



March 31st is the financial year end for Riding for Smiles. The end of our sixth year. What a difference a year makes. Contrast 2020–2021, the year of lock downs with this year, 2021–2022 as we struggled to get away from Covid whilst it still influenced much of school life, everyday life, and Riding for Smiles.

Our income in **2020–2021** from grants and donations was £52,000 with expenditure of only £9,000 on activities. During that year RfS bought the wonderful horse drawn carriage for £6,500 and spent £5,000 of the development grant.

Some of the development grant was spent working to ensure the charity was in brilliant shape to meet the post pandemic challenges. We set up our social media and spent hours and hours developing comprehensive grant applications. Riding for Smiles updated its strategy and business plan and all its policies and procedures.

With hindsight we had foresight and together with the Coloured Cob EC, RfS was ready to meet the increase in demand of over 250% from pre-pandemic levels.

Our income in **2021–2022** from grants and donations was £64,000 with expenditure £43,500 on activities. RfS also funded the new toilet facilities at a cost of £8,000.

Riding for Smiles is close to meeting the goals set out in its revised business plan. RfS received grants of £116,875 from the National Lottery Community Fund over 4 years, £30,000 from Children in Need over three years and many other equally important grants from many other funders. On behalf of the children, young people and adults helped by Riding for Smiles, thank you. Thank you also to Coloured Cob EC who rose to the challenge. Together we delivered over 200 rides in the horse drawn carriage for users of wheelchairs, and over 1,650 children, young people and adult experiences were delivered.

Riding for Smiles finished the year with funding in place to support many of its Programmes through to 2025. One task for 2022–2023 is to secure funding to be able to fully fund all our Programmes through to 2025. RfS is looking for around £13,000 each year from September 2022 to fully fund the new business plan.

More importantly it's about delivering awesome experiences supported by the Coloured Cob Equestrian Centre, the schools that make the real effort to come along, the staff and volunteers at Coloured Cob and in schools, the funders, the amazing horses and ponies and the children, young people and adults who make us all smile.

We are, together, Riding for Smiles.