



Family Advice and Information Resource Annual Review 2016-2017



What is FAiR?

FAiR is a free, confidential advice and information service for people with learning disabilities, their families, carers and supporters. It was set up in 1991.

The work of FAiR



FAiR continued to work with The City of Edinburgh Council and other organisations and funders to give an accessible and open information and advice service.

We provided a Welfare Rights and Financial Capability Service for people with a learning disability and their carers.

We continued to publish a newsletter every two months and distributed it to our members throughout Edinburgh.

We provided an Easy Read translation service to make information accessible.

Summary of Advice Work in Edinburgh in the past year:

- We dealt with over 1350 cases in 2016/17. This support included benefit checks, completing applications, support to attend medicals and representation up to independent tribunal.
- We generated financial gains for clients of over £7,000,000 on the cases we worked on in 2016/17.



- 84 clients were supported to challenge decisions which included mandatory reconsiderations; 48 clients were supported to appeal to an independent tribunal.
- We went to information events at schools/ colleges and provided sessions for carers and professionals in partnership with other organisations.

The challenges of welfare reform facing the clients we work with have seen an increase in the demand for FAIR's advice service. The FAIR Board and the management team are addressing how we can meet the needs of our client group.

FAIR's 25th Anniversary Event

We held FAIR's 25th Birthday party on 17th November 2016.

There were lots of fun activities including face painting, games, a photo-booth, and we had a tombola and raffle which proved very popular. The money raised will be used to help FAIR carry on its work for our service users.



We had a Zumba session thanks to Phillip and live music was provided by the Nelson Hall Gospel Choir and the Upward Mobility Rock Band. A big thank you to all of them.

An especially big thank you from all at FAIR to everyone who came along and helped to make it a special day. With your help, we will hopefully carry on the good work of FAIR for another 25 years!

What our users said about FAIR this year:

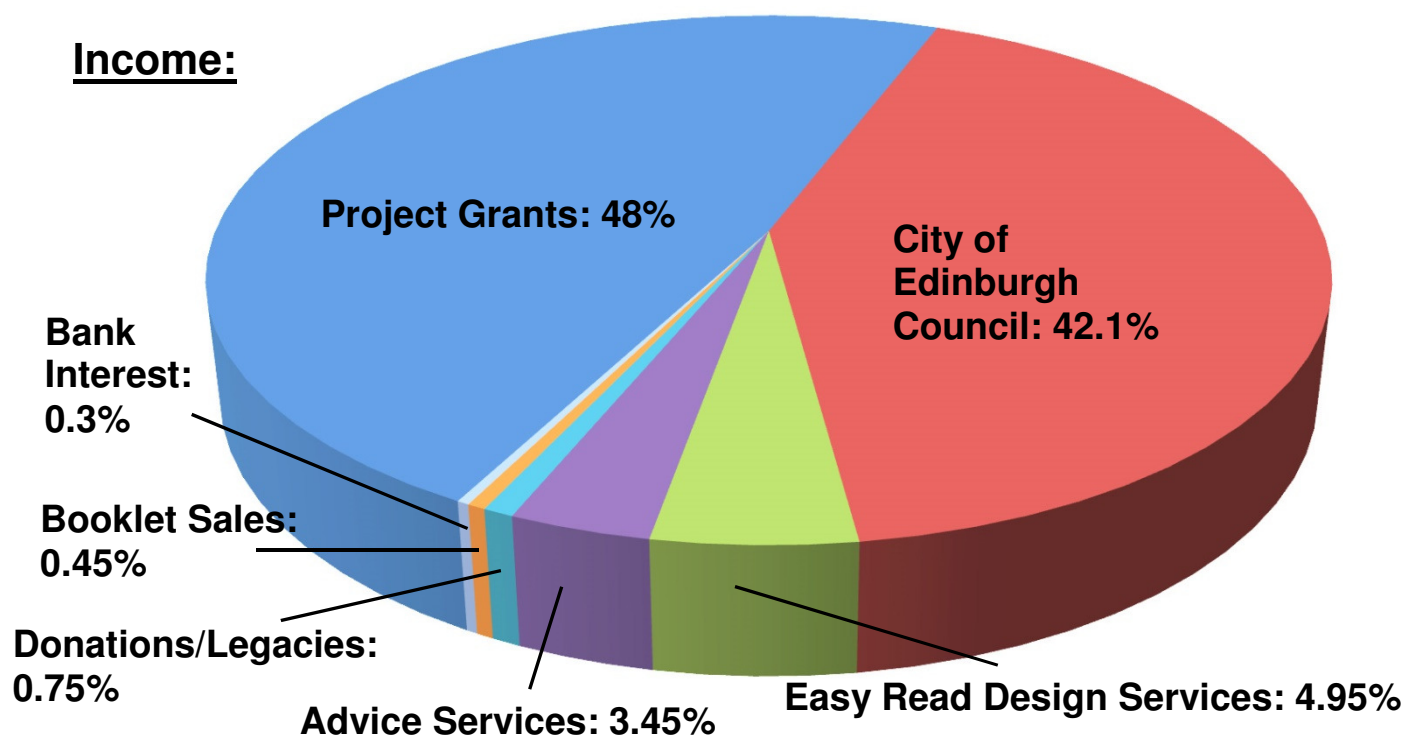
- ***“Adviser was fab and so easy to talk to and helped me be more trusting.”***
- ***“Helped my family which reduced stress further.”***
- ***“Adviser really nice and helpful.”***

Income and Expenses - April 2016 to March 2017

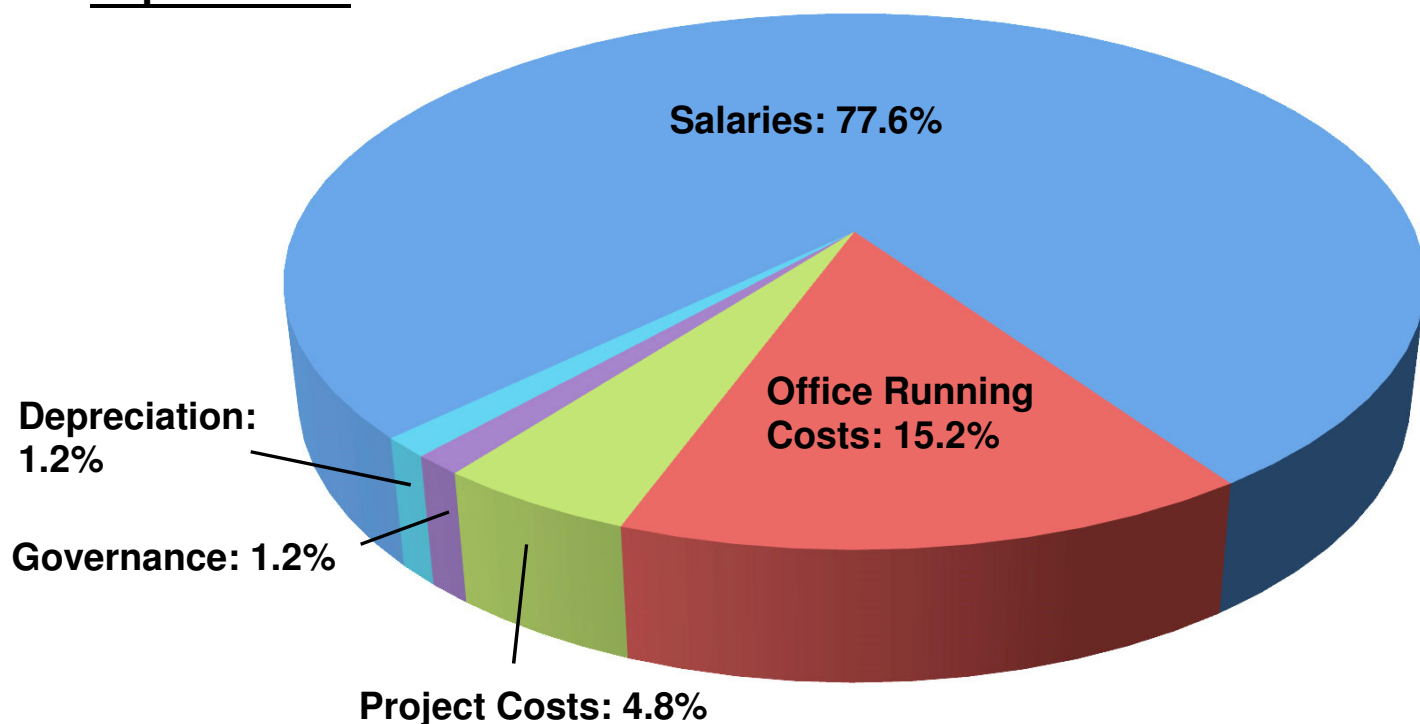
Total income for the year was **£202,116**

Our expenditure for the year was **£248,223**

Income:



Expenditure:



Full accounts are available from FAIR.

Phone **0131 662 1962** or email **fair@fairadvice.org.uk**



FAiR (Family Advice & Information Resource) is an information and advice service for people with learning disabilities, parents, carers and people who work with them.

The service we offer is

- **Independent:** we are not part of any other organisation.
- **Confidential:** anything you tell us will stay private.
- **Free:** you do not pay for any of our services.

We are at **95 Causewayside, Edinburgh, EH9 1QG**

You can contact us on:

 **0131 662 1962**

 **fair@fairadvice.org.uk**

Or you can visit our website: **www.fairadvice.org.uk**

Staff

K Swan (Manager)
G Bell (Finance Officer)
R Davie (Senior Advice Worker)
S Stewart (Advice Worker)
J Ely (Advice Worker)
S Gavin-Daunt (Advice Worker)
P MacFarlane (Advice Worker)
S Ali (Advice Worker)
P Mudie (Graphic Artist
& Communications Co-ordinator)
K MacDonald (Cleaner)

Directors and Trustees

L J McEwan (Convenor)
P Merchant (Vice Convenor – however, Paul sadly died partway through the year)
C Barclay (Treasurer)
J Bryce
G Duncan
I Dewar
H Wilson
D Willis
S Clarke
D Pelc

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