



## Treasurers Report

For the period ending the 30 June 2023 (Financial Year 2023 or FY23)

### 1.0 Compliance Statement

In accordance with section 89 of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012, Victoria (the Act), Learning Difficulties Australia has kept financial records that—

- correctly record and explain its transactions and financial position and performance;
- has enabled true and fair financial statements to be prepared in accordance with the Act; and
- are maintained for 7 years after each transaction covered by the records are completed.

For the purposes of the requirements under the Act, Learning Difficulties Australia is a Tier Two association.

The President submitted a representation letter to an independent auditor, Phillip Elliott of Elliott Assurance Pty Ltd, who holds a practicing certificate with the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia.

The financial statements have been reviewed by Phillip Elliott, who is a suitably qualified independent person. The review of the financial statements of Learning Difficulties Australia have been conducted—

- in accordance with the Auditing Standards on Review Engagements; and
- have resulted in the provision to the association of a written report.

As required under the Act, attached are:

1. Schedule 1, Form 1 – the prescribed certificate (section 96 of the Act);
2. The Annual Financial Statement as at 30 June 2023; and
3. The Independent Auditor's Report.

### 2.0 Financial Performance

The Annual Financial Statements are attached and include the following financial reports as at 30 June 2023:

- Income and Expenditure Statement (Profit & Loss)
- Asset and Liabilities Statement (Balance Sheet)
- Movement in Equity
- Statement of Cash Flows

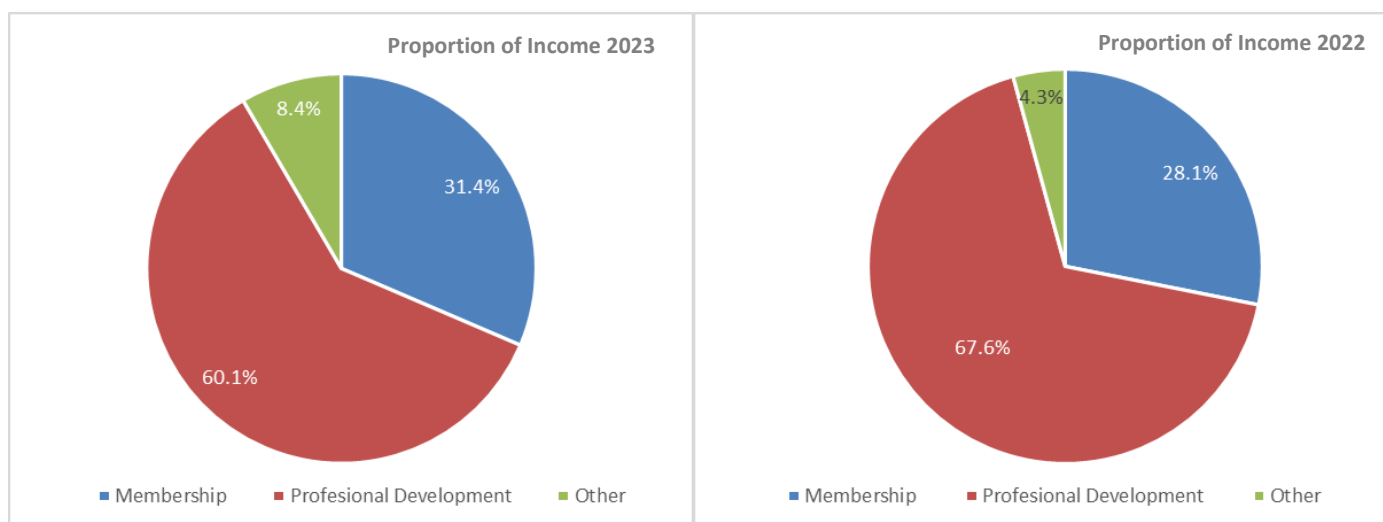
The Income and Expenditure Statement shows a deficit for the Financial Year (FY) 2023 to 30 June 2023 of -\$127k.

## Income

Total year to date (YTD) income to 30 June 2023 is \$247k compared to \$315k for FY22, a decrease of 21.6%. The bulk of this income totalling \$226k is derived from two sources; Memberships - \$78k and Professional Development courses - \$149k. There was a significant increase in Other income from \$13k to \$21k which was derived from various sources including Journal Royalties \$7k, Bookshop Sales \$1k, Interest \$1k, Sponsorship \$10k and miscellaneous \$2k.

Income Source	2023	2022	Movement	%
Membership	77,703.89	88,709.53	-11,005.64	-12.4%
Professional Development	148,608.26	213,223.69	-64,615.43	-30.3%
Other	20,831.98	13,461.00	7,370.98	54.8%
	<b>247,144.13</b>	<b>315,394.22</b>	<b>-68,250.09</b>	<b>-21.6%</b>

The relative proportion of the breakdown of income is shown in the graphs below and a comparison between the breakdown of the last two financial years is provided.

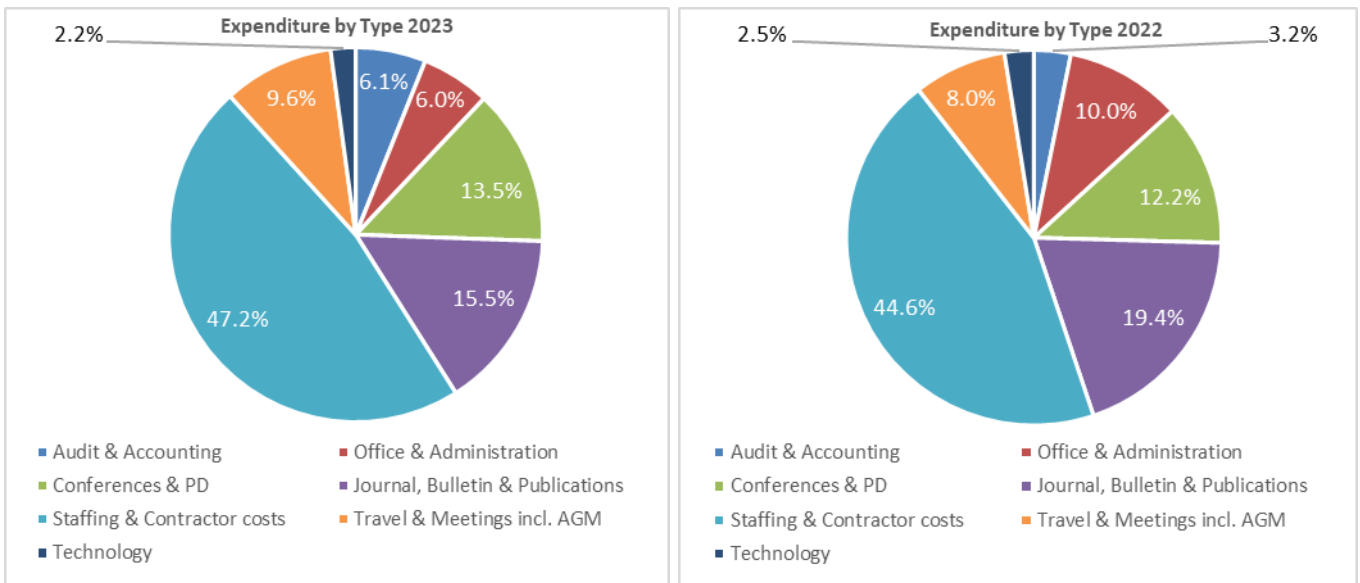


## Expenses

YTD operating expenses total \$374k compared to \$269k in FY22, this represents an increase over the year of 39%. The major items of expenditure are – Staffing and Contractor costs \$177k, the Journal, Bulletin and other publications \$57k, Conference and Professional Development expenses \$50k, Travel & Meetings including the AGM \$36k, Audit and Accounting \$23k and Office and Admin costs \$22k. The movement in these major items of expenditure are shown in the table below.

Expenses by Type	2023	2022	Movement	%
Audit & Accounting	22,717.50	8,530.00	14,187.50	166.3%
Office & Administration	22,304.00	27,041.18	-4,737.18	-17.5%
Conference & Professional Development	50,493.37	32,889.81	17,603.56	53.5%
Journal, Bulletin & Publications	57,815.65	52,246.64	5,569.01	10.7%
Staffing & Contractor expenses	176,644.20	120,052.13	56,592.07	47.1%
Travel & Meeting incl. AGM	35,772.16	21,568.79	14,203.37	65.9%
Technology	8,107.42	6,790.40	1,317.02	19.4%
	<b>373,854.30</b>	<b>269,118.95</b>	<b>104,735.35</b>	<b>38.9%</b>

The relative proportion of the breakdown of expenditure is shown in the graphs below and a comparison between the breakdown of the last two financial years is provided.

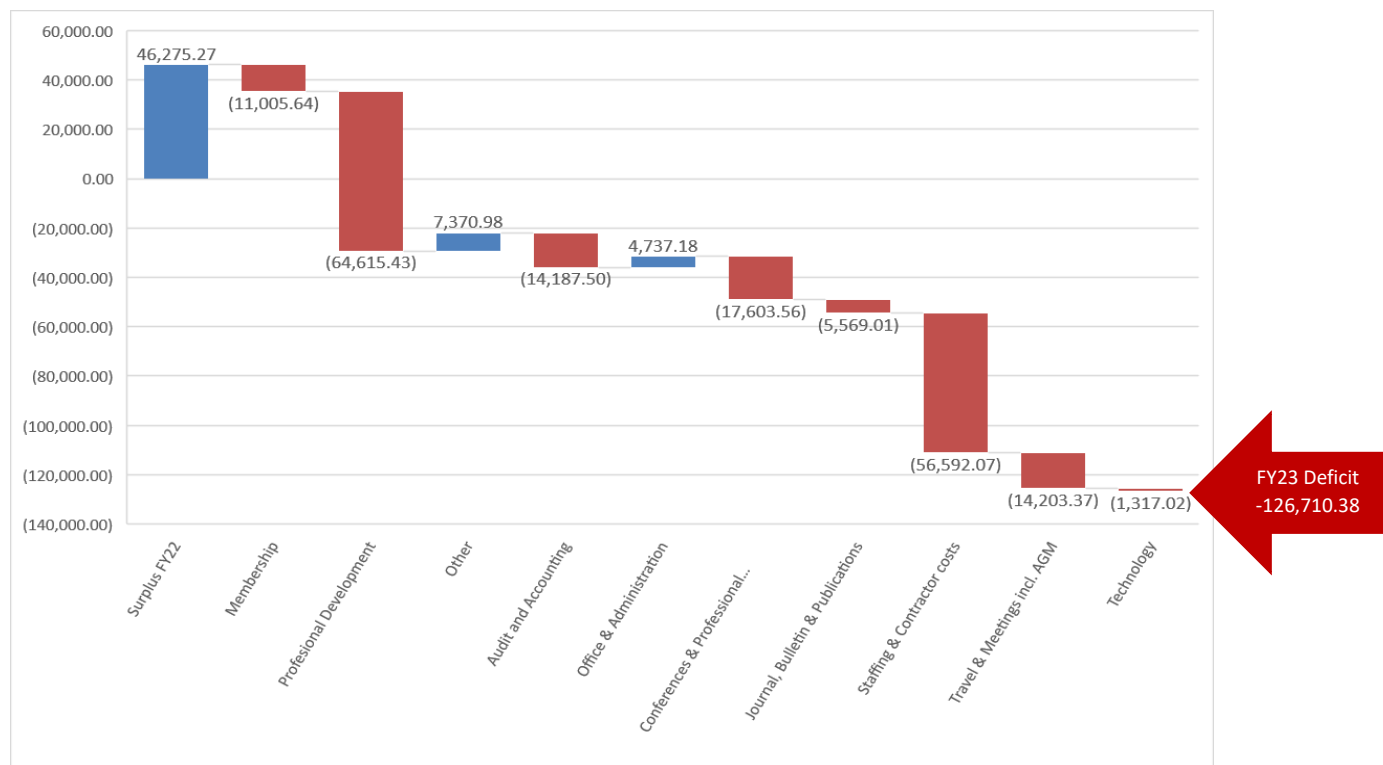


### Surplus/Deficit

As at the 30 June 2023 financial year the deficit for the year was -\$127k and this compares with a \$46k surplus in FY22. This shift to deficit is a combination of both a decline in income and increases in expenditure.

The Waterfall Chart below provides an illustration of the factors that have contributed to moving from a surplus of \$46k to a deficit of -\$127k.

### Waterfall Chart: Income and Expense movements in FY23 vs FY22



**Table:** Analysis of income and expenditure variances FY23 vs FY22

Item	Amount	Comment
<b>Income</b>		
Membership fees	-11,005.64	<p>Membership fee income decreased by -12.4% and this reflected a drop in membership numbers during the year and then growth in membership numbers toward the end of the financial year. After the accrual was applied to account for membership fees paid in advance, membership fees were lower for the year on an accrued basis.</p> <p>Membership fees increased as follow: Standard 13.6%; Consultant 7.1%; Institution 15.8%; Student 10.0%. The underlying growth in membership (between the end of FY22 and FY23) was circa 23%.</p> <p>Note that the decrease in membership fees has been offset by a significant increase in the Membership Fee accrual from \$31k in FY22 to \$52k or 67.7% increase in FY23.</p>
Professional Development	-64,615.43	Professional development income fell from \$213k in FY22 to \$149k in FY23. Successful online PD in FY22 included the Science of Writing series that was extremely popular. The reporting period also only included roughly four months of activity in the growing Professional Development calendar of events.
Other	7,370.98	Primarily this was the result of sponsorship income for the Linea Ehri's Australian workshops.
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Audit and Accounting	-14,187.50	The handover of LDA accounting and bookkeeping services saw a need to clean up some legacy accounting issues including reconciling payroll, superannuation and issues with double invoicing.
Office & Administration	4,737.18	Overall office and admin costs were lower by 17.5%.
Conferences & Professional Development	-17,603.56	The face-to-face nature of conferences and professional development saw higher deliver costs.
Journal, Bulletin & Publications	-5,569.01	Higher expense of 10.7% was largely due to higher printing and distribution costs of the LDA Journal and Bulletin.
Staffing & Contractor costs	-56,592.07	Primarily this cost reflected the appointment of staff including a full-time Business Administrator for the whole year, an Interim General Manager for three months, an Education Manager for six months and the new General Manager for two months.
Travel & Meetings incl. AGM	-14,203.37	The bulk of this additional travel cost related to air fares for Linnea Ehri. In addition, post COVID there were more face-to-face meetings including the AGM and the Linea Ehri workshops in Melbourne and Sydney.
Technology	-1,317.02	Additional costs include the relaunch of the LDA website.

### 3.0 Asset and Liabilities Statement Summary

The Asset and Liabilities Statement below shows the impact of the year's operations on the financial position of LDA with a significant fall in Retained Earnings or net funds of the Association which now stand at \$279k at 30 June 2023, down from \$406k at the same time last year. The bulk of these funds are held in cash via at call accounts and term deposits held with the Association's banker, Westpac.

The cash balance has been reduced from \$452k to \$358k or a net outflow of \$94k. The other major Balance Sheet movement is the increase in the Membership Fee accrual liability from \$31k in FY22 to \$52k or 67.7% increase in FY23. This means that there are substantially more funds held for future membership than this time last year and reflects an increase in memberships (both fee levels and number of memberships) toward the end of the financial year.

<b>LEARNING DIFFICULTIES AUSTRALIA INC</b>			
<b>Asset and Liabilities Statement - summary</b>			
AS AT 30 JUNE 2023			
		<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
		<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and Cash Equivalents		107,875	101,496
Term Deposit		250,000	350,000
Trade and Other Receivables		544	3,618
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>358,419</b>	<b>455,114</b>
<b>Non Current Assets</b>			
Computer Equipment		2,476	2,476
<b>Total Non Current Assets</b>		<b>360,895</b>	<b>457,590</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Trade and Other payables		18,411	16,884
Bruce Wicking Award		1,282	1,282
Employee Entitlements		9,944	2,282
Income in Advance		52,127	31,301
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>81,764</b>	<b>51,749</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>279,131</b>	<b>405,841</b>
<b>Member's Funds</b>			
Retained surplus		405,841	359,565
Net Surplus/(Deficit) current year		-126,710	46,276
<b>Total Member's Funds</b>		<b>279,131</b>	<b>405,841</b>

### 4.0 Banking

The CBA Commbiz account was closed in May 2023 and the funds have been deposited into the Westpac Account. Westpac now holds the Associations standard operating bank accounts as well as funds held in term deposits.

As at the date of this report LDA held the following bank account balances as at 30 June 2023:

<b>Account</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Westpac operating accounts	\$89,629.95
Westpac Term Deposit – 12 months (maturity 6/2/2024)	\$250,000.00
CBA Commbiz accounts	Closed
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$339,629.95</b>

## 5.0 Financial Commentary

The financial result for the year ended 30 June 2023 was a significant deficit of -\$127k resulting from falls in the core income areas of Membership Fees and Professional Development which encompassed only 4 months of Professional Development activity. At the same time income fell LDA embarked on engaging staff, aligned with the goal of professionalising LDA’s staffing and relying less of a volunteer workforce. This is ultimately about providing a more sustainable organisation with greater capacity for LDA to grow. Staff appointments include the appointment of a full-time Business Administrator for the whole year, an Interim General Manager for three months, an Education Manager for six months and the new General Manager, Sherree Halliwell, for two months.

The Financial Year also saw LDA operate post COVID which meant much more activity was face-to-face including the Linnae Ehri workshops held in Melbourne and Sydney, as well as a face-to-face AGM. By its nature, standard face-to-face operations are more costly than online. It was evident that, beyond the Linnae Ehri workshops, LDA struggled to gain traction with its professional development courses in what has become a very crowded teacher training market.

The new General Manager has prepared a Strategic Plan that has been endorsed by the Executive and has received Council feedback. The Strategic Plan includes goals that seek to address the long-term financial sustainability of LDA. LDA has had a history of high variability in its financial performance, swinging from surplus to deficit almost on an annual basis. An operating surplus is often dependent upon a single major professional development or conference event. It is intended that in pursuing the Strategic Plan a more stable financial platform is established for the Association.

The Strategic Plan seeks to build multiple revenue streams and support these with stronger systems and marketing, so they become more reliable sources of income. There is also a strategic shift for LDA to be more strongly recognised and build expertise and PD around *learning difficulty*. The objective is to build a unique and competitive strategic position, as mentioned above, in what is a saturated market with many low cost and free PD options in the evidence-based education segment. A stronger focus on learning difficulty should separate LDA from its many competitors.

On a positive note, whilst membership fee income fell during FY23, future membership income as represented by fees held in advance was up significantly on the previous year. This is reflected in a substantial overall lift in membership by the end of the Financial Year 30 June 2023, by 23%. An important goal within the Strategic Plan is to grow LDA membership and ultimately membership income, with an objective of LDA membership to become more ubiquitous across all classroom

teachers and in addition, to develop a stronger national footprint; that is a strong membership base in all states.

It is anticipated that with a growing calendar of PD events more strategically targeted at addressing instruction for students with a learning difficulty, increasing membership, and implementing the new Strategic Plan, LDA will achieve a stronger financial footing with a greater capacity to serve its mission.

Iain Rothwell  
**Treasurer**



**FORM 1**

**Associations Incorporation Act 1981**  
Sections 94(2)(b), 97(2)(b) and 100(2)(b)

**ANNUAL STATEMENTS GIVE TRUE AND FAIR VIEW OF FINANCIAL POSITION OF INCORPORATED ASSOCIATION**

I Iain Rothwell, Treasurer and Elaine McLeish, President, being members of the Committee of Learning Difficulties Australia, certify that—

The statements attached to this certificate, give a true and fair view of the financial position of Learning Difficulties Australia during and at the end of the financial year of the association ending on 30 June 2023.

Signed:

Iain Rothwell, **Treasurer**

Dated: 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Signed:

Elaine McLeish, **President**

Dated: 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023



# **Annual Financial Statements**

Learning Difficulties Australia Inc.

ABN 26 615 758 577

For the year ended 30 June 2023

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# Income and Expenditure Statement

## Learning Difficulties Australia Inc. For the year ended 30 June 2023

	2023	2022
<b>Revenue from ordinary activities</b>		
Membership revenue	79,704	88,710
Conferences and Seminars	117,326	199,624
Interest Income	1,104	26
Professional Development - Registrations	17,341	13,600
Royalties	6,672	9,691
Sponsorships	9,559	-
Other Revenue	15,438	3,744
<b>Total Revenue from ordinary activities</b>	<b>247,144</b>	<b>315,395</b>
<b>Gross Surplus</b>	<b>247,144</b>	<b>315,395</b>
<b>Expenditure from ordinary activities</b>		
Audit and Accounting	22,718	8,530
Annual Leave	7,662	(5,883)
Bank Charges	540	464
Bulletin	10,720	3,920
Conferences & Seminars	50,853	33,115
Insurance	-	4,562
Journal	24,875	23,426
Other Expenses	55,188	32,089
Postage	5,417	7,257
Printing	16,804	17,644
Secretarial	133,555	113,663
Stationery	3,234	1,213
Storage	2,491	2,264
Travel & Meetings	32,304	20,558
Website	7,493	6,297
<b>Total Expenditure from ordinary activities</b>	<b>373,854</b>	<b>269,119</b>
<b>Net Surplus / (Deficit) from ordinary activities</b>	<b>(126,710)</b>	<b>46,276</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

# Assets and Liabilities Statement

Learning Difficulties Australia Inc.

As at 30 June 2023

	NOTES	30 JUN 2023	30 JUN 2022
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2	357,875	451,496
Trade and Other Receivables	3	544	3,618
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>358,419</b>	<b>455,114</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Computer Equipment	4	2,476	2,476
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>2,476</b>	<b>2,476</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>360,895</b>	<b>457,590</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Trade and Other Payables	5	18,411	16,884
Bruce Wicking Award		1,282	1,282
Employee Entitlements		9,944	2,282
Income in Advance	6	52,127	31,301
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>81,764</b>	<b>51,749</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>81,764</b>	<b>51,749</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>279,131</b>	<b>405,841</b>
<b>Member's Funds</b>			
Retained Earnings		405,841	359,565
Current Year Earnings		(126,710)	46,276
<b>Total Member's Funds</b>		<b>279,131</b>	<b>405,841</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

# Movements in Equity

## Learning Difficulties Australia Inc. For the year ended 30 June 2023

	2023	2022
<b>Equity</b>		
Opening Balance	405,841	359,565
<b>Surplus / (deficit) for the year</b>		
Profit for the Period	(126,710)	46,276
<b>Total Surplus / (deficit) for the year</b>	<b>(126,710)</b>	<b>46,276</b>
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>279,131</b>	<b>405,841</b>

# Statement of Cash Flows - Direct Method

## Learning Difficulties Australia Inc. For the year ended 30 June 2023

	2023	2022
<b>Operating Activities</b>		
Receipts from operating activities	292,611	313,340
Payments to suppliers and employees	(387,336)	(304,200)
Interest received	1,104	26
<b>Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>	<b>(93,621)</b>	<b>10,166</b>
<b>Investing Activities</b>		
Acquisition of Computer Equipment	-	(2,476)
<b>Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(2,476)</b>
<b>Financing Activities</b>		
Other cash items from financing activities	-	-
<b>Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net Cash Flows</b>	<b>(93,621)</b>	<b>7,690</b>
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the financial year	451,496	443,806
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the financial year	<b>357,875</b>	<b>451,496</b>

# Notes to the Financial Statements

## Learning Difficulties Australia Inc. For the year ended 30 June 2023

### 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements are special purpose financial statements that has been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards including the equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards ("AIFRS") and the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 and Regulations (Victoria). The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The financial report includes the Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Comprehensive Income and Statement of Cash Flows and Notes to and forming part of the accounts.

The report is for Learning Difficulties Australia Inc as an individual entity. Learning Difficulties Australia Inc is an Incorporated Association registered in Victoria.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where stated, current valuations of non-current assets. Cost is based on the fair value of consideration given in exchange for assets.

The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies adopted by the entity in the preparation of the financial statements. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

#### Income Tax

The Association is exempt from tax under section 23 (e) of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1936.

#### Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE)

Computer equipment is carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

The depreciable amount of all PPE is depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

#### Employee Provisions

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee provisions have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

#### Trade and Other Receivables

Trade and other receivables includes amounts due from members. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

#### Revenue and Other Income

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable.

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest method, which for floating rate financial assets is the rate inherent in the instrument. Dividend revenue is recognised when the right to receive a dividend has been established.

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These notes should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

Grant and donation income is recognised when the entity obtains control over the funds, which is generally at the time of receipt.

If conditions are attached to the grant that must be satisfied before the association is eligible to receive the contribution, recognition of the grant as revenue will be deferred until those conditions are satisfied.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax.

## Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the assets and liabilities statement.

## Trade and Other Payables

Trade and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for services received by the association during the reporting period that remain unpaid.

## 2. Cash and Cash Equivalents

For the purpose of the statement of cash flows, cash includes cash on hand, in banks net of outstanding bank overdrafts. Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the statement of cash flow is reconciled to the related items in the Financial Position as follows:

	2023	2022
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>		
Learning Difficulties Australia	-	2,417
LDA Westpac Trust	11,112	6,038
Learning Difficulties Aust	78,519	91,890
Term Deposit	250,000	350,000
Stripe AUD	394	651
Stripe AUD 1	-	-
TryBooking	17,850	500
<b>Total Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>	<b>357,875</b>	<b>451,496</b>

## Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities

	2023	2022
Net (deficit)/surplus from ordinary activities	(126,710)	46,276
Changes in assets and liabilities		
Decrease/(Increase) in trade and other receivables	2,763	(1,028)

These notes should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.



Increase/(Decrease) in other current liabilities		30,326	(35,082)
<b>Net cash (used)/provided by operating activities</b>		<b>(93,621)</b>	<b>10,166</b>

2023                      2022

### 3. Trade and Other Receivables

Trade Debtors		855	-
GST		(311)	3,618
<b>Total Trade and Other Receivables</b>		<b>544</b>	<b>3,618</b>

2023                      2022

### 4. Computer Equipment

Computer Equipment at Cost		2,476	2,476
<b>Total Computer Equipment</b>		<b>2,476</b>	<b>2,476</b>

2023                      2022

### 5. Trade and Other Payables

Trade Creditors		4,628	11,977
No ABN Withholdings Payable		(980)	(980)
PAYG (Withholding)		10,242	3,990
Superannuation Payable		4,521	1,897
Rounding		-	-
<b>Total Trade and Other Payables</b>		<b>18,411</b>	<b>16,883</b>

2023                      2022

### 6. Income in Advance

Income in advance membership		52,127	31,302
<b>Total Income in Advance</b>		<b>52,127</b>	<b>31,302</b>

Income in advance represents monies received in the current financial year that constitute income to be taken up in the following financial year.

### 7. Key Management Personnel Disclosures

Learning Difficulties Australia operates with a voluntary Council and has one paid staff member who has no decision making authority. A number of consultants and contractors perform various duties but do not have decision making authority.

### 8. Segment Reporting

The Association operates as a not for profit organisation in Australia to assist members to improve professionally in the complex area of assisting people who experience difficulties with learning. The Association derives its income principally from annual subscriptions, seminars and conferences.

### 9. Related Parties

Council members received no remuneration or other benefits. All transactions between Council members and the Association were made on normal commercial terms and conditions.

These notes should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

# Statement by the Executive

## Learning Difficulties Australia Inc.

### For the year ended 30 June 2023

In the opinion of the Executive:

a) the accounts for the Association are drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the operating surplus of the Association for the financial year ended 30 June 2023 and the state of affairs of the Association as at 30 June 2023.

b) at the date of this statement, there are no reasonable grounds to believe that the Association will not be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.



President



Treasurer

Dated: 05/ 10 / 2023



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Audit and Compliance Services

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE LEARNING DIFFICULTIES AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED

### Audit Opinion

I have audited the financial report of Learning Difficulties Australia Incorporated (the Association), which comprises the Assets and Liabilities Statement as at 30 June 2023, the Income and Expenditure Statement, Movements in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended, Notes to the Financial Statements and the Statement by the Executive.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Learning Difficulties Australia Incorporated as at 30 June 2023, and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012

### Basis for Opinion

I have conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report** section of this report. I am independent of the Entity in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

### Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

I draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist the Association to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. My opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

### Responsibilities of the Executive for the Financial Report

The Executive is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the with Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial report, management is responsible for assessing the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Executive is responsible for overseeing the Entity's financial reporting process.

### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT  
TO THE MEMBERS OF THE LEARNING DIFFICULTIES AUSTRALIA**

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 this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.



Phillip Elliott \*

Dated this 9th day of October 2023

105/620 St Kilda Road Melbourne