



working with disabled people



# Annual Report 2019-20

# Chairman's Introduction

**Welcome to Enable Ability's Annual Report, and thank you for taking the time to read it. The report describes the charity's activities, development and performance for the past year and the plans for the year ahead.**

The report's main focus is for the period until the end of March 2020, so the extraordinary events from mid March onwards are outside the remit. However, I want to pay credit to the huge and important efforts made by our staff to support our service users, their families and the wider community during the period from April to September. More on that later.

The charity has continued to expand and support more young people and has cemented its place in the Landport Community through its stewardship of the Community Centre. The Social Enterprise Inter Activ has made a solid start with participants gaining valuable employability experience both within and outside of its base at Landport. A number of success stories have already been told with participants moving on to apprenticeships, as their next stage in the path to employment and independence. We continue to expand the range of activities for participants to gain experience and we hope to add to these in the coming year.

The play schemes continue to be our most popular service, with an ever increasing demand for places. The charity's befriending service has also been very popular, and in terms of income and numbers supported, has seen a significant increase. We have also provided intense befriending support for a small number of families where the young person has significant challenges, enabling the young person to remain at home. We are particularly proud of this development. The play scheme celebrated 25 years of operation this year, a long way from its humble beginnings at East Shore School in 1995. Portsmouth City Council supported us then as they do now, a measure of the important partnership between us. Have a look at our website for the full story!

The charity completed the refurbishment of Landport Community Centre and it was opened by the Lord Mayor in November 2019. We have upgraded much of the building's infrastructure with funding allocated by the Landport Community Centre Association, the Community Infrastructure Levy and our own funds. We are very proud of this resource and look forward to many years productive association with the residents of Landport. The café has reopened; our long term hirers Giselle Dance Academy and Potters Church are back in place; Inter Activ is utilising space to develop activities; funding has been agreed to support the very popular IT training and support programmes run by Rachael Hannon, and Enable Ability has utilised the centre for play schemes and other services. We are also reaching out to other community groups and residents of Landport to ensure local people use and value this wonderful resource.

Our partnerships are very important to the charity and all add value to the work we do through funding, facilitation and ensuring our message gets to as wide an audience as possible. We thank all our partners for their continued support. These partnerships have come to the fore during lockdown and have enabled the charity to provide much needed support to our community. In partnership with Pompey in the Community, Radian Housing and The Lady Hamilton Public House, over 8500 meals have been prepared and distributed to individuals and families across the City most affected by the lockdown measures. We have provided play schemes at 6 sites across the city from early June until late August to support 125 children and their families during difficult times when no other support was available. This was a huge task, ensuring the schemes were safe for the young people and our staff. Our thanks go to Portsmouth City Council for making available sites across the city to run these schemes.

I want to pay tribute to all the staff who have helped to support our community during lockdown, they have come forward in difficult times, placing themselves at greater risk. In particular, on behalf of the charity and the community, we thank Julie and Michelle for getting the play schemes running, Adam and James for stepping into new roles to support this activity. Hollie has continued to build much needed partnerships, and assisted Gavin, who has led our efforts in providing so many meals for the most vulnerable in our community. I also thank Richard, the charity's manager for holding all this together, and as always giving whatever time and effort is needed. Thank you too to the charity's trustees, who give of their time freely and continue to provide support and valuable expertise.

Going forward, we are entering uncharted territory, but our service users, participants and their families remain at the centre of all that we do. We intend to run all of our services in the autumn, perhaps in different forms to ensure our young people and staff are safe. We are hopeful that as conditions improve we can get back to normal. If there are setbacks then we know how to respond and as charity we will adapt as quickly as possible.

And finally, on behalf of all those who benefit from Enable Ability's support, a huge thank you to our staff, volunteers and funders

**Jon Muller**  
**Chair of Trustees**





# Manager's Report

**The 2019-20 financial year was characterised by Enable Ability's taking over the running of Landport Community Centre coupled with the launch of 'Inter Activ' as a social enterprise to enable people with disabilities to gain employability skills.**

Having concluded an in-depth feasibility study during the previous financial year we worked jointly with the Landport Community Centre Association to agree upon our priorities before assuming responsibility for the management of the community centre from June 2020. During the first three months we were primarily focussed on re-branding/decoration whilst putting everything into place to enable us to welcome in the public and start our social enterprise in September.

Being a completely new venture for us as a charity, this proved to be a time that was both exciting and challenging in more-or-less equal measure. Whilst the community centre itself appeared to be in reasonable shape, a great deal of time and expense was needed to ensure that we fully met all health and safety, food hygiene and disability access issues. In respect of this we are very grateful to Landport Community Centre Association for their support and financial commitment in enabling us to achieve this.

Part-funded by 'The Big Lottery' Inter Activ, as a social enterprise, was designed to offer up to 24 people with mild to moderate levels of disability opportunities to develop employability skills in the café, computer repair shop, retro gaming facility and a rural setting. With two cohorts of 12 participants at any given time, capacity was made available for up to 3 participants at each work-stream to be supported by Personal Skills Coaches that had been suitably BASE (British Association of Supported Employment) trained. As well as gaining up to 12 hours of hands-on experience our core offer has included weekly educational support with functional English and maths skills delivered by Portsmouth College. Our expectation is that participants will remain with 'Inter Activ' for up to 12 months and, when ready, will then be supported to move on into employment.

During its first 6 months the number of Inter Activ participants steadily increased and, by the time of Covid 19, the project was supporting 22 individuals, several of whom have now moved on into apprenticeships, part-time employment and volunteering roles. Whilst it has proven to be a steep learning curve for us, ultimately it is re-assuring to recognise the significant benefits already delivered as well as its potential for the future.

Meanwhile all of our other projects have flourished and this, coupled with our investment into Landport Community Centre, is in no small measure reflected by the 30% increase in turnover – taking us over the million pound mark for the first time.

One of the key milestones was the 25th anniversary of our Specialist Playscheme provision. Consistently identified by parents of children with very high needs as the most important respite service that they receive, it has come a very long way from its humble beginnings a quarter of a century ago. In 1995 it provided for a total of 36 children over a 3-week period during the summer; by contrast, 2019's provision regularly supported in excess of 50 children per day throughout a 4-week period at this time, as well as holiday schemes during half-terms and Easter holiday periods. We are truly grateful to Solent Academies Trust for providing such an excellent venue and to all of the play work staff for ensuring that the children were able to enjoy themselves and benefit so much.

Other highlights for the year include a very significant increase in the levels of befriending service delivered; with an overall total of 21,158 hours for both child and adult befriending, this amounted to just over 11% more than in the previous year. Providing for more than 100 clients the increase was in no small measure due to a small number of very high maintenance children that required support on a virtually daily basis.

Having now taken on full responsibility for the development of 'Autism Support', it has been very heartening to see this project grow. As well as establishing a more structured programme that now suits a broader group of young people with autism, it has seen a steady increase in numbers of participants. Highlights have included a change from poorly attended weekly football sessions to a multi-sports option that is proving to be much more popular and a move from monthly to weekly gym sessions that encourage greater learning.

It has also been very encouraging to witness steady increases to the numbers of young people attending our Junior, Teenage and Youth projects - all with diverse and stimulating programmes designed around the needs of the participants. Concurrently our advocacy service has demonstrated high levels of on-going demand whilst the Saturday Club has also continued to flourish.

Finally, I'd like to offer my gratitude to all staff, volunteers & trustees who work so hard to ensure the success of both individual projects and the charity as a whole.

**Richard Soutar**  
Enable Ability Manager



# Core activities

## 2019-20

### Specialist Playscheme

As a substantial number of play-scheme places are already accessed through social worker referrals for high dependency needs children, the demand for the Play Scheme continues to be at a very high level. Only last year we increased the numbers being accepted to try to meet some of this additional demand, thereby further enhancing our capacity within funding constraints. Over the Summer period 102 children attended (139 in 2019, 123 in 2018 & 98 in 2017) for a total of 975 days (1110 in 2019 & 982 in 2018) with 108 staff (115 in 2019 & 111 in 2018) employed to support, stimulate and care for the children; this was mainly on a one to one basis via a wide range of activities. The reason the numbers slightly reduced this year was because of a change of venue and the need to meet a much higher level of demand for local authority funded children.

### Saturday Club

The aim of this project is to provide stimulating activities for children with very high dependency needs during school term-time; it also offers their families, friends and carers much needed respite. The project is run out of Redwood Park School with transport available to families as required. Funding was received mainly from Children in Need, with additional funds received from other grant awarding trusts and fee payments. During the year 86 children attended (88 in 2019 & 80 in 2018) with 67 staff supporting them (65 in 2019). Themes included world book day, superheroes, Chinese new-year, my body and sense, space and planets, the circus, under the sea, National Environment Week and Mothers Day.



### Adult & Child Befriending

Child Befriending gave 14,487 hours (13,355 in 2019 & 8,488 in 2018) on a mainly one to one befriending basis to very high needs children during the year. 97 staff were employed (73 in 2019) to deliver the service to 64 clients (61 in 2019 and 50 in 2018). There were outings to Play Zone and Krazy Kaves, theatre trips, horse riding and baking; dancing sessions were also attended by a number of children. The young people were additionally supported to attend new groups.

Adult Befriending gives one-to-one befriending to adults by offering companionship, support and encouragement to those who are socially or physically isolated through disability. For ages 18 to 25 the service gave 3,644 hours of befriending (2,609 in 2019), these being provided by 20 staff (13 in 2019) to 20 clients (15 in 2019). Befriending for adults over the age of 25 amounted to 3,027 hours (3,036 in 2019) of support provided by 21 befrienders (18 in 2019) to support 17 clients (22 in 2019 and 16 in 2018).

### Junior Club

This had another wonderful year supporting over 45 families in the South East Hampshire Area. We encouraged our young people to be themselves in wild places, to engage in the natural environment and spend time outside by participating in the John Muir Outdoor Award at Staunton Country Park. Twenty-one young people gained their Discover Award and two gained their Explore Award. These activities ran alongside our usual sessions including cookery, sports and the arts.

### Advocacy

The ongoing change-over from DLA to PIP has made its mark on another improving year for Advocacy; the word has certainly spread with the increase of enquiries and the continuing support we have offered to many new and old clients. We have had 134 cases this year for varying levels of support and again over 300 enquiries for provision and information, with a 100% success rate (22 cases won out of 22 for tribunals where our clients have received their appropriate awards). There has been greater diversity this year, with many and varied needs that have not always related to benefits.







## Autism Support

This project realised a steadily increasing attendance throughout 2019 - 2020 until we closed the project around the 15th of March due to COVID-19. We achieved record numbers for both Multisport and Lego clubs in both January and March - with 14 attending in both months. We also saw increasing numbers attending our weekend Gym club which, after a long struggle to find a new venue & trainer, was fantastic. The Ten Pin Bowling club in January attracted 22 young people and the Swimming Club had a record 17 young people attend in March this year - an outstanding achievement after many months of promotional work.

## Landport Inter Activ

On 1st June 2019 we took over the running of Landport Community Centre with the aim of not only being able to offer a facility for the local community that would give computer training and a café facility but offering bookings for many different organisations to utilise the premises and to offer a general hub and meeting place for the locality. It would also offer our young people a base for a Social Enterprise Hub called Inter Activ to help them into employment or future training/education. Initially within the centre our young people were linked with a skills coach within the settings of the café, computer repairs and running a retro games room. A partnership with The Weald and Downland Museum was also established to offer a rural setting option.

## Wheelchair Basketball

This has continued to be a truly inclusive club for all in the community, with non-judgemental sessions that allow young people a safe place to be themselves and engage in a physically and mentally demanding sport at their own level of need and interest. Main group outcomes included improvements in fitness and health for the young people. One of our younger players made it through to the regional playoffs and her team won! We have also had several visits from four of our former players who now play for National League and Team GB.

## Teenage and Youth Projects

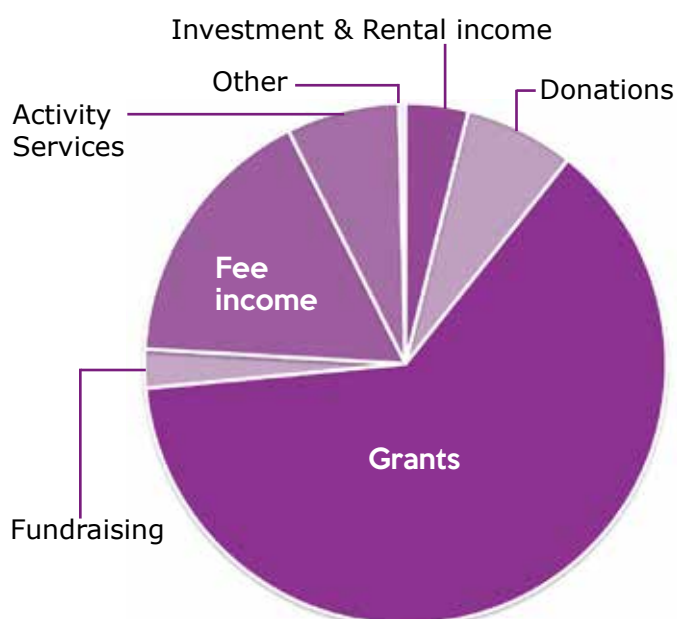
The **Hampshire Youth Project**, continues to find opportunities to make a difference for our young people so that they leave the charity as independent adults, ideally with jobs they enjoy. Our work experience and volunteering opportunities included customer service at Asda, Weald & Downland Living Museum, Southwick Revival, Portsmouth Guildhall and the Victorious Festival. We hope to expand on our horticultural and environmental work experience opportunities as we feel that these will form an important foundation for our young people to develop their skills in. The Project is formed of 43 young people who have developed considerably in the past year.

The **Portsmouth Youth Project** now has over 35 young people registered, 20 to 25 of whom attend two or more activities a month. One of PYP's great strengths is the development of friendships that are carried on away from the project itself, whereby the young people choose to meet up outside of the group for social activities. A wide variety of group activities occurred during the year, including social clubs, trips to the cinema and bowling, plus journeys further away to amusement parks and other attractions. Work experience has also taken place over three venues which help the young people gain employment and we have had numerous successes here.

**Portsmouth Teenage Project** keeps going from strength to strength, supported by an incredible team of staff who are made up of full-time students, teaching assistants and befrienders. But the real stars of the show are the 50 young people who are active users of the Project. Thanks to the incredible work achieved in the Junior Club, at least 20 young people have matured into confident individuals before being old enough to join the Teenage Project. At the other end the Project forms the perfect opportunity for our young people to grow into confident young adults before joining the Portsmouth Youth Project, with at least ten of our young people progressing to the older project and some even being employed or helping the local community in volunteering.

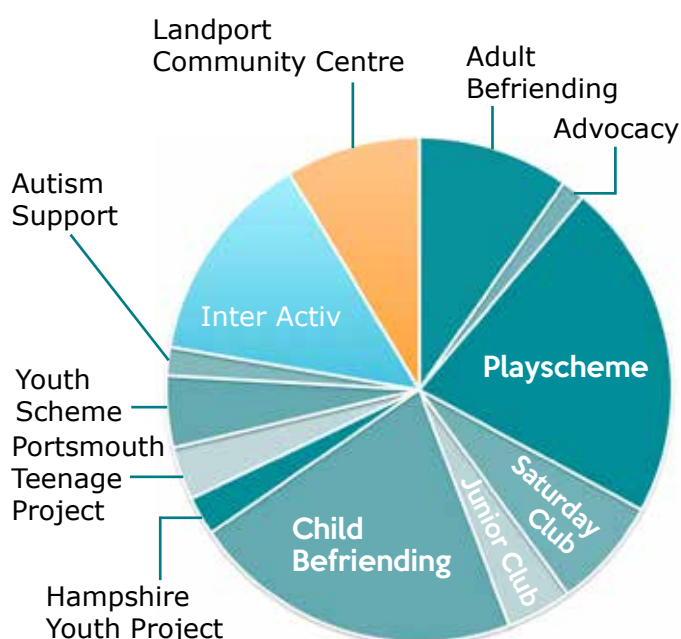


## Breakdown of where our income has come from



**Note:** Our reserves policy is to hold 3 months expenditure (this being total expenditure less playscheme expenditure) therefore £223,000 is held. This has been increased by £63,000 this year due to the rise in the Charity's expenditure.

## Analysis of funds spent on our projects



**Note:** our support costs (less external income from rent, investment and other external income) over the past year were only 13% of our overall expenditure. This has increased from 11% in 2019 due to additional administrative staff employed to run our new Community Centre. Thus a donation of £100 to Enable Ability with Gift Aiding, would mean £112 is spent directly on services for disabled people of the Portsmouth area.

**Notes to the accounts:** On 1st June 2019 Enable Ability took over the running of Landport Community Centre and in September 2019 our Social Enterprise, Inter Activ began. These were the main reasons for the marked uplift in both income and expenditure year-on-year.

The Accounts show a surplus of £72,205 for the year which is predominately represented by an increase in donations and from fundraising, plus a reversal of income deferred from last year to this year. This surplus is likely to be used on the Landport/Inter Activ Projects and to go some way to support the organisation through a post Covid environment where attracting funding is expected to be challenging.

Full details of our 2020 financial position together with a detailed report by Trustees can be found in our fully audited financial statement which is available to view on our website at <https://www.enableability.org.uk/about-us/business-reports>

These financial statements have been prepared using the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

**Agreed by the Trustees on 29th September 2020 . Joe Harbour – Honorary Treasurer**

# Income and Expenditure Account

## for the year ending 31st March 2020

(with 2019 shown for comparison)

	2020	2019
Total incoming resources	1,180,615	824,965
Total resources expended	1,083,763	831,857
Net gain/(loss) on investments	(24,647)	7,232
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>	<b>72,205</b>	<b>340</b>
Total funds brought forward	595,100	594,760
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>667,305</b>	<b>595,100</b>

## Balance sheet as at 31st March 2020

### Fixed assets

Tangible assets	146,974	148,848
Investments	38,045	164,076

### Current assets

Debtors	134,810	75,525
Bank funds	353,746	249,821
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>673,575</b>	<b>638,270</b>

### Less current liabilities

Creditors	(6,270)	(43,170)
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<b>Total assets less liabilities</b>	<b>667,305</b>	<b>595,100</b>
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# The way ahead

**We must continue to support the growth we have generated through our strategic planning; however our immediate needs are to use the creativity, flexibility and enthusiasm of our staff to allow us to continue delivering safe services to our families, carers and service users who need us more than ever during the Covid-19 pandemic.**

For the immediate future to support our high-needs service users we will continue to work with the Local Authority to find more ways of re-structuring Play Provisions to meet delivery requirements relating to Covid19 whilst fulfilling our contract with them. This directly affects our Playschemes and befriending services whilst also impacting upon a number of very high needs children that attend Saturday Club; altogether this amounts to nearly 70% of our cost base.

Due to the pandemic many funding bodies have rightly adjusted their granting criteria and we will thus need to place more emphasis on how and where we focus our efforts in writing bids.

For our mild to moderate users who utilise services like our Junior Club and Teenage and Youth Projects we will build on recent successes where services were provided outdoors with smaller groups, and as the seasonal weather dictates we can resort to the use of video-conferencing technology which we have proven to work in many different scenarios including cookery and music.

For our Inter Activ service we remain committed to making this work effectively and to become financially viable despite some initial setbacks. We will now spend time consolidating existing work experience programmes that are proving successful whilst exploring new opportunities that will add benefit to our young participants such as 'What's It Like?' which is helping grow skills in video production. We were also grateful to the Good Things Foundation who have provided funding for an additional skills experience in PC training and support.

Whilst our intention to create new services for families and children under 5 years is on hold we will certainly be looking at how we restart this when business has started to return to some level of normality.

At Landport Community Centre we were amazed and delighted with the way we could use our facilities there to help create meals for vulnerable people in the locality during the initial height of the lockdown as part of a wider collective effort

coordinated by The Hive. Our staff showed that by working together with other agencies we could become a force for good and we firmly intend to harness the goodwill and spirit that partnerships with the likes of Radian Housing, The Lady Hamilton public house and Pompey in the Community gave us for the future.

We are very grateful to the Charles Dickens Ward councillors for supporting our bid for Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding as this will enable us to provide the much needed upgrades to infrastructure facilities at the centre. We will look for further opportunities to enhance the Community Centre in the areas of accessibility and audio/visual services to enable us to offer facilities for training or meetings to a much wider part of the business and educational community.

We remain committed to making the centre a vibrant environment for everyone and this will require us engaging with the Local Authority, Housing Associations and other organisations to develop a more effective dialogue with the local community, so we can better meet their needs. Our ambitions are for it to become a community hub hosting parties, local activity groups and training whilst hosting our regular users.

At an organisational level we held further reviews with the advisor from Investors In People at the beginning of 2020 and have agreed plans to look at how we better invest in skills and education in our staff to grow them as individuals, to enable personal career progression and to position the charity better placed for its future needs.





## Special thanks to:

Action Stations  
 A.G. Axton & Sons Ltd  
 Admiral Lord Nelson School  
 Approved By You  
 Asda  
 Aviva Community Foundation  
 The Baily Thomas Charitable Foundation  
 BBC Children in Need  
 BBC Radio Solent  
 Beechside  
 Biscoes Law  
 Bransbury Park Butchers  
 Broadlaw Community Centre, Fareham  
 The Bivol Trust  
 Mrs Stella Casey  
 Charles Dickens Centre  
 Charter Sports Academy  
 Check Recruitment  
 Connors Toy Libraries  
 Councillors Cal Corkery & Claire Udy  
 Co-op Neighbourly Fund  
 Fareham College  
 Game Over/Steve Lowe  
 Gisell Dance Academy  
 Good Things Foundation  
 Hants & IOW Community Foundation  
 Hampshire County Council  
 Rachel Hannon  
 Hants School for Social Entrepreneurs  
 Hayling Golf Club  
 Highbury College  
 Hollywood Bowl  
 Irwin Mitchell Solicitors  
 Jamies Recycling CIC  
 JobCentre Plus and the DWP  
 Kenwood Limited  
 Keppel's Head Hotel

KSM Telecom  
 Lady Hamilton PH/ Jeanette Warren  
 Landport Community Centre Association  
 Langstone Junior School  
 Lloyds Bank Foundation  
 Stephen Morgan MP  
 Morrisons Anchorage Park  
 The National Museum of the Royal Navy  
 PALS Society/Steve Bond  
 Parkwood Leisure Ltd  
 Peter Ashley Activity Centre  
 Pompey in the Community  
 Portchester Community School  
 Portsmouth City Council  
 Portsmouth Disability Forum  
 Portsmouth Gootball Club  
 Portsmouth Grammar School  
 Portsmouth/SE Hants Chamber of Comm  
 Portsmouth College  
 Portsmouth Together  
 Potters House Church  
 Christine Richards  
 Radian Housing/Jackie Charman  
 Rotary Club of Portsmouth & Southsea  
 Shaping Portsmouth  
 St Cuthbert's and St Aidan's Churches  
 Sobell Foundation  
 Solent Apprenticeship Hub  
 Solent Academies Trust  
 SE Hampshire Masons/Andrew Coombes  
 Southern Co-Op  
 Southsea Castle Rotary Club  
 Stansted House  
 Starbucks  
 Staunton Country Park  
 Tesco Bags of Help  
 The Big Lottery Community Fund

The Clothworkers Foundation  
 The Conservation Volunteers  
 The New Theatre Royal  
 The Weald & Downland Living Museum  
 University of Portsmouth  
 Victory Indoor Bowls Club  
 Waitrose Ltd  
 Wave 105 Cash for Kids  
 Father Bob White  
 Yan Woo Restaurant

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 Mr S Elsom (Vice Chair)  
 Mr P Fielon  
 Mr J Harbour (Treasurer)  
 Mr W John  
 Mr J Muller (Chair)  
 Mrs N Quinquenel  
 Mr D Ramsay (Vice Chair)

### Company Secretary

Richard Soutar

*As a charity Enable Ability's activities are dependent upon funding from trusts, donors, grants and fees; we are always appreciative of all donations and any fundraising carried out on our behalf.*

## Get in touch

311-313 Copnor Road  
 Portsmouth  
 Hampshire  
 PO3 5EG



023 9267 1846



enquiries@enableability.org.uk



www.enableability.org.uk



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working with disabled people

Charity Registration: 276422  
 Company No: 1405937



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