information to the Board, support informed decision-making, and ensure compliance with all relevant accounting standards and charity regulations. The Treasurer also liaises with auditors and advises the Board on the financial implications of strategic plans, helping to safeguard the charity’s assets and long-term sustainability.



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There are various financial controls in place at Centrepoint, including:

1. Segregation of Duties

- No single person has sole control over financial transactions.
- Different individuals are responsible for authorising, recording, and reconciling transactions.

2. Authorisation & Approval Procedures

- Clear spending limits for staff and managers.
- Dual authorisation required for higher-value payments.
- Written approval for all purchases and contracts above a set threshold.

3. Banking Controls

- Bank accounts in the charity's name, not personal names.
- Dual signatories for all cheques and online payments above a set limit.
- Daily reconciliation of bank statements to accounting records.

4. Income Handling

- All income (including donations, grants, and event revenue) promptly recorded and banked.
- Cash handling kept to a minimum, with secure storage when unavoidable.
- Regular reconciliation of fundraising income to event records.

5. Expenditure Controls

- Invoices checked against orders and goods/services received before payment.
- Expense claims supported by receipts and authorised before reimbursement.

6. Record Keeping & Reporting

- Accurate, up-to-date accounting records kept in a secure finance system.
- Regular management accounts prepared and reviewed by the Board of Governors.
- Annual accounts prepared in line with charity accounting standards and independently examined or audited.

7. Asset Protection

- Physical assets (e.g., IT equipment, play resources) recorded in an asset register.
- Insurance in place for buildings, equipment, and liability.

8. Risk Management

- Fraud risk assessment and controls reviewed annually.



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This grant that we received was in 2022; we have had very little engagement with the Customer and Local Services Department since then, other than a request to complete a post-project completion report.

We believe that the current oversight arrangements provide a clear and proportionate balance between operational independence and accountability for public funds.

We completed a grant application form, and attached a budget breakdown.

The post-grant report asked for key project and grant details (title, value, dates, contact person), followed by a summary of the funded project, including how the grant was used, whether original goals were met, and any challenges or changes from the initial plan.

It sought information on project activities and performance, results achieved, benefits to beneficiaries, and any wider or longer-term impacts. This included quantitative and qualitative evidence (attendance data, surveys, testimonials, observations) and the number and type of people who benefitted.

The report also required details on project expenditure versus budget, explanations for any variances, and measures taken to ensure value for money.

It asked about organisational learning, obstacles encountered, changes to the charity as a result of the project, and feedback on how the grant-making process could be improved.

Finally, it requested disclosure of any significant organisational updates or issues since the grant was awarded, such as changes in leadership, safeguarding incidents, legal proceedings, or negative publicity.

In our view, there are no areas where our Charity's role, services or funding appear to duplicate or overlap with the activities of Government departments, other Arm's Length bodies or other grant-funded organisations, and we have never been asked to coordinate or align our work with any other Government-funded bodies to avoid duplication.

In our view, there are no aspects of the current grant management or oversight system that we believe could be improved.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any further information or clarification.

Yours faithfully



Jane Moy (Mrs)
Chief Executive Officer



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