NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY ACTION

England & Wales · Charity number 1001635

Details

Other names	NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE, NACVA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY ACTION, NAVCA
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	02575206
Registered	1991-01-24
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	The Circle 33 Rockingham Lane Sheffield S1 4FW
Phone	01142786636
Email	navca@navca.org.uk
Website	www.navca.org.uk

Activities

Objects: TO PROMOTE ANY CHARITABLE PURPOSES FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE COMMUNITY IN ENGLAND AND IN PARTICULAR, THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION, THE PROTECTION OF HEALTH AND THE RELIEF OF POVERTY,DISTRESS AND SICKNESS.

Activities: Exert influence on government policy through the voice of local voluntary and community organisations.Enable Local Infrastructure Organisations to have strong governance and management and to provide inclusive services that enable voluntary and community organisations to meet the needs of the communities they represent.

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Classification

- **How:** Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** ENGLAND
- Throughout England

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£889,697	£814,460	£559,199	9
2024-03-31	£436,827	£720,353	-	-
2023-03-31	£1,514,473	£1,454,694	£755,247	10
2022-03-31	£1,355,978	£1,236,966	£719,177	10
2021-03-31	£1,540,499	£1,366,665	£589,140	8

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
SANDRA MEADOWS	Chair	2023-07-17
Asma Aziz		2025-11-13
Dr Batul Dungarwalla		2024-11-07
Jackie Rosenberg		2024-11-07
Jeremy Garth Hodgkinson		2024-11-07
Jessica Sumner		2022-11-17
Joyce Christine Blythe		2022-11-17
Kishor Patel		2024-07-01
Lisa Healings		2022-11-17
Lisa Marilyn Goodwin		2025-11-13
Sally Rose Page		2024-11-07

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY ACTION

England & Wales - Charity number 1001635

Accounts

navca
local focus national voice

National Association for Voluntary and Community Action Annual Report

(A company limited by guarantee)
Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Company registration number: 02575206
Charity registration number: 1001635

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Legal and administrative details

The trustees of the charity during the year were as follows:

Name	Roles/committee membership	Date elected/re-elected/ appointed	Date of leaving
Sandra Meadows MBE	Chair Finance, Audit & Risk Committee Succession Planning Group	Appointed Chair July 2023	
Julie Farrow	Vice-chair until November 2022 Chair HR committee until January 2023 Succession Planning Task & Finish Group Appointed as Board advisor in November 2022	December 2019	End of service as Board Advisor November 2024
Stephen Craker	Vice-Chair from November 2022 Chair HR Committee from January 2023 Finance, Audit & Risk Committee	November 2018	End of service November 2024
Kerrie Fletcher	Vice-Chair from October 2022 Chair Finance, Audit & Risk Committee Appointed as co-opted member November 2022	November 2019	
Angela White (Carter) OBE	HR Committee Finance, Audit & Risk Committee Succession Planning Group	November 2019	Resigned February 2025
Lisa Healings	Treasurer from November 2022 Finance, Audit & Risk Committee	November 2022	
Jess Sumner	Vice-Chair from December 2024 Chair of HR Committee from January 2025 Chair Succession Planning Group	November 2022	

Name	Roles/committee membership	Date elected/re-elected/ appointed	Date of leaving
Hannah Reid	HR Committee	November 2022	
Christine Blythe	Finance, Audit & Risk Committee	November 2022	
Leah Campbell		November 2023	Resigned May 2024
Kishor Patel	HR Committee	Co-opted July 2024 Voted November 2024	
Dr Batul Dungarwalla		Appointed July 2024	
Garth Hodgkinson	Succession Planning Group	Appointed July 2024	
Jackie Rosenberg		Appointed July 2024	
Sally Page	HR Committee	Appointed July 2024	

Company Secretary

Maddy Desforges OBE

Senior management team

Maddy Desforges OBE
Alex Boys (resigned June 2024)
Rich Warrington (appointed July 2024)

Charity Registration Number

1001635

Registered Office

The Circle
33 Rockingham Lane
Sheffield
South Yorkshire
S1 4FW

Company Registration Number

2575206

Independent Examiner

Tony Stanley ACA
Mitchell Charlesworth
14th Floor
The Plaza
100 Old Hall St
Liverpool
L3 9QJ

Bankers

Unity Trust Bank plc
Nine Brindley Place
Birmingham
B1 2HB

Investment Managers

Rathbones (Incorporating Investec Wealth and Investment)
Beech House
61 Napier Street
Sheffield
S11 8HA

Our Funders

In 2024/25, NAVCA was grateful to receive funding from the following organisations, which enabled us to pursue our strategic objectives;

- Assura
- British Red Cross
- Cadent Gas Limited
- Environment Agency
- In Kind Direct
- Ladbrook Insurance
- Local Government Association
- National Academy for Social Prescribing
- National Cyber Security Centre
- The National Lottery Community Fund
- National Voices
- National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO)
- NHS England (NHSE)
- NHS England - South West
- NHS Gloucestershire Integrated Care Board
- Plinth
- The Giving Machine
- West Yorkshire LIOs

Acknowledgements

We offer our thanks and acknowledgements to:

- NAVCA members, for their contributions to this report and to the network;
- NAVCA trustees and the NAVCA staff team;
- Our funders and project partners.



NAVCA in numbers

180 members supporting over 165,000 charities and community groups

Over **60%** of NAVCA members engaged in the Development Programme



140 people attended our Annual Conference in 2024



We distributed **£137,000** to 11 Warm Hubs across the country, supporting **28,000 people**

16 Allyship Champions



17 EEDI Steering Group members

24 LIQA accredited member organisations

LIQA Local Infrastructure Quality Accreditation



We sent out 26 member newsletters, providing members with useful updates and resources

Chair's Foreword

Sandra Meadows MBE, FRSA



This has been another year of change – for the country, the voluntary sector and for local infrastructure organisations (LIOs). This change has played out against a backdrop of global instability and conflict, with the ongoing wars in Ukraine and the Middle East, seismic changes to democratic rule in the USA, and unprecedented extreme weather events. Alongside this, we've witnessed the best of humanity through humanitarian interventions across the world, community responses to flashpoints such as the UK race riots during the summer, and the dogged determination of our charities, community groups and social enterprises to keep going in the face of huge challenges.

We saw the arrival of the new government in July with huge anticipation, and feelings of hope and renewal. There was a period of pause while priorities were established and the new government set out its focus for the term ahead. Whilst funders also paused to reset strategies and priorities, frontline, grassroots activity continued, as the sector demonstrated its vital role in maintaining support for communities. We saw unprecedented numbers of local authorities facing financial crisis, to the point of issuing a Section 114 notice or having to make significant funding cuts, which directly impacted key services and negatively affected citizens and communities across the country. Despite significant reductions in grants and funding, LIOs and their member organisations worked incredibly hard to influence policy and decision making at a local level to protect services, particularly for the most vulnerable in society.

In that context, there is even more need for strong support structures and effective intermediaries for the sector. Much of our work this year has been to address these challenges - to offer support, build collaborations and work together. We have supported members, and in turn their communities, to work well with local and regional authorities. We have worked to influence the wider system – local government, national government and the health system - to recognise the need for and importance of support structures for the VCSE sector. We have had some success, but there is always more to do! The publication of the new Civil Society Covenant provides a framework for these important conversations; setting out the need for greater recognition and respect for civil society and all it brings. We look forward to its implementation, to tackle some of the issues it highlights, foster closer partnership working, and address the complex challenges in society.

NAVCA concluded its Development Programme against that backdrop of wider change, reviewing the internal and external conditions needed for local infrastructure to thrive, and looking at how NAVCA can work with its members to create those conditions, and offer support so communities can also thrive. I am extremely proud and grateful to see how our members engaged with that process; and how it enabled us to really think about our role to foster the decade of renewal we need as a country. We don't have all the answers, but I am sure we need to focus more on relationships and connections – the things which are often forgotten in a dehumanised commissioning environment, focused on creating products and counting 'things'.

Local infrastructure matters more now than ever. Working with organisations and communities to support them to thrive; to influence, reform and reshape delivery of public services, to bring the joy and optimism back into the VCSE sector, which is about so much more than shoring up public

services. We will continue to work closely with our members, to shout about the work they do, and to influence local, regional and national government, and all public sector systems, to work with us in true collaboration and partnership.



Sandra Meadows MBE, FRSA

> **Local infrastructure matters more now than ever. To continue working with organisations and communities to support them to thrive; to bring the joy and optimism back into the VCSE sector and communities.**

In remembrance



In 2025, we shared the sad news that Judy Robinson, NAVCA's former Chair, passed away suddenly. She was known to many from a long career in local infrastructure, and the voluntary and community sector, in the Northwest, Yorkshire and the Humber, and nationally.

She was an amazing woman who died in a place she loved with good friends. She was a powerful advocate of communities and social justice, she fought for what she believed in, with energy and commitment.

She will be remembered by many.

Trustees' Annual Report

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, are pleased to present their report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The legal and administrative information set out on pages 3, 4 and 5 forms part of this report.

The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, and the trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities FRS 102 (second edition, October 2019)" in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

Nature of governing document

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and registered charity established in January 1991. It is operated under the rules of its memorandum and articles of association dated January 1991 and most recently amended November 2023. It has no share capital and the liability of each member in the event of winding-up is limited to £5.

Objectives and activities for public benefit

The principal objects of the charity are "to promote any charitable purposes for the benefit of the public, in England, and, in particular, build the capacity of local support and development organisations and provide them with the necessary support, information and services to enable them to pursue or contribute to any charitable purpose."

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and are satisfied that the organisation's strategic framework, which provides the template for all of its work, conforms to these requirements.

Strategy and Delivery:

Vision, mission and aims – local focus, national voice

NAVCA's vision is that every local area has a thriving community and voluntary sector, and strong social action to drive justice and active citizenship. Our mission is to strengthen and champion a thriving and influential voluntary and community sector through high quality local support organisations.

Our strategic ambitions are:

• to influence change and innovation in systems and services, locally and nationally, to shape a more fair and equal future and improve people's lives;

• to bring together thinking and action to increase the impact of our network;

• to create a valued hub of knowledge which is shared widely to strengthen our action and impact;

• to ensure the NAVCA movement has the tools, resources and connections it needs.





(above) Community Action: MK conference bringing together local comunity organisations, with contribution from Maddy Desforges NAVCA CEO

"I joined [the Allyship Programme] to gain the skills and knowledge to improve my own confidence to challenge injustices and champion allyship. I feel that I have already learned and made connections!'

(below) NAVCA Development Programme in-person networking day at Voluntary Action Sheffield



"The networking dinner was a great opportunity to network with other areas and to hear about what is working well and what their barriers are." (feedback on NAVCA Networking Dinner)



(above) David Knott, CEO of The National Lottery Community Fund, speaking at the NAVCA Annual Conference 2024

"The [quality] accreditation really helps publicly cement Communities 1st's reputation as an organisation that puts quality and impact to the communities we serve at the heart of all that we do in supporting local voluntary, community and social enterprises." - Communities 1st

Our outcomes, against our strategic objectives

Development programme

In 2024, we secured funding from the National Lottery Community Fund to undertake a comprehensive development programme, working with members to undertake a thorough review of our work and how it supports members to strengthen community resilience. 60% of members engaged with the process, leading us to adopt a co-design by default model for all future work by NAVCA with members.

Research undertaken by Sheffield Hallam University as part of the project identified that:

- LIOs find themselves in highly complex and demanding positions, balancing capacity against multiple expectations from different parts of a diverse local VCSE sector and different statutory stakeholders
- The CEO and LIO staff team's approach to relationships and leadership with the VCSE sector and statutory partners is crucial for effectiveness
- The amount and form of funding for local VCSE infrastructure do not appear to be the only conditions for effectiveness
- LIOs encounter forces that can be both stabilising and destabilising, which work to secure or unsettle their overall position. These forces typically arise from the funding environment, strategic leadership, LIO credibility and regard, and competition from others
- The conditions enabling or preventing effective local infrastructure are inter-connected, with LIOs experiencing both positive and negative spirals between connected issues.

These factors have informed and focused our influencing work, and our work around local development and change – supported by blogs to share the key findings.

The project led to a new NAVCA practice model and an updated theory of change, reflecting our learning and guiding the Change Programme toward achievement of our ambition of more resilient, inclusive and connected communities, and a thriving VCSE sector.

To underpin this, we also revisited our strategy, making Equity, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EEDI) a prominent theme of work.

We will implement our Change Programme over the coming years, drawing on the insights and needs of members to prioritise our activity. Priorities for the coming year include: developing an impact assessment approach for LIOs; developing our networks to be more responsive; implementing an allyship programme and EEDI audit tool; and developing a consistent approach to local state of the sector reporting.

Strategic objectives

Alongside the development programme, we continued to deliver our business plan against five priority areas to support members: networks and connections; information gathering and sharing; providing resources and support; influencing system change; and enablers - our own internal systems such as governance and finance.

By focusing on the four functions of infrastructure, we developed our approach to communicating a clear role and purpose of local infrastructure.

Networks and connections

Bringing members together helps share learning, develop best practice, and create solidarity amongst those working in LIOs to support communities. We bring together both standing and responsive networks through a dynamic model that enables two-way insight and information sharing, informed by member experiences. Standing networks bring members together on a regular basis around ongoing topics or interests, e.g. core cities, communications, volunteering and anti-racism. They create important, safe spaces for conversations and connections between members.

Responsive networks bring members together to inform and be informed. They support members to navigate and manage events and emergencies, by sharing information and learning about national issues in real-time. This included responding to the racist riots in the summer; working on the new health strategy, being part of the eco-system for hospital discharge and developing our response to the NHS 10-year plan.

Our annual conference is a highlight of the year and is a highly valued opportunity for members to come together to network and reconnect, to have space to step back from daily pressures and look at the bigger picture, and to learn from each other. This year, we hosted the conference in Birmingham, and brought together 99 members from 44 member organisations, as well as stakeholders and sponsors.

> “Sometimes the role of a local infrastructure CEO can feel lonely and isolating - I feel more connected to the wider network and part of a bigger whole which I found really energising.”
>
> Feedback on our Annual Conference 2024



The conference stimulates members with new ideas, inspiring and driving them on to develop their work based on learning from workshops and speakers.. The energy and vibrancy of the event emphasised the importance of establishing and developing relationships between members.

Information gathering and sharing

Our regular briefings highlight key issues and distil important information by informing members, providing signposts to further information and reading, and aims to “do some of the thinking” to accelerate members own approach to issues. We produced briefings and updates on new government policy announcements, budgets, and national events such as the racist riots. Members appreciate the ready and timely access to trusted information: “[NAVCA] briefings are so helpful, I prioritise the emails to read them properly.”

Developing our work on equity, equality, diversity and inclusion (EEDI) came to the fore through the development programme. To drive this, we established an EEDI steering group for NAVCA, made up of members and trustees, to review our activity, provide support and critique, and to hold us to account.

We have developed and launched an Allyship Programme in partnership with Diversity Marketplace. This supports and develops a network of active allyship champions across the network, who in turn support and challenge their own organisation and other VCSE organisations in their place. The programme offers quarterly training events, access to a suite of comprehensive resources through Diversity Online, and peer support and development through regular network sessions.

We are working with Diversity Marketplace and members to produce an EEDI Audit Toolkit, enabling members to assess their strengths, identify areas

to develop and produce a clear, time-bound action plan. The tool will launch later in 2025.

Providing resources and support

The four functions of infrastructure serve as the foundation of our work and provide a framework to ensure effective support for members. We produced four guides during the year to explore what each of the four functions means and how they help to meet community needs.

The LIQA (Local Infrastructure Quality Accreditation) centres around these four functions, providing a framework against which members demonstrate the quality and impact of their work. The accreditation helps organisations reflect on their strengths and areas for development, and provide evidence of how they deliver the four functions of infrastructure. This is peer reviewed by experienced senior leaders who are trained in the expectations of the award. To date, 24 members have achieved accreditation. The award enables NAVCA members to showcase their work and can be shared with funders, partners and stakeholders.

The VCQA (Volunteer Centre Quality Accreditation) forms the other part of our Quality offer. Nine more organisations achieved accreditation during the year, making a total of 34 current VCQA holders.

We regularly spotlight our members' work through case studies which we will continue to share as a way to inspire, motivate others and as a vehicle to demonstrate and promote the impact of our members.

In April 2024, we launched our redesigned website to share updates about NAVCA and its members, and to help members connect. The new member hub invites members to sign up for events, to download resources, network/chat, and upload jobs. Over 500 members have an active account to date.

We have been developing our approach to health, enabled by the new website. We completed the Quality Development Tool, supporting ICS-VCSE Alliances to engage well with the system at a local and regional level. We shared 77 support resources through the resource hub, supporting members bringing insight and information directly to members in accessible formats.

Local authority finances continue to be under pressure, with many councils making cuts to budgets, including funding for VCSE organisations and LIOs. Only a few have become insolvent so far, but many remain at high risk and will likely need to make major funding cuts.. Working with Lloyds Bank Foundation, we developed guidance and policy recommendations for both local authorities and VCSE organisations. This identified six stages of financial vulnerability for a council, and the actions VCSE organisations can take at each stage. The guidance has been downloaded by over 12,000 people, supported by a webinar and blogs to explore the guide further.

Recognising the importance of the relationship between local authorities and VCSE organisations we worked in partnership with the Local Government Association to produce a best practice guide for councils working with LIOs in order to reach small, local VCSE organisations. The guide is designed to strengthen collaboration between sectors, helping ensure funding, engagement and support reaches the grassroots groups who are closest to communities and most often overlooked.

In partnership with the University of Exeter and the Social Innovation group, we explored the idea of the voluntary sector as a 'microbiome', an invisible

> "Applying the LIQA framework accelerated our work to map and facilitate capacity building support for the VCSE across Birmingham, and also helped us identify areas where our capacity building partnerships could develop further."
>
> Birmingham VSC

but vital ecosystem sustaining public health and community wellbeing. This collaboration led to a powerful thought piece, reframing the VCSE sector as essential to the function of our public services, even when its impact is long term and/or not always visible. We also hosted an open event to share and debate these ideas, bringing together practitioners, academics, and system leaders to challenge assumptions about power, value, and where change begins. The resources have been downloaded over 1800 times.

We were delighted to partner with Cadent Gas to fund warm centres across the country. We distributed £137,000 to 11 hubs, which funded community groups and centres to support people to stay warm and safe. Our approach enhances existing provision, distributing resources including carbon monoxide alarms and slow cookers, as well providing information and support around energy efficiency, carbon monoxide awareness, the Priority Service Register and general benefits advice. We trained members to pass on advice and support to community groups, as well as forming a network of those involved to provide mutual support and learning. To the end of April 2025, 28,000 people had benefited from the programme.

Following from the development programme, we are building our training offer, with proactive and responsive training to meet member needs. To date, we have offered courses on developing the strategic use of AI in LIOs and trustee recruitment. We will continue to develop this programme through 2025-26.

Influencing system change

We have developed NAVCA's voice to highlight the offer from and impact of LIOs into statutory agencies and government. This is key to our wider success as a network. In the run up to the general election, our "non-manifesto", *The power of local infrastructure*, set out the value and importance of LIOs, and has informed our approach since the new government set out its priorities and ways of working.

As the new government took up power and developed its policies, we contributed to roundtables with several departments on resilient communities, health, volunteering, and a wider community strategy. We worked with DCMS (Department for Media, Culture and Sport) as they commissioned research focused on what is most needed in social infrastructure. We contributed to thinking around the new Civil Society Covenant, and a shift in the relationship between the VCSE and Government – focusing on the importance of local relationships and influence, trust and respect, and robust accountability structures.

With the NHS is going through considerable change and Integrated Care Systems shifting their focus as the new government sets priorities around "community, prevention and digital", our work on health has developed through the year. We provided information and resources, signposted to wider support, and provided analysis of government proposals and policy shifts. We have also developed our relationships with statutory agencies and other national bodies, advocating for the importance of working well with communities.

Many of our members convene and host their ICS-VCSE Alliances and our briefings are shared widely with members and wider VCSE Alliance members to help the sector understand reforms and their implications, and how they can increase their influence. We have supported and facilitated a strengthened network of ICS-VCSE Alliances, bringing together ICS-VCSE Alliance leaders to form an independent group - Alliance42. NAVCA acts



as the secretariat for this group, helping to build relationships and connections to enable stronger collective advocacy and collaboration.

We're a small team with strong connections, which means we can act quickly in emergencies and share information fast. As the racist riots unfolded in the July and August 2024, we brought members together to share their experiences supporting rapid response at a local level. We gathered information from members to share with Government both before and after the riots, enhancing understanding of what happened, including the catalysts and drivers, to inform the wider statutory response.

We continue to play a role in national partnerships, amplifying the voice of the local voluntary sector and communities. We co-chair the VCS Emergencies Partnership, which has been working with Government on a whole society approach to resilience, drawing on our members' knowledge. Regular network meetings and events connect our members, community groups and specialist partners to better prepare for, respond to and learn from emergency responses.

As we change and adopt our approach to volunteering, the Vision for Volunteering sets out a shared ambition to reimagine volunteering as a vital, inclusive, and impactful force in communities across the UK. The need for a unifying Vision remains strong as the voluntary sector continues to face fragmentation — with initiatives often working in isolation, and smaller organisations struggling to make their voices heard amidst larger, better-resourced players. The Vision for Volunteering was created to shift this — building shared ownership of what volunteering should look like in the future and how we get there together. We will continue to drive from within the partnership to achieve this ambition.

Enablers

We continue to review and develop our internal systems to work to greatest effect with a small team. This year has seen new team members join and enhance our knowledge and culture as an organisation, as well as new trustees bringing fresh perspectives. As a result, we have a strong and diverse team, with leadership drawn from across the network and country.

We have invested capacity in developing our CRM to meet NAVCA's needs. We are making greater use of insights to the network, and using its capacity to work more efficiently.

Team members in 2024/25 were:

- Alex Boys [until July 2024]
- Cheng Ee Kok
- Emily Lewis
- Jill Hopkinson
- Katie Smith [from August 2024]
- Lydia Lowther
- Maddy Desforges OBE
- Rebecca Vickers
- Rich Warrington [from August 2024]
- Sam James [from May 2024]
- Yvonne Wan [until April 2024]

Trustees for the year are detailed on pages 3 to 4.

Looking ahead – 2025/26

As outlined above, we have set out a significant change programme to increase our impact with members. Our revised Theory of Change gives us a clear focus, with updated our strategic priorities:

• Advocacy for system change - policy making better reflects the needs and priorities of communities (place, religion, national)

• Networks, connections and influencing - LIOs are better connected, learning together

• Tools, resources and information - there is high quality infrastructure support in every locality

•Equity, equality, diversity and inclusion - LIOs drive equity, meeting the needs of diverse communities.

On each of these we have a set of priorities and deliverables for the year as shown below. We will continue to adapt and shift our focus as needed to be both responsive and proactive in our support.

Advocacy for system change

• Co-chair the VCS Emergencies Partnership – provide strategic leadership and guidance; secure greater presence on Local Resilience Forum (LRFs) and embed local VCS in emergency response and learning.

• Be a core partner on the Vision for Volunteering – engage NAVCA members especially those doing volunteering strategy development and steer work around data and data standards.

• Identify and use opportunities to influence Government and position the importance of LIOs to deliver change – particularly through consultation responses and pro-active influence.

• Ensure members have up to date, relevant and actionable information, particularly on local government reform and devolution.

• Support health and health systems work – through the development of VCSE system level alliances to convene and exert influence; as well as influence nationally to create space for those alliances to flourish.

Equity, equality, diversity and inclusion

• Develop and work with an EEDI steering group to challenge and critique our work.

• Develop, implement, and review the Allyship programme, with the initial cohort launched in January 2025. The programme will be evaluated and updated for a second cohort during the year. Develop, implement and review an EEDI audit toolkit to be launched during the year.

•Make 'inclusive volunteering' the focus of activity around volunteering, including a short campaign for Volunteers Week.

Networks, connections, and influencing

• Develop our existing standing networks to bring members together and connect between meetings.

• Test and learn approaches to 'ad hoc' network meetings.

• Develop discussion forums to be more integrated and effective.

• Hold our annual conference, focused on "the power of local infrastructure".

Tools, resources and information

• Continue to offer the LIQA (Local Infrastructure Quality Accreditation) and VCQA (Volunteer Centre Quality Accreditation), review their effectiveness and develop a light touch process.

• Offer traded training, with short courses tailored to the needs of LIOs.

• Run the Cadent Centre for Warmth programme, distributing funding to members delivering support to local community organisations offering information and resources.

• Enable the delivery of state of the sector surveys by members that meet the needs of funders, partners and stakeholders.

Theory of Change

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Impact

More resilient, inclusive and connected communities and a thriving VCSE sector in every place

High-level outcomes

- LIOs are better connected, learning together
- High quality infrastructure support in every locality
- LIOs drive equity, meeting the needs of diverse communities
- Policy making better reflects the needs and priorities of communities (place, religion, national)

Intermediate outcomes

- Members collaborate to solve problems
- Enhanced mutual support at all levels
- Lived experience influences policy
- Evidence base better reflects VCSE assets
- Negative spirals in LIOs stopped
- Accelerated EEDI development
- Improved multi-way knowledge exchange

Activities

- Reshape networks, connections and influencing
- Review and adapt tools, resources and information
- Enhance EEDI programme
- Advocacy for system change from members and NAVCA

Our Trustee Board

NAVCA is managed by a Trustee Board comprising up to thirteen trustees. Nine must be elected by NAVCA members, and a further four can be appointed/co-opted by the trustees. Trustees are appointed for a three-year term and can serve no more than six consecutive years as a trustee. The Chair is appointed by trustees and again must serve no more than six consecutive years.

In 2024/25, our Chair was Sandra Meadows MBE, Vice Chairs were Kerrie Fletcher, Stephen Craker (until November 2024) and Jess Sumner (from December 2024). Lisa Healings was Treasurer.

The Board is served by three standing subcommittees. Two Vice Chairs support the Chair and chair these subcommittees - Finance, Audit and Risk (chaired by Kerrie Fletcher) which meets quarterly; HR (chaired by Jess Sumner) which meets 6 monthly, and Succession Planning (also chaired by Jess Sumner), which meets 6 monthly. In addition, the Board establishes working groups on specific topics, chaired by a trustee, to undertake tasks delegated to them by the Board, and advise the Board on policy and strategy.

New trustees are provided with induction, ongoing support and development to help them fulfil their role. Details of trustees who have served during the year are set out on pages 3 to 4.

All trustees give their time freely and no trustee was paid for their role as trustee during the year. Details of trustee expenses and related party transactions are disclosed in notes 20 and 21 of the accounts.

Trustees are required to disclose all relevant interests and register them with the company secretary and, in accordance with the organisation's Memorandum and Articles, withdraw from decisions where a conflict of interest arises.

Internal control and risk management

The trustees examine the major risks faced by the charity, in relation to external factors and relationships, its governance and management, its internal operations and its business. The management of risk is reviewed by the senior management team and the Trustee Board.

The principal risks and their mitigations are:

• **Governance** – sufficient breadth and depth of experience among trustees to ensure the capacity and insight is brought to bear to successfully oversee and steer the organisation. We have reviewed the diversity of trustees to ensure a range of backgrounds and perspectives inform decision making and governance, and recruited new trustees to ensure we have a skilled, dynamic and engaged Board.

• **Quality** - ensuring consistent quality infrastructure support is available across England. Our development programme builds on work to develop the four functions of infrastructure and increase uptake of the Local Infrastructure Quality Accreditation.

• **Funding** - the funding environment remains tight. We continue to work to secure long term funding for our core activities, building from a foundation of setting out the critical role local infrastructure plays, the importance of good quality support across England, and NAVCA's role to develop and enable that. The board have agreed a refreshed income generation strategy to guide our approach.

The trustees keep the systems of internal financial control under review. Systems have been designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance against material misstatement or loss. They include:

• a 5-year strategic and one year business plan supported by an annual budget approved by the trustees;

• regular consideration by the trustees of financial results, variance from budgets and performance against the non-financial annual plan;

• clear delegation of authority and separation of duties.

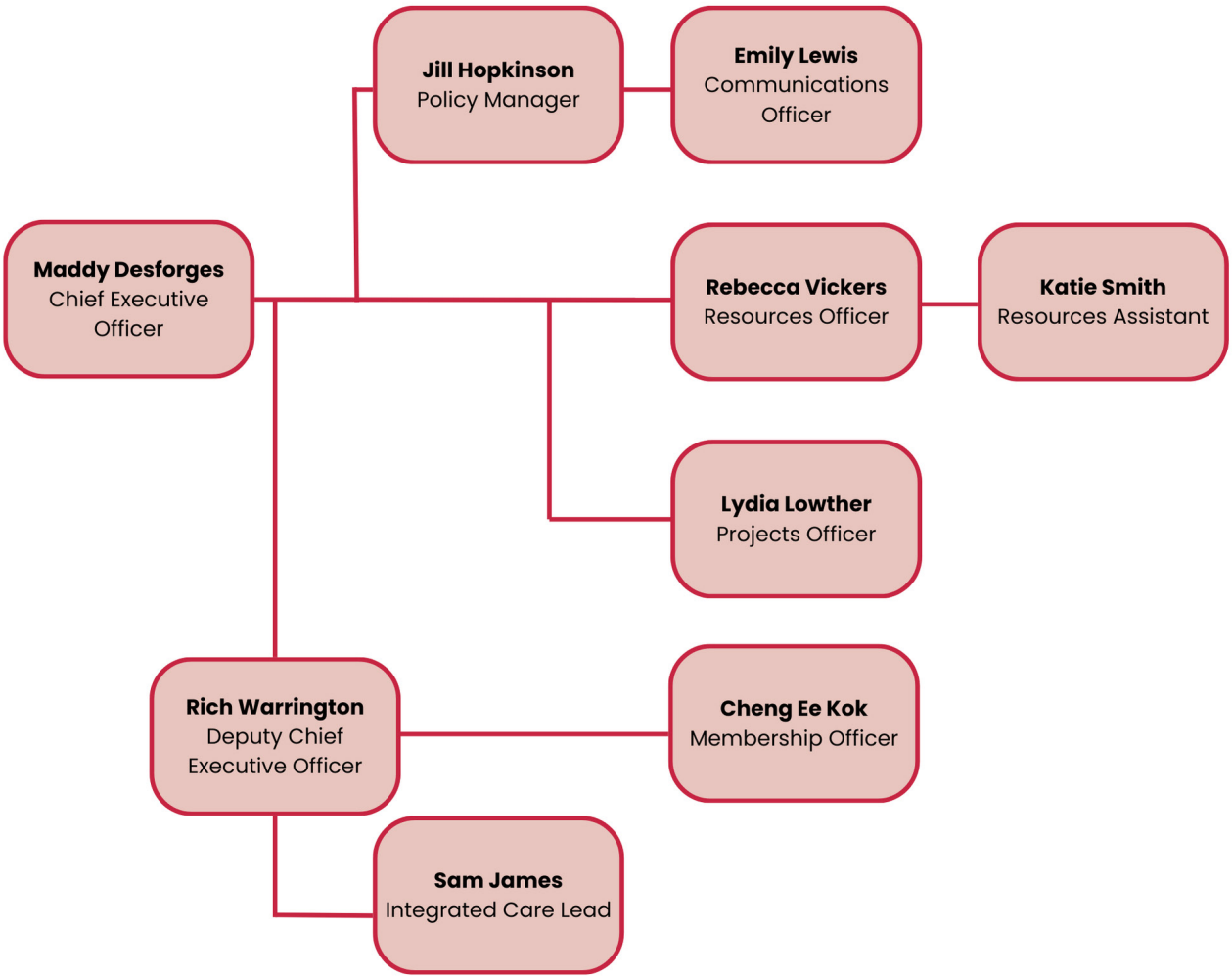
The internal financial controls conform to guidelines issued by the Charity Commission.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The setting of pay and remuneration for all members of staff is reserved to the Board in NAVCA's scheme of delegation, with salaries approved annually as part of the budget setting process.

Our staffing structure

As of 31 March 2025, our organisation structure was:



Fundraising standards information

NAVCA does not carry out fundraising activities from the public. Funds come from grants, contracts and commercial income including membership fees.

Finance

The results for the year are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities. We started the year with a proposed deficit budget, relying on using reserves while we worked through the development programme to review our positioning and offer, and the change programme to implement the approach. As in previous years, we secured significant unplanned resource during the year. The budget was not revised, and both Board and Finance, Audit and Risk Committee were kept fully informed throughout to enable robust and accurate decision making.

Of particular note this year was the fact that the economic environment remained tight during this year, from the calling of the General Election in May 2024 through to the end of the financial year, as Government reset its priorities and planned how to tackle the significant public finance deficit.

Reserves policy

NAVCA's reserves policy is to retain sufficient funds to cover closure liabilities, including 3 months to cover operating costs enabling orderly closure. We estimate between £55,000 and £174,000 is required to cover these costs.

In addition, we retain up to £80,000 for specific business development and income fluctuation. This comprises £20,000 to £40,000 of reserves to cover fluctuations in income; and £30,000 to £40,000 to allow for investment in business development as required. Designated funds have been created to ensure that funds are ringfenced to cover these reserve requirements. The amount of the designation has been calculated to be the mid-point of the required range.

We therefore expect to hold between £105,000 and £254,000 in reserves. This offers a balance between being prudent and realistic, ensuring the charity makes best use of its resources. For operating purposes, we will take a mid-point of £170,000.

The calculated level of free reserves at 31 March 2025 was (£49,574) (2024: £22, 685) comprising total unrestricted funds of £387,028 (2024: £458, 500) less the Fixed Asset Investments of £266,602 (2024: £256, 315) and designated funds of £170,000 (2024 £179, 500) (Note 17). Trustees have developed an income strategy to address this deficit.

Restricted funds

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with the specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised for particular purposes. Where projects are complete, any unspent funds are carried forward to be used for the same purpose or returned to the funder if required.

The charity had restricted funds totaling £19,671 at the balance sheet date which are detailed in note 17.

Investment powers and policy

In accordance with the powers granted under its Memorandum and Articles of Association, the charity is authorised to make investments as deemed appropriate by the trustees. The trustees have appointed Rathbones (incorporating Investec Wealth & Investment) to manage the charity's investment portfolio. Their mandate is to adopt a prudent strategy that balances risk and return, aligned with a medium-term investment horizon of up to five years.

The investment portfolio may include a diversified range of asset classes, including but not limited to fixed income securities, UK and international equities, property, and alternative investments. The trustees regularly review the performance and suitability of the investment strategy to ensure it remains consistent with the charity's objectives and financial needs.

At the end of 2024/25 the amount the charity had invested stood at a market value of £266,602 (2024: £256,315)

Bank interest receivable during the year amounted to £5,894 (2024: £5,148).

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure are sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

Highlights

We asked the NAVCA staff and trustee team to share some of their personal highlights of the year. Here's what they said!

"It's my first year at NAVCA and there has been a lot to get on top of. My favourite moment of the year has been getting to know each Alliance, how their systems work, and discovering the incredible work they're doing. It's been both challenging and rewarding to support Alliance42 as secretariat, helping it grow into an independent, peer-led collective. I'm looking forward to continuing that work with the leadership in 2025/26.

Sam James, Integrated Care Lead"

"I joined NAVCA in July 2024 and the first thing I did was attend the Development Programme Away Day with members. Spending a day with LIO experts working through what they need from NAVCA was incredibly inspiring; I knew I'd come to the right organisation straight away.

Rich Warrington, Deputy CEO"

"My highlight has been counting the 17 members who were awarded the LIQA in 2024-25, and receiving feedback on how accreditation and the LIQA framework have helped bring them closer to their goals."

Cheng Ee Kok, Membership Officer

"It's a privilege to support the small but perfectly formed NAVCA team in highlighting the crucial role of local infrastructure organisations at a national level."

Christine Blythe, trustee and NAVCA member



"I loved welcoming the first cohort of Allyship Champions from NAVCA member organisations and sharing their commitment for creating meaningful change, ensuring that allyship is at the heart of our network.

Beck Vickers, Resources Officer"

National Association for Voluntary and Community Action – Trustees' Report

Small companies provision statement

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

Statement of Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of National Association for Voluntary and Community Action for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland". The report and accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

• select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;

• observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;

• make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

• state whether applicable UK accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and

• prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that can disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 16th September 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Sandra Meadows MBE, FRSA

Chair, on behalf of the Board

Independent Examiner's Report

Independent Examiner's Report to the Members of National Association for Voluntary and Community Action.

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of National Association for Voluntary and Community Action (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2025.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My examination has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for my examination, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or

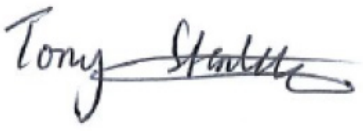
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or

4. the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Tony Stanley ACA
Mitchell Charlesworth
14th Floor
The Plaza
100 Old Hall St
Liverpool
L3 9QJ



Dated: 2nd October 2025

Statement of Financial Activities

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	2	31,495	-	31,495
Charitable activities	3	187,996	657,292	845,288
Investment income	4	12,914	-	12,914
Total Income		232,405	657,292	889,697
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	5	(2,524)	-	(2,524)
Charitable activities	6	(307,144)	(504,792)	(811,936)
Total Expenditure		(309,668)	(504,792)	(814,460)
Gains/losses on investment assets		5,791	-	5,791
Net (expenditure)/income		(71,472)	152,500	81,028
Net movement in funds		(71,472)	152,500	81,028
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		458,500	19,671	478,171
Total funds carried forward	17	387,028	172,171	559,199

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above period.

The funds breakdown for the period is shown in note 17.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

The notes on pages 29 to 44 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	2	40,562	-	40,562
Charitable activities	3	279,708	104,206	383,914
Investment income	4	12,351	-	12,351
Total income		332,621	104,206	436,827
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	5	(2,344)	-	(2,344)
Charitable activities	6	(391,095)	(326,914)	(718,009)
Total expenditure		(393,439)	(326,914)	(720,353)
Gains/losses on investment assets		6,450	-	6,450
Net expenditure		(54,368)	(222,708)	(277,076)
Net movement in funds		(54,368)	(222,708)	(277,076)
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		512,868	242,379	755,247
Total funds carried forward	17	458,500	19,671	478,171

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above period.

The funds breakdown for the period is shown in note 17.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

The notes on pages 29 to 44 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Investments	10	266,602	256,315
Current assets			
Debtors	11	17,730	9,835
Cash at bank and in hand	12	349,056	308,390
Total		366,786	318,225
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	13	(74,189)	(96,369)
Net current assets		292,597	221,856
Net assets		559,199	478,171
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds			
Restricted funds	17	172,171	19,671
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		387,028	458,500
Total funds	17	559,199	478,171

For the financial year ending 31 March 2025, the charity was entitled to exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

• The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
• The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006. The notes on pages form an integral part of these financial statements.

The financial statements on pages 29 to 44 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 16th September 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



Lisa Healings, Treasurer

Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash income/(expenditure)		81,028	(277,076)
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items			
Investment income	4	(12,914)	(12,351)
		68,114	(289,427)
Working capital adjustments			
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	11	(7,895)	108,740
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	13	7,175	(14,192)
Decrease in deferred income	13	(29,355)	(42,938)
Net cash flows from operating activities		38,039	(237,817)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest receivable and similar income	4	5,894	5,148
Purchase of investments	10	(53,886)	(88,964)
Sale of investments		40,122	74,261
Income from dividends	4	7,020	7,203
Net cash flows from investing activities		(850)	(2,352)
Cash flows from financing activities			
(Gains)/losses on revaluation of fixed assets for charity's own use		3,477	3,393
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		40,666	(236,776)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April		308,390	545,166
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March		349,056	308,390
Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net funds			
Increase/(decrease) in cash		40,666	(236,776)
Net funds at 1 April 2024		308,390	545,166
Net funds at 31 March 2025		349,056	308,390

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the two above periods.

The notes on pages 29 to 44 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

1. Accounting policies

National Association for Voluntary and Community Action is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is The Circle, 33 Rockingham Lane, Sheffield, South Yorkshire, S1 4FW.

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's memorandum and articles and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

National Association for Voluntary and Community Action meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

Income and endowments

Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Deferred income

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which, it has been received. Such income is only deferred when:

- The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or
- The donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

Investment income

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank. Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate

similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Raising funds

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, the management of investments and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and impairment losses. All fixed assets valued at £2,000 or more are capitalised at cost.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Furniture & equipment	20% straight line
Computer equipment	33% straight line

Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments, other than programme related investments, are included at market value at the balance sheet date. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their market value at the start of the year, or their subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market values during the year and are credited or charged to the Statement of Financial Activities based on the market value at the year end.

Trade and other debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised

cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Trade and other creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those grants for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Pensions and other post retirement obligations

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the charity has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions even if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when they are due. If contribution payments exceed the contribution due for service, the excess is recognised as a prepayment.

Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make estimates, assumptions and judgements about the carrying value of assets and liabilities which may not be readily apparent from other sources.

The estimates and assumptions are based partly on historical experience while judgement incorporates less empirical factors considered to be relevant such as the current and potential future economic and political environment and the exercise of suitably cautious prudence.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is amended where the change affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the change affects both current and future periods.

The estimates, assumptions and judgements which have the potential to affect a material adjustment to the carrying value of assets and liabilities are as follows:

Deferred Income

Income is deferred to future periods where the funding agreements stipulate the time period for which the funding is provided.

2. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £
Grants, including capital grants;		
Government grants	-	-
Grants from other charities	31,495	31,495
Total	31,495	31,495

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £
Grants, including capital grants;		
Government grants	29,257	29,257
Grants from other charities	11,305	11,305
Total	40,562	40,562

Government Grants

The following grants were received during the year:

National Lottery Community Fund £151,042 (2024 £22,998) - to fund a development programme in respect of member support.
NCVO on behalf of the Department for Culture, Media and Sport £nil (2024 £10,305) - to support volunteering activity and communications around national volunteering schemes.
VCSEP - with British Red Cross £nil (2024: £18,000) to fulfil the chair and leadership role, working through a secretariat team.
There were no unfulfilled conditions in respect of these grants at the year end.
No other forms of government assistance have been received by the charity.

3. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £
Grant & project income	-	637,292	637,292
Membership	94,128	-	94,128
Contracts	10,555	7,500	18,055
Quality Accreditation	45,275	-	45,275
Events	22,841	-	22,841
Other income	778	12,500	13,278
Sponsorship	10,650	-	10,650
Advertising income	1,537	-	1,537
Training & events	2,232	-	2,232
Total income	187,996	657,292	845,288

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Grant & project income	-	99,206	99,206
Membership	87,157	-	87,157
Contracts	123,750	-	123,750
Quality Accreditation	57,797	-	57,797
Events	1,953	-	1,953
Other income	2,988	-	2,988
Sponsorship	5,000	5,000	10,000
Advertising income	1,063	-	1,063
Total income	279,708	104,206	383,914

4. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £
Income from dividends; Dividends receivable from other listed investments	7,020	7,020
Interest receivable and similar income; Interest receivable on bank deposits	5,894	5,894
Total	12,914	12,914

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £
Income from dividends; Dividends receivable from other listed investments	7,203	7,203
Interest receivable and similar income; Interest receivable on bank deposits	5,148	5,148
Total	12,351	12,351

5. Expenditure on raising funds

a) Investment management costs

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £
Other investment management costs; Amounts payable to investment managers	2,524	2,524
Total	2,524	2,524

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £
Other investment management costs; Amounts payable to investment managers	2,344	2,344
Total	2,344	2,344

6. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Activity undertaken directly £	Grant funding of activity £	Activity support costs £	2025 £
Grant and project expenses	134,758	-	379,416	514,174
Member support	-	-	95,296	95,296
Grants distributed	-	125,375	-	125,375
Contract expenses	51,343	-	25,748	77,091
Total	186,101	125,375	500,460	811,936

	Activity undertaken directly £	Grant funding of activity £	Activity support costs £	2024 £
Grant and project expenses	212,539	-	116,513	329,052
Member support	-	-	125,267	125,267
Grants distributed	-	210,411	-	210,411
Contract expenses	22,238	-	31,041	53,279
Total	234,777	210,411	272,821	718,009

7. Analysis of governance and support costs

Support costs allocated to charitable activities

	Basis of allocation	Finance costs £	Information technology £	Staff costs £	Premises costs including depreciation £	Other support costs £	Total 2025 £
Grants and project expenses	Expenditure	-	-	163,852	-	215,564	379,416
Member support	Expenditure	679	41,763	-	6,555	46,299	95,296
Contract expenses	Expenditure	-	-	23,254	-	2,494	25,748
Total		679	41,763	187,106	6,555	264,357	500,460

	Basis of allocation	Finance costs £	Information technology £	Staff costs £	Premises costs including depreciation £	Other support costs £	Total 2024 £
Grants and project expenses	Expenditure	-	-	59,614	-	56,899	116,513
Member support	Expenditure	944	26,068	-	6,453	91,802	125,267
Contract expenses	Expenditure	-	-	26,591	-	4,450	31,041
Total		944	86,205	86,205	6,453	153,151	272,821

8. Grant-making

Analysis of grants

Analysis	Grants to institutions 2025 £	Grants to institutions 2024 £
Ukraine		210,411
Warm Centres (Cadent)	125,375	
Total	125,375	210,411

The support costs associated with grant-making are £nil (2024 = £nil).

No individual grants made to insitutions during the year are material.

Governance costs

		Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Independent Examination and accountacy fees			
IE and accounts preparation	8,000	8,000	10,000
Trustees remuneration and expenses	1,578	1,578	2,544
Total	9,578	9,578	12,544

9. Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs during the year were as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	313,989	275,498
Social security costs	27,602	23,178
Pension costs	25,124	53,110
Total	366,715	351,786

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management team) employed by the charity during the year was as follows:

	2025 No.	2024 No.
Average number of employees	9	8

9 (2024 - 8) of the above employees participated in the Defined Contribution Pension Schemes.

Contributions to the employee pension schemes for the year totalled £25,124 (2024 - £53,110).

The previous year charge includes £31,501 in relation to the crystallised liability arising on the withdrawal from the defined benefit pension scheme.

The number of employees whose emoluments fell within the following bands was:

	2025 No.	2024 No.
£70,001 - £80,000	1	1

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £138,882 (2024 - £132,863).

10. Fixed asset investments

	2025 £	2024 £
Other investments	266,602	256,315

Other investments

	Listed investments £	Total £
Cost or Valuation		
At 1 April 2024	256,315	256,315
Revaluation	(3,477)	(3,477)
Additions	53,886	53,886
Disposals	(40,122)	(40,122)
At 31 March 2025	266,602	266,602
Net book value		
At 31 March 2025	266,602	266,602
At 31 March 2024	256,315	256,315

11. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	16,650	8,172
Prepayments	1,080	1,663
Total	17,730	9,835

12. Cash and cash equivalents

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash at bank	349,056	308,390

13. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	-	629
Other taxation and social security	18,012	24,395
Other creditors	4,394	2,019
Accruals	21,812	10,000
Deferred income	29,971	59,326
Total	74,189	96,369

14. Obligations under leases and hire purchase contracts

Operating lease commitments

Total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Land and buildings		
Within one year	1,878	1,878

15. Pension and other schemes

Defined benefit pension schemes

During the period the charity withdrew from its defined benefit pension scheme paying the sum of £36,239 to cover the crystalised liability on withdrawal (excluding fees).

16. Charity status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £5 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

17. Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
Unrestricted funds						
General						
General funds	279,000	232,405	(309,668)	9,500	5,791	217,028
Designated						
Closure and development provision	179,500	-	-	(9,500)	-	170,000
Total unrestricted funds	458,500	232,405	(309,668)	-	5,791	387,028
Restricted funds						
Assura	15,000	56,250	(71,250)	-	-	-
DCMS EP Phase III	4,671	-	-	-	-	4,671
TNLCF Development	-	151,042	(151,042)	-	-	-
Section 114	-	20,000	(20,000)	-	-	-
Warm Centres (Cadent)	-	402,500	(252,500)	-	-	150,000
Gloucester ICB	-	20,000	(2,500)	-	-	17,500
NHS SW Network	-	7,500	(7,500)	-	-	-
Total restricted funds	19,671	657,292	(504,792)	-	-	172,171
Total funds	478,171	889,697	(814,460)	-	5,791	559,199

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds						
General						
General funds	285,868	332,621	(393,439)	47,500	6,450	279,000
Designated						
Closure and development provision	227,000	-	-	(47,500)	-	179,500
Total unrestricted funds	512,868	332,621	(393,439)	-	6,450	458,500
Restricted funds						
Assura	-	70,000	(55,000)	-	-	15,000
Ukraine	220,410	-	(220,410)	-	-	-
DCMS EP Phase III	4,671	-	-	-	-	4,671
Social Prescribing	17,298	1,208	(18,506)	-	-	-
TNCLF Development	-	32,998	(32,998)	-	-	-
Total restricted funds	242,379	104,206	(326,914)	-	-	19,671
Total funds	755,247	436,827	(720,353)	-	6,450	478,171

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

Section 114 – to develop guidance and a policy document to support local voluntary sector and local authorities to respond to reductions in local government funding.

Warm Centres (Cadent) – This project offers community organisations support to work together to support people locally to access advice, training and resources to cope with rising energy costs.

Gloucester ICB – to support work with Gloucester ICS to develop an approach to working well with the voluntary sector.

SW NHS Network – to bring together VCSE Alliances in the South West region to share information and work together.

Ukraine Support Fund – recognising the need for strong support for Ukrainian arrivals in communities, the British Red Cross funded strong infrastructure support through NAVCA and its members.

DCMS EP Phase III - NAVCA worked with the British Red Cross to deliver the programme 'VCS Emergencies Partnership coordination of the voluntary sector's Covid-19 response' which is funded by the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport.

Assura - funding from Assura to offer peer support and develop good practice in VCS engagement with Integrated Care Systems.

TNLCF Development - a project for NAVCA to review and develop our offer to members, maximising theimpact of the network. Members have been at the heart of the approach to focus on the outcomes they want from NAVCA and develop the support, services and activities which achieve these.

Social prescribing - NAVCA has partnerned with the National Academy for Social Prescribing to support increased co-design/production of social prescribing infrastructure through greater engagement with local VCS infrastructure organisations at a local, regional and national level.

Designated funds

The closure and development fund is a designated fund to provide future business development and in the worst case cover the potential organisation.

18. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted	Unrestricted		
	General £	Designated £	Restricted £	2025 Total Funds £
Fixed asset investments	96,602	170,000	-	266,602
Current assets	194,615	-	172,171	366,786
Current liabilities	(74,189)	-	-	(74,189)
Total net assets	217,028	170,000	172,171	559,199

	Unrestricted	Unrestricted		
	General £	Designated £	Restricted £	2024 Total Funds £
Fixed asset investments	76,815	179,500	-	256,315
Current assets	298,554	-	19,671	318,225
Current liabilities	(96,369)	-	-	(96,369)
Total net assets	279,000	179,500	19,671	478,171

19. Financial instruments

Categorisation of financial instruments

	2025 £	2024 £
Financial assets that are debt instruments measured at amortised cost	365,706	316,562
Financial assets that are equity instruments measured at cost less impairment	266,602	256,315
Total	632,308	572,877
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	21,812	10,629

20. Trustees remuneration and expenses

During the year the charity made the following transactions with trustees:

Kerrie Fletcher

Kerrie Fletcher received remuneration of £2,700 (2024: £1,450) during the year.

Remuneration set out above and noted within note 21 were through an arm's length contract to deliver quality assurance services as permitted by clause 12(5)b of The Articles of Association of the organisation.

During the period 5 (2024: 8) Trustees claimed expenses totalling £1,885 (2024: £8,853) primarily for travel costs.

21. Related party transactions

During the year the charity made the following related party transactions:

VAST

(Lisa Healings is the CEO of VAST)

VAST received funding from NAVCA in the period for Warm Centres £12,500 (2024: £nil) and Ukraine £nil (2024: £16,800), and £250 (2024: £nil) for Events and Conferences. VAST was also paid £1,500 (2024: £225) for Quality Assessment work. At the balance sheet date the amount due to/from VAST was £nil (2024 - £nil).

Communities 1st

(Stephen Craker is the CEO of Communities 1st)

During the period Communities 1st received funding of £nil (2024: £5,000) for Ukraine, and £1,200 (2024: £nil) for Quality Assessment work. At the balance sheet date the amount due to/from Communities 1st was £nil (2024 - £nil).

Brighton & Hove Community Works

(Jessica Sumner is CEO of Brighton & Hove Community Works)

Brighton & Hove Community Works received £250 (2024: £nil) for Events and Conferences. At the balance sheet date the amount due to/from Brighton & Hove Community Works was £nil (2024 - £nil).

Community Action Suffolk

(Hannah Reid is CEO of Community Action Suffolk)

Community Action Suffolk received grant funding for Warm Centres of £12,500 (2024: £nil), and £250 (2024:£nil) for Events and Conferences. At the balance sheet date the amount due to/from Community Action Suffolk was £nil (2024 - £nil).

Action Hampshire

(Kishor Patel is a Community Projects Officer with Action Hampshire)

Action Hampshire received £250 (2024: £nil) for Events and Conferences. At the balance sheet date the amount due to/from Action Hampshire was £nil (2024 - £nil).

Cambridge CVS

(Sally Page is Deputy CEO of Cambridge CVS)

Cambridge CVS received funding of £25,375 (2024: £nil) for Warm Centres. At the balance sheet date the amount due to/from Cambridge CVS was £nil (2024 - £nil).

Voluntary Sector North West

(Garth Hodgkinson is a Trustee of Voluntary Sector North West)

Voluntary Sector North West received £727.27 (2024: £nil) for Assura task and finish group work. At the balance sheet date the amount due to/from Voluntary Sector North West was £nil (2024 - £nil).

Local VCS infrastructure organisations

For thriving communities, where people can take action on the things which matter to them.

navca



Leadership and advocacy

Mobilising and encouraging community action, strengthening our sector's voice and influence on key decision-makers and funders.

Partnerships and collaborations

Creating opportunities and driving effective joint working by building networks of local organisations and strategic partners.





Capacity building

Providing practical support and development for local people and organisations, to nurture skills and build community resilience.

Volunteering

Building an environment in which volunteers and their communities thrive, by encouraging and nurturing volunteering opportunities.



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National Association for Voluntary and Community Action

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Company registration number: 02575206 | Charity registration number: 1001635

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY ACTION

England & Wales - Charity number 1001635

Accounts

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National Association for Voluntary and Community Action

Annual Report 2023/24

(A company limited by guarantee)
Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Company registration number: 02575206
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Legal and administrative details

The trustees of the charity during the year were as follows:

Name	Roles/committee membership	Date elected/re-elected/ appointed	Date of leaving
Sandra Meadows MBE	Chair Finance, Audit & Risk Committee Succession Planning Group	Appointed Chair July 2023	
Judy Robinson	Chair Finance, Audit & Risk Committee Succession Planning Group	Appointed Chair January 2020	End of trusteeship July 2023
Julie Farrow	Vice-chair until November 2022 Chair HR committee until January 2023 Succession Planning Task & Finish Group Appointed as Board advisor in November 2022	December 2019	Resigned as trustee in December 2022 and appointed and appointed as Board Advisor from April 2023 until November 2024
Stephen Craker	Vice-Chair from November 2022 Chair HR Committee from January 2023 Finance, Audit & Risk Committee	November 2018	
Kerrie Fletcher	Vice-Chair from October 2022 Chair Finance, Audit & Risk Committee Appointed as co-opted member November 2022	November 2019	
Alison Semmence	HR committee Succession Planning Task & Finish Group	December 2020	End of service November 2023
Angela White (Carter) OBE	HR committee Finance, Audit & Risk Committee Succession Planning Group	November 2019	

Name	Roles/committee membership	Date elected/re-elected/ appointed	Date of leaving
Clive Clarke	Co-opted	June 2021	End of trusteeship December 2023
Lisa Healings	Treasurer from November 2022 Finance, Audit & Risk Committee	November 2022	
Jess Sumner	HR Committee Succession Planning Task & Finish Group	November 2022	
Hannah Reid	HR Committee	November 2022	
Christine Blythe		November 2022	
Michelle Warburton		November 2020	End of trusteeship May 2023
Leah Campbell		November 2023	End of trusteeship May 2024
Kishor Patel		Appointed July 2024	

Company Secretary

Maddy Desforges OBE

Senior management team

Maddy Desforges OBE
Alex Boys (resigned June 2024)
Rich Warrington (appointed July 2024)

Charity Registration Number

1001635

Registered Office

The Circle
33 Rockingham Lane
Sheffield
South Yorkshire
S1 4FW

Company Registration Number

02575206

Independent Examiner

Tony Stanley ACA
BWM
Tempest Suite 5.1
12 Tithebarn Street
Liverpool
L2 2DT

Bankers

Unity Trust Bank plc
Nine Brindley Place
Birmingham
B1 2HB

Investment Managers

Investec Wealth and Investment
Beech House
61 Napier Street
Sheffield
S11 8HA

Our Funders

In 2023/24, NAVCA was grateful to receive funding from the following organisations, which enabled us to pursue our strategic objectives;

- Assura
- British Red Cross
- Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS)
- In Kind Direct
- Ladbrook Insurance
- Local Government Association
- National Cyber Security Centre
- National Voices
- National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO)
- NHS Confederation
- NHS England (NHSE)
- Spirit of 2012
- The National Lottery Community Fund
- Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Emergencies Partnership

Acknowledgements

We offer our thanks and acknowledgements to:

- NAVCA members, for their contributions to this report and to the network;
- NAVCA trustees and the NAVCA staff team;
- Our funders and project partners.



Highlights

51 events with over 800 attendees

Over 1000 downloads

of our 'Embedding VCSE in ICS' resources collection

177

people attended our Annual Conference in April 2023

We distributed

£400,000

to **36** NAVCA members for activities to support Ukrainian refugees arriving in England, which supported over **7000** people.

24 NAVCA members delivered cyber security training to 238 local VCS organisations



20 organisations achieved the VCQA

22 organisations achieved the LIQA or are going through the LIQA process

Chair's Foreword 2023/24

Sandra Meadows MBE, FRSA



Appointed as the new Chair of NAVCA in the summer of 2023, my first thoughts on writing this foreword run to the incredible tenacity and creativity of our sector and particularly local infrastructure organisations (LIOs). 2023-2024 was a time of significant pressure for the voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) in communities: the strain of Covid 19 still lingering; the cost-of-living crisis worsening and generating significant pressures on households; some local authorities declaring bankruptcy in the face of dwindling finances; and voluntary and community organisations continuing to step up to support people and communities to meet some of the most basic needs. Against this backdrop, the role of LIOs remained critical in helping to bring communities together and build partnerships that strengthened their collective impact and purpose.

This year has seen a renewed focus on the role of LIOs and the rich fabric of diverse organisations that, together, make up our national provision. Through the hard work of the team working closely with our members, there is an emerging, wider understanding of the role LIOs play at place and with communities of interest.

NAVCA's leadership role, to galvanise the sector, and be an intelligent connector and influencer working with statutory partners and other stakeholders, remained key to creating the conditions where innovation, resilience and the ability to flex and adapt could thrive. Within this, NAVCA's role to support and advocate for LIOs, to work with them to identify and harness new opportunities, and to shine a spotlight on the key work they do was more important than ever.

This year, NAVCA brought its voice to the fore to speak out about the importance of supporting cohesive communities and highlighting their role in creating an environment where all people can flourish; to clearly set out the functions of local infrastructure necessary to enable that to happen; and where we developed products and resources to share knowledge and inform our collective work.

Our work during the year included influencing and developing VCSE connection with Integrated Care Boards; working closely with NHS England and our members to fully understand the challenges and capitalise on the opportunities emerging from the wholesale reshaping of public health services; working closely with local authorities as they face ever more precarious finances and perhaps Section 114 notices; and launching the LIQA (Local Infrastructure Quality Accreditation) framework for organisations to showcase how they deliver the four functions of infrastructure to a high standard. Greater detail on the work and strategic objectives achieved during the year can be found in the 'Strategy and Delivery' section below.

As a long-time believer in the benefits of real collaboration and partnership, I was very pleased to see an increasing number of our members stepping in to lead collaborations within the VCSE and with other sectors. Here we offered a much-needed voice that constructively critiqued and challenged. NAVCA has in turn strengthened that voice nationally to support and advocate for local infrastructure, and to take its seat as an equal partner and co-chair in key projects including the Vision for Volunteering and VCS Emergencies Partnership.

Our work to encourage and enable greater diversity and inclusion within our own organisation and across the LIO sector had renewed focus, including the recruitment of new Trustees who offer new and different perspectives and developing plans to deepen our Anti-Racism work, whilst creating a broader approach to equity, equality, diversity and inclusion.

As we reflect on the year that was, we also look forward to the year to come. 2024-25 offers new opportunities, with a new administration in Whitehall and thereby opportunities to continue advocating and influencing on behalf of LIOs and to create meaningful conversations with key decision makers and a range of government departments. There is great appetite for genuine, long-term strategies across health, housing, social care, transport, education and equalities. All of this in the context of greater devolution, an appetite for partnership working and for places to be informed by strong, independent VCSE support structures.

It feels very much as though we are about to embark on a new era, with a renewed understanding of the important role of connections and relationships to enable communities to thrive. We will be working hard over the next year to ensure our communities, partners and stakeholders can draw on the assets and intelligence of the VCSE sector through LIOs, which in turn will enable a focus on holistic delivery, and those much-needed long-term solutions which help us tackle inequality and poverty.

“It feels very much as though we are about to embark on a new era, with a renewed understanding of the important role of connections and relationships.”

Throughout the coming year, NAVCA will continue to foster a strong network of high-quality support for the VCSE sector across England. We believe that is key for communities to thrive and for individuals to flourish. We look forward to continuing to work with our members to develop our approach and achieve our goal to strengthen and champion a strong, thriving and influential voluntary, community and social enterprise sector, through high quality local infrastructure organisations.

With much gratitude to our partners and funders for their continued support, to our members for their input and contribution to NAVCA, to our staff for their steadfast commitment, resourcefulness and hard work, to CEO Maddy Desforges OBE for her intelligent and dynamic leadership, and to my Board of Trustees for their generosity, collegiate approach, sound knowledge and excellent strategic vision.



Sandra Meadows MBE, FRSA

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“

“[Achieving the LIQA] enables us to share our insights and learning across the wider voluntary sector, enabling us to enhance volunteering and good practice across North Somerset and wider. Going through the accreditation process has given us the space to assess our volunteer program, identify areas for improvement, and implement changes.”

Bernie Micklewright,
Voluntary Action North Somerset

”



Trustees' Annual Report

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, are pleased to present their report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The legal and administrative information set out on pages 3, 4 and 5 forms part of this report.

The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements and the trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities FRS 102 (second edition, October 2019)" in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

Nature of governing document

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and registered charity established in January 1991. It is operated under the rules of its memorandum and articles of association dated January 1991 and most recently amended November 2023. It has no share capital and the liability of each member in the event of winding-up is limited to £5.

Objectives and activities for public benefit

The principal objects of the charity are "to promote any charitable purposes for the benefit of the public, in England, and, in particular, build the capacity of local support and development organisations and provide them with the necessary support, information and services to enable them to pursue or contribute to any charitable purpose."

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and are satisfied that the organisation's strategic framework, which provides the template for all of its work, conforms to these requirements.

Strategy and Delivery:

Vision, mission and aims – local focus, national voice

NAVCA's vision is that every local area has a thriving community and voluntary sector, and strong social action to drive justice and active citizenship. Our mission is to strengthen and champion a thriving and influential voluntary and community sector through high quality local support organisations.

Our strategic ambitions are:

• to influence change and innovation in systems and services, locally and nationally, to shape a more fair and equal future and improve people's lives;

• to bring together thinking and action to increase the impact of our network;

• to create a valued hub of knowledge which is shared widely to strengthen our action and impact;

• to ensure the NAVCA movement has the tools, resources and connections it needs.



Our outcomes, against our strategic objectives

Our strategic objectives for 2023/24 reflected the four key functions of infrastructure. This informed our work throughout the year, building on the launch of our refreshed strategy in April 2023.

In 2024, we secured funding from The National Lottery Community Fund to support our development programme. Building on the refreshed strategy, our work to develop the four functions of infrastructure and revised quality accreditations, the programme will develop how we work with members to achieve our vision. The outcomes from the project are:

• greater understanding of the internal and external conditions that need to exist for local infrastructure to thrive;

•an improved offer of support that is accessible to, and better reflects the needs of, local infrastructure organisations in England;

• a revised financial model that supports NAVCA to sustain its core support for local infrastructure;

• a plan for targeting support for local infrastructure in areas (thematic and geographic) of most need;

• a plan for collaborative working between local and national infrastructure that provides the right support at the right place, economies of scale and greater support to all Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprises (VCSEs);

• a greater understanding of NAVCA's next steps to improve its leadership in equality, equity, diversity and inclusion (EEDI), and greater commitment from members to engage in practical action.

We have worked with a wide range of members in co-design groups, as well as bringing in member perspectives and needs through other mechanisms, including our annual conference, survey, website discussion forum and individual conversations. To the end of April, over 45 individuals from 40 member organisations have been involved in codesign groups, working through challenges and designing solutions. By December 2024, we will have developed our offer to make sure we have the greatest impact to support capacity building and influence on behalf of LIOs in England. That will be developed further over the coming months and years, as we develop more products and look to secure longer term funding.

Alongside this, we continued to deliver against our strategic objectives, as set out below.

Networks and connections:

Our aim was to bring together members to share information, experience and knowledge, strengthening the network and building confidence.

NAVCA is a convenor of networks. We bring our members together to share experiences, knowledge and best practice, enabling them to draw on a bigger network to inform their work.

Our annual conference is a key point in the year to bring members together to network, share ideas and learn from one another. The 2023 conference brought together more than 175 people online in a set of talks and workshops. Building on the positive discussions and new connections of our 2023 conference, May 2024 saw the return of a face-to-face conference, bringing together over 120 delegates to discuss the future of local infrastructure. This strengthened the NAVCA network, provided learning opportunities and enabled valuable networking time.

We also regularly brought members together throughout the year to formally network around key issues. Topics included the development of Integrated Care Systems (ICS), working with the NHS, climate change, anti-racism and volunteering. Our health network is the only space specifically focused on embedding the VCSE in ICS structures. These networks are trusted spaces for people to share knowledge and leave feeling energised to drive work forward.

Groups of members in key roles also came together to share their experiences, especially where they might be the only person in their organisation fulfilling that role, for example our new CEOs network, or Barking Owl for communications workers. These networks offer invaluable support, thinking space and connections, and help members to build relationships outside of the NAVCA-convened space.

Crucially, we bring together groups of members to inform NAVCA's influencing work. The knowledge of our network is significant, and gathering the perspectives of members enables us to influence key stakeholders more effectively, particularly as issues come to the fore or are escalated. One example of a network formed this year in response to an evolving situation was around the critical issue of precarious local authority finances and the issue, or threat of, Section 114 notices. Engaging with members in a policy context helps us increase the influence of the NAVCA network, and ensures our asks reflect the reality for local communities. These networks informed our influencing work with Government, as well as enabling us to develop and share resources with members.

> "The breakout session I attended more than met my expectations - it was very interactive and gave real, practical examples I could learn from with plenty of nuanced discussion about how these ideas apply in the world of local infrastructure."

Feedback on our Annual Conference 2023



Information gathering and sharing:

Our aim was to gather and share information on behalf of the network, so members have ready access to a wide set of intelligence.

Our role is to gather information from members and share it widely across the network. We also use that information to influence nationally, and to cascade timely and relevant information to members.

We produced succinct briefings to highlight pertinent issues such as local government funding, the Budget, changes to NHS commissioning guidelines and relevant research. Our briefings enable members to be informed and up to date, to identify where they need further information or to take action, and ease the burden on scanning wider events. As well as written briefings, our regular members' briefing events are an opportunity to discuss recent activity and ensure we are focused on areas of greatest impact.

An important area of our work this year has been informing, developing and disseminating research. As part of the development programme, we are keen to have a more focused understanding of the drivers of quality and barriers to effective operating of LIOs. We have partnered with Sheffield Hallam University to carry out research into the internal and external conditions to enable effective local infrastructure services. In partnership with Sheffield Hallam University, a doctoral research student has been appointed to work on the important role of convening at place by local infrastructure organisations.

Part of our policy team's role is to develop thinking and share it with members to enhance their own work. We co-produced a Theory of Change for local infrastructure with our Local Infrastructure Research Working Group. The group has identified priority topics for further research and are working with academic partners to get this research funded and delivered. This focus on research will support members in providing high quality infrastructure services.

Volunteering is front and centre for our members, with 88% promoting or advertising volunteering opportunities (Connecting Locally). As a partner in the Vision for Volunteering, we have promoted and engaged a wide range of organisations, holding regular member meetings to explore and develop the Vision. We developed a toolkit for members to run their own Vision sessions, resulting in members leading work locally to engage their local VCSE, exploring how the volunteering environment can develop. Members have used the toolkit and Vision to develop their own local volunteering strategy. We also supported members to connect with other campaigns including Volunteers Week, the Big Help Out, and our own #VolunteerReady campaign.

We use information to influence government and other decision-makers, both reactively and proactively. Our members regularly flag issues and challenges occurring locally, that we pick up and escalate at a national level. For example, this year, we have contributed to ongoing work to identify policy that makes it difficult for VCSE organisations to open and run bank accounts, and responded to the draft Terrorism Premises Bill which could place a significant burden on small community buildings. We have responded to consultations on the Office for Local Government, advised on the implementation of the UK Subsidy Control Regime and provided extensive briefing on the cost of living crisis and local authority finances. We represent members' knowledge, experience and expertise to policy and decision makers, and ensure that issues affecting the VCSE as a whole are heard and understood by government.

We stay connected with members and wider networks through a range of communications channels. We send fortnightly newsletters to keep in touch with members, and a monthly newsletter (NAVCA Connect) for a wider audience. NAVCA Connect has prompted organisations to become members, to access the networks and information we share. Maintaining our digital presence is important in raising our profile to promote the important role of local infrastructure, and we have done this through clear and focused communications. We are also increasing our LinkedIn presence, providing another channel for communications with members and stakeholders.

We have developed and shared specific resources for members on health system transformation, developing them to meet members' needs. Our 'Embedding VCSE in ICS' resources had over 1000 downloads (between September 2023 and April 2024), as organisations across the country sought to understand and learn from others' best practice. We have also shared information on specific health issues, such as the Hewitt Review and NHS Provider Selection Regime, and gathered their views and experiences to inform our work.

We work to create stronger connections between local VCSE infrastructure organisations and all stakeholders involved in social prescribing at a national, regional, system and place level. We are working with our members to identify gaps in the social prescribing ecosystem and to offer solutions. We published the output of our partnership with NASP and Spirit of 2012, which included a Self-Assessment Development Guide for Social Prescribing Link Worker Host Organisations, and Impactful Social Prescribing materials designed to support LIO engagement with Primary Care Networks.

This year, we also produced two videos with NAVCA members Nova Wakefield District and Burnley Pendle and Rossendale CVS, demonstrating the importance of working in partnership to deliver social prescribing services locally. We interviewed members, social prescribers and Primary Care Networks about the importance of health systems working with the VCSE sector. We are continuing to build on this work and to communicate the value of partnership-working in the health space.

> "The LIQA process was so well conducted and helpful - a real opportunity to reflect and plan - brilliant work!"
>
> Chris Hailey Norris, Up for Yorkshire

Providing resources and support:

Our aim was to identify, develop and support tools and resources NAVCA members need to be effective and increase their impact.

Working with our members to provide tools and resources to enable them to increase their impact is a key part of our role, delivered across a number of different areas of LIO activity.

We are delighted to have launched a new website, which is easier to navigate and showcases our work in an accessible way, as well as creating an online hub with interactive bulletin boards and space for members to share resources. This has been a focus for the year, and we have received positive feedback about the modern and engaging look of the website. Our resource hub contains over 150 resources, and members can now browse and download relevant material.

We have enabled members to assess, develop and reflect on their work, through the LIQA (Local Infrastructure Quality Accreditation) and VCQA (Volunteer Centre Quality Accreditation). The LIQA was launched early in the year, providing a platform to promote and strengthen understanding of local infrastructure nationally, as well as enabling members to show how they meet a quality benchmark. The accreditations were developed through a co-design process with members and engagement with stakeholders, including local government and the NHS, to understand and meet their needs. We have a strong set of assessors to ensure independent peer review. Two organisations achieved the LIQA by the end of March, with a further 20 going through the process, and 20 organisations achieved the VCQA. With more members achieving the Quality Accreditations, our network is strengthened and we can confidently demonstrate the value of local infrastructure to stakeholders.

We have developed our work on the Four Functions of Infrastructure, which sets out a framework of what good local infrastructure is and demonstrates the nature of support that is needed locally. We published a guide to the Four Functions for members, with examples, case studies, and exploration of impact at place. This document has been downloaded over 250 times since it was published in February 2024. The provides a reflective framework around what LIOs do, helps members develop their work and practice, and has also given us a focused approach to content on our social media platforms and with stakeholders.

We worked in partnership with the National Cyber Security Centre to cascade cyber security training through our members to local groups. We provided materials, supported delivery and paid for activity. 24 NAVCA members delivered training to 238 local VCSE organisations, with 99% of attendees reporting that the training increased their knowledge and understanding of cyber security threats and how to both prevent and report them. 99% of attendees also stated that the session would help them and their organisation do their job better.

NAVCA members across the country have stepped up to emergencies in recent years. This year, many members were focused on supporting arrivals from the conflict in Ukraine, convening networks and assisting new groups and groups that adapted existing activity. NAVCA received funding from British Red Cross to support our members to build that capacity. We distributed £400,000 over the past 2 years to 36 NAVCA members, who used it to provide infrastructure support which benefitted over 7000 Ukrainian refugees across England. This funding enabled our members to bring groups together to share information, identify gaps and form new groups where needed, strengthening the VCSE response to the crisis.





"This is really great and given me lots of ideas for a workshop with our local climate action network - around accessible and empowering language!" (feedback on NAVCA Climate Network)



NAVCA member VAST

"All NAVCA events help me to think about the direction we are heading and give ideas for good practice from other areas." - Louise Perch, Voluntary Action Rotherham



"I've found it so useful and was pleasantly surprised by the safe space it offers to ask questions and learn from others, most of whom are experiencing the same challenges as you. I've already booked up to all the dates next year, thank you!" - Lindsey Brown, Spark Somerset (on the Barking Owl network)

Influencing system change:

Our aim was to increase the profile of local infrastructure, so that it influences local and national systems, and increases people's ability to positively influence decisions.

This year, we have strengthened our narrative and position to influence wider system change. We have shared and gathered information, convened networks of members, and developed our policy and approaches.

Notably, we held a stakeholder roundtable in May, bringing together policy makers, funders and practitioners to explore the role of LIOs and challenges they face, to identify how we can work together to ensure quality support is in place across England. The scale of challenges faced and wealth of independent corroborating evidence supporting the need for quality local infrastructure enabled an informed discussion. Commitments were made to work with NAVCA to achieve our vision, and the Lottery-funded Development Programme is one of the tangible outcomes of the roundtable.

We engage regularly with government and national bodies, including the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) and NHS England, to explore the role of local infrastructure and the impact of policies and practice on communities. We are pleased that this year DCMS have commissioned research to develop its evidence base on the positive impacts of effective local civil society infrastructure, the negative impacts of its absence, and the conditions and models for building effective local infrastructure. The project will be completed by the end of December 2024 and we look forward to understanding how its findings will shape our work and that of our members.

While some of our influencing is on specific topics leading to specific outcomes, some is regular highlighting of issues seen locally, putting a spotlight on the impact of wider policy and issues. By gathering and analysing information about precarious local authority finances, we shared information across members and importantly provided information on the reality of how funding cuts were impacting local communities, VCSE and LIOs to DLUHC and DCMS. We have started further detailed policy work with government and this work will continue through 2024/25 as the funding situation remains acute.

We continue to co-chair the VCS Emergencies Partnership (VCSEP), bringing together emergency response and community organisations to prepare for, respond to and learn from emergencies. This year, integrating the VCSE into Local Resilience Forums has been a key piece of work, as well as building on capability events and networks. Our regular VCSEP network events bring together statutory partners as well as the VCSE, increasing understanding and appreciation of the role the VCSE plays in communities. See the VCSEP impact report here.

Likewise, our role as partners in the Vision for Volunteering is focused on better understanding how the volunteer landscape is changing, steering the direction of volunteering so that everyone who wants to can volunteer, and developing approaches to meet the challenges to enable that to happen. By setting out and embedding a vision with equity, equality, diversity and inclusion at its heart, we are continuing to see positive change in views towards volunteering and the voluntary sector.



NAVCA member Community Action Suffolk

Enablers:

Whilst we are a small team, we have worked through the year to make sure the basics are right to enable us to function smoothly and efficiently.

We have worked to develop how we work as a small team through the year. Our trustees are a vibrant group, and we thank Judy Robinson for her many years supporting and guiding NAVCA as Chair. Sandra Meadows MBE joined us in the summer and has brought significant wisdom and experience to continue that guiding hand. Trustees play a key role as a sounding board, and bring deeper insights into how and where members operate.

We continue to develop our internal systems and processes to be as streamlined as possible. As well as the new website enabling us to communicate better with members, our CRM enables us to capture and use information, integrating with the website for example around booking events.

Team members in 2023/24 were:

- Alex Boys
- Maddy Desforges OBE
- Jill Hopkinson
- Cheng Ee Kok
- Emily Lewis
- Lydia Lowther
- Conor Smith
- Rebecca Vickers
- Yvonne Wan

Trustees for the year are detailed on pages 3 to 4.



Looking ahead - 2024/25:

Having launched our refreshed strategy a year ago, our mission and vision remain as above.

A significant focus for 2024/25 is our development programme, looking to develop our approach and ensure good quality infrastructure support for the VCSE across England. Our aim is to better understand the conditions where LIOs thrive, and provide the support needed to enable this. Working with Sheffield Hallam University, we are undertaking research to identify specific conditions, both internal and external, where local infrastructure thrives. This will inform the development of our offer. We are also looking at our financial model and membership structures, to meet the needs of the network and ensure NAVCA's financial sustainability. Equity, equality, diversity and inclusion run through all of that, as we look to accelerate our journey, and that of our members, through developing specific products, and ensuring that EEDI is at the heart of everything we do.

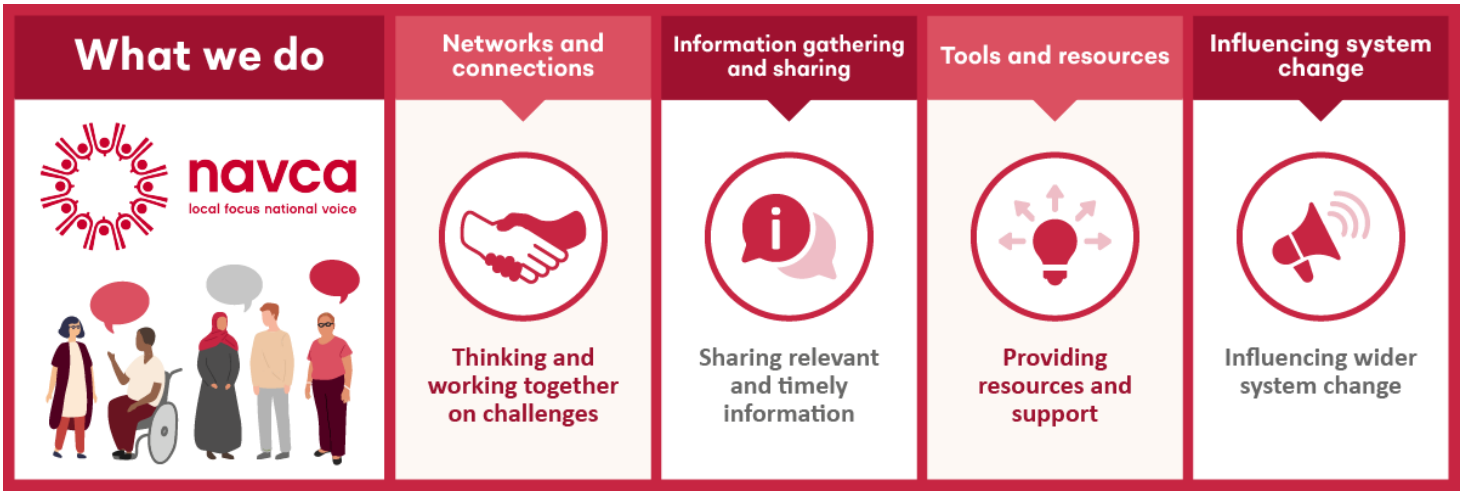
We remain focused on our 4 strategic objectives:

Thinking and working together on challenges – We will bring NAVCA members together to share expertise and experience, using the strength of the network to support each other. Our face-to-face conference is a showcase event to bring members together, to build new connections and develop existing ones.

Sharing relevant and timely information – We will resource NAVCA members through regular briefings and meetings on topical policy issues relevant to local infrastructure. We will work with partners to develop and share guidance on good partnership between local authorities, ICS structures and others to raise the profile and contribution of the VCSE at place. We will gather and promote good practice examples and guides around the four functions of infrastructure.

Providing tools and resources – Our new website is a platform for sharing information and resources with members. We will build on the foundations of Quality Accreditation and the Four Functions of Infrastructure guide to support members to offer high-quality support. We will continue to offer succinct, relevant briefings and guidance both reactively and proactively to meet need.

Leading and influencing wider system change – As co-chair of VCSEP and partner in the Vision for Volunteering, we are well placed to influence specific agendas, ensuring that local communities, social action, and the support structures to make sure they are thriving are brought to the fore of debate. We will build and use relationships with national stakeholders including the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), NHS England, Local Government Association (LGA) and others to further the role of social action and local VCSE through LIOs.



Our Trustee Board

NAVCA is managed by a Trustee Board comprising up to 13 trustees. Nine must be elected by NAVCA members, and a further four can be appointed/co-opted by the trustees. Trustees are appointed for a three-year term and can serve no more than six consecutive years as a trustee. The Chair is appointed by trustees, and again must serve no more than six consecutive years.

In 2023/24, our vice chairs were Kerrie Fletcher and Stephen Craker. Lisa Healings was Treasurer.

The Board is served by two standing sub committees. Two Vice Chairs support the Chair – Kerrie Fletcher and Stephen Craker - and chair these sub committees – Finance, Audit and Risk (chaired by Kerrie Fletcher) which meets quarterly; and HR (chaired by Stephen Craker) which meets 6 monthly. A third sub committee on succession planning is chaired by Julie Farrow. In addition, the Board establishes working groups on specific topics, chaired by a trustee, to undertake tasks delegated to them by the Board, and advise the Board on policy and strategy.

New trustees are provided with induction, ongoing support and development to help them fulfil their role. Details of trustees who have served during the year are set out on pages 3 to 4.

All trustees give their time freely and no trustee was paid for their role as trustee during the year. Details of trustee expenses and related party transactions are disclosed in notes 18 and 19 of the accounts.

Trustees are required to disclose all relevant interests and register them with the company secretary and, in accordance with the organisation's Memorandum and Articles, withdraw from decisions where a conflict of interest arises.

Internal control and risk management

The trustees examine the major risks faced by the charity, in relation to external factors and relationships, its governance and management, its internal operations and its business. The management of risk is reviewed by the senior management team and the Trustee Board.

The principal risks and their mitigations are:

• **Governance** – sufficient breadth and depth of experience among trustees to ensure the capacity and insight is brought to bear to successfully oversee and steer the organisation. We have reviewed the diversity of trustees to ensure a range of perspectives inform decision making and governance. We will continue to work on this to ensure we have a vibrant, engaged Board.

• **Quality** - ensuring consistent quality infrastructure support is available across England. Our development programme builds on work to develop the four functions of infrastructure and launch of the Local Infrastructure Quality Accreditation.

• **Funding** - the funding environment remains tight. We continue to work to secure long term funding for our core activities, building from a foundation of setting out the critical role local infrastructure plays, the importance of good quality support across England, and NAVCA's role to develop that. The board have agreed a refreshed income generation strategy to guide our approach.

The trustees keep the systems of internal financial control under review. Systems have been designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance against material misstatement or loss. They include:

• a 5-year strategic and one year business plan supported by an annual budget approved by the trustees;

• regular consideration by the trustees of financial results, variance from budgets and performance against the non-financial annual plan;

• clear delegation of authority and separation of duties.

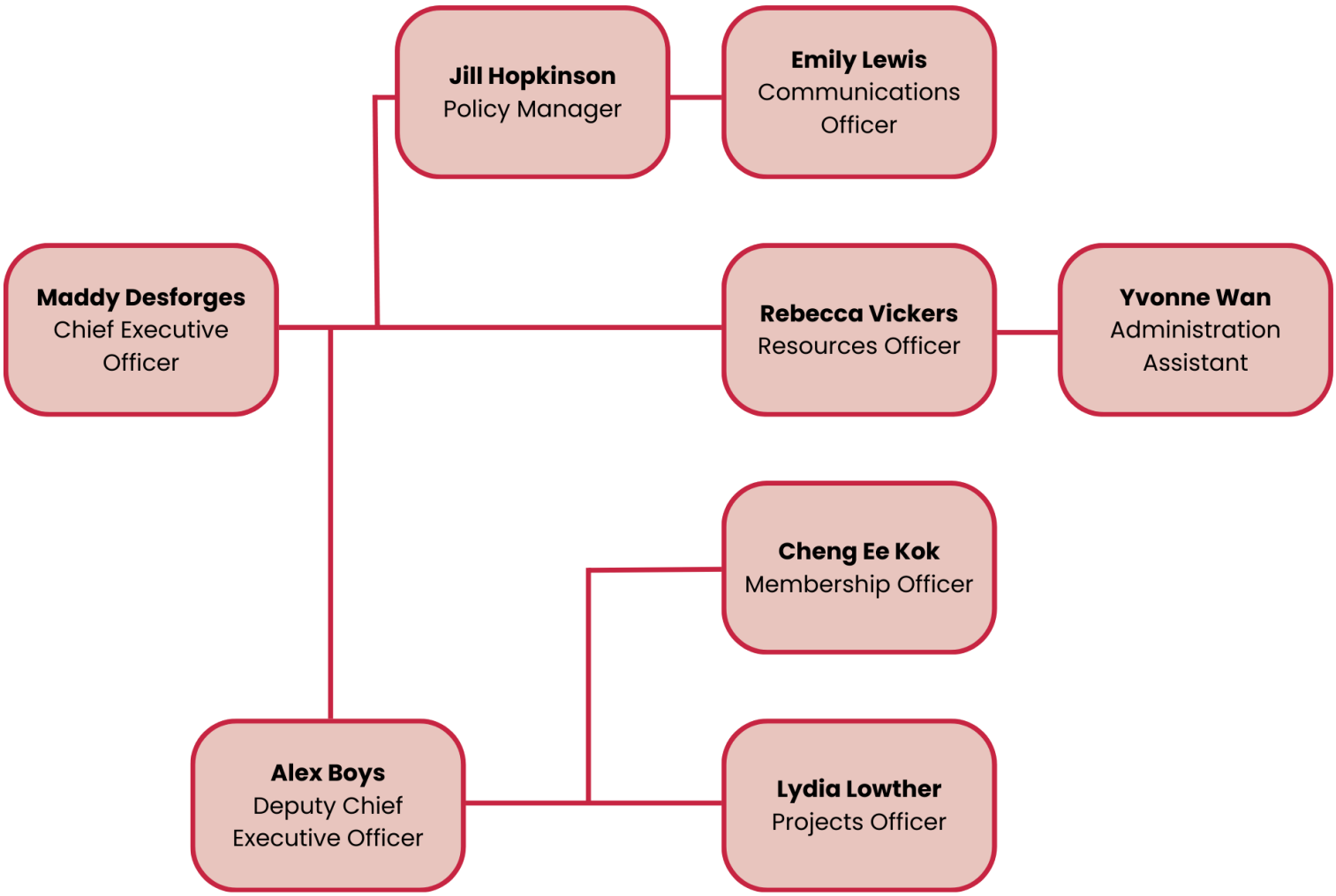
The internal financial controls conform to guidelines issued by the Charity Commission.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The setting of pay and remuneration for all members of staff is reserved to the Board in NAVCA's scheme of delegation, with salaries approved annually as part of the budget setting process.

Our staffing structure

As of 31 March 2024, our organisation structure was:



Fundraising standards information

NAVCA does not carry out fundraising activities from the public. Funds come from grants, contracts and commercial income including membership fees.

Finance

The results for the year are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities. We started the year with a proposed deficit budget, relying on using reserves while we rebuilt our approach, offer, and membership structures. As in previous years, we secured significant unplanned resource during the course of the year. The budget was not revised, but both Board and Finance, Audit and Risk Committee were kept fully up to date throughout to inform decision making.

Of note this year is buy-out of the pension liability at £40,626.90 (including fees of £4,388), with commensurate reduction in our cost of closure in the reserves policy. The end of year out turn was a net decrease in unrestricted funds of £54,368.

Reserves policy

NAVCA's reserves policy is to retain sufficient funds to cover closure liabilities, should the organisation be faced with closure, including 3 months to cover operating costs enabling orderly closure. We estimate between £55,000 and £174,000 is required to cover these costs.

In addition, we retain up to £80,000 for specific business development and income fluctuation. This comprises £20 000 to £40 000 of reserves to cover fluctuations in income; and £30 000 to £40 000 to allow for investment in business development as required. Designated funds have been created to ensure that funds are ringfenced to cover this reserves requirement. The amount of the designation has been calculated to be the mid-point of the required range.

We therefore expect to hold between £105,000 and £254,000 in reserves. This offers a balance between being prudent and realistic, ensuring the charity makes best use of its resources. For operating purposes we will take a mid-point of £179, 500.

The calculated level of free reserves at 31 March 2024 was £22,685 (2023: £40,863) comprising total unrestricted funds of £458,500 (2023: £512,868) less the Fixed Asset Investments of £256,315 (2023: £245,005) and designated funds of £179,500 (2023 £227,000) (Note 13).

Investment powers and policy

Under its Memorandum and Articles of Association, the charity has the power to make any investment that the trustees see fit. At the end of 2023/24 the amount the charity had invested stood at a market value of £256,315 (2023: £245,005)

Bank interest receivable during the year amounted to £5,148 (2023: £2344).

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure are sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

navca
local focus national voice

“

> “I just wanted to say thank you for arranging the new CEO meetings – I was really looking forward to it and found it beneficial. I’d like to add how much I admire NAVCA’s work, which I feel is elevating the role and value of infrastructure organisations.”

Feedback from a new NAVCA member CEO on our support network and influencing work.

”



National Association for Voluntary and Community Action – Trustees' Report

Small companies provision statement

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

Statement of Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of National Association for Voluntary and Community Action for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland". The report and accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

• select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;

• observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;

• make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

• state whether applicable UK accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and

• prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that can disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 05/09/24 and signed on its behalf by:



Sandra Meadows MBE, FRSA

Chair, on behalf of the Board

Independent Examiner's Report

Independent Examiner's Report to the Members of National Association for Voluntary and Community Action.

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of National Association for Voluntary and Community Action (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My examination has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for my examination, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or

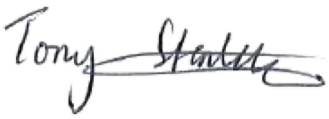
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or

4. the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Tony Stanley ACA
BWM
Tempest
Suite 5.1
12 Tithebarn Street
Liverpool
L2 2DT



Dated: 26/09/24

Statement of Financial Activities

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	2	40,562	-	40,562
Charitable activities	3	279,708	104,206	383,914
Investment income	4	12,351	-	12,351
Total Income		332,621	104,206	436,827
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	5	(2,344)	-	(2,344)
Charitable activities	6	(391,095)	(326,914)	(718,009)
Total Expenditure		(393,439)	(326,914)	(720,353)
Gains/losses on investment assets		6,450	-	6,450
Net expenditure		(54,368)	(222,708)	(277,076)
Net movement in funds		(54,368)	(222,708)	(277,076)
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		512,868	242,379	755,247
Total funds carried forward	17	458,500	19,671	478,171

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above period.

The funds breakdown for the period is shown in note 17.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

The notes on page 28 to 44 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2023 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	33,349	-	-	33,349
Charitable activities	3	173,482	1,298,718	-	1,472,200
Investment income	4	8,924	-	-	8,924
Total Income		215,755	1,298,718	-	1,514,473
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5	(2,218)			(2,218)
Charitable activities	6	(229,188)	(1,218,700)	(4,588)	(1,454,476)
Total expenditure		(231,406)	(1,218,700)	(4,588)	(1,454,694)
Gains/losses on investment assets		(23,692)			(23,692)
Net (expenditure)/income		(39,343)	80,018	(4,588)	36,087
Transfers between funds		17,665	(17,665)		-
Other recognised gains and losses					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes		(17)	-	-	(17)
Net movement in funds		(21,695)	62,353	(4,588)	36,070
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		534,563	180,026	4,588	719,177
Total funds carried forward	17	512,868	242,379	-	755,247

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above period.

The funds breakdown for the period is shown in note 17.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

The notes on pages 28 to 44 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Investments	9	256,315	245,005
Current assets			
Debtors	10	9,835	118,575
Cash at bank and in hand	11	308,390	545,166
Total		318,225	663,741
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	12	(96,369)	(147,486)
Net current assets		221,856	516,255
Total assets less current liabilities		478,171	761,260
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	13	-	(6,013)
Net assets		478,171	755,247
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds			
Restricted funds	17	19,671	242,379
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds	17	458,500	512,868
Total funds		478,171	755,247

For the financial year ending 31 March 2024, the charity was entitled to exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006. The notes on pages 28 to 44 form an integral part of these financial statements.

The financial statements on pages 25 to 44 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 05/09/24 and signed on their behalf by:



Lisa Healings, Treasurer

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1. Accounting policies

National Association for Voluntary and Community Action is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is The Circle, 33 Rockingham Lane, Sheffield, South Yorkshire, S1 4FW.

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

National Association for Voluntary and Community Action meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

Under the exemption available to smaller charities the Board of Trustees has chosen not to include a Statement of Cash Flows within the financial statements.

Income and endowments

Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Deferred income

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which, it has been received. Such income is only deferred when:

- The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or
- The donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

Investment income

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank. Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Raising funds

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, the management of investments and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and impairment losses. All fixed assets valued at £2,000 or more are capitalised at cost.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Furniture & equipment	20% straight line
Computer equipment	33% straight line

Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments, other than programme related investments, are included at market value at the balance sheet date. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their market value at the start of the year, or their subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market values during the year and are credited or charged to the Statement of Financial Activities based on the market value at the year end.

Trade and other debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised

cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Trade and other creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those grants for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Pensions and other post retirement obligations

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the charity has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions even if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when they are due. If contribution payments exceed the contribution due for service, the excess is recognised as a prepayment.

Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make estimates, assumptions and judgements about the carrying value of assets and liabilities which may not be readily apparent from other sources.

The estimates and assumptions are based partly on historical experience while judgement incorporates less empirical factors considered to be relevant such as the current and potential future economic and political environment and the exercise of suitably cautious prudence.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is amended where the change affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the change affects both current and future periods.

The estimates, assumptions and judgements which have the potential to affect a material adjustment to the carrying value of assets and liabilities are as follows:

Deferred Income

Income is deferred to future periods where the funding agreements stipulate the time period for which the funding is provided.

2. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £
Grants, including capital grants;		
Government grants	29,257	29,257
Grants from other charities	11,305	11,305
Total	40,562	40,562

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2023 £
Grants, including capital grants;		
Grants from other charities	33,349	33,349
Total	33,349	33,349

Government Grants

The following government grants were received during the year:

National Lottery Community Fund £22,998 (2023 £nil) -to fund a development programme in respect of member support.

NCVO on behalf of the Department for Media, Culture & Sport £10,305 (2023 £nil) - to support volunteering activity and communications around national volunteering schemes.

VCSEP - with British Red Cross £18,000 to fulfil the chair and leadership role, working through a secretariat team.

There were no unfulfilled conditions in respect of these grants at the year end.

No other forms of government assistance have been received by the charity.

3. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Grant and project income	-	99,206	99,206
Membership	87,157	-	87,157
Contracts	123,750	-	123,750
Quality accreditation	57,797	-	57,797
Events	1,953	-	1,953
Other income	2,988	-	2,988
Sponsorship	5,000	5,000	10,000
Advertising income	1,063		1,063
Total	279,708	104,206	383,914

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Grant and project income	-	1,298,718	1,298,718
Membership	54,909	-	54,909
Contracts	68,167	-	68,167
Quality accreditation	39,175	-	39,175
Events	10,486	-	10,486
Advertising income	745		745
Total	173,482	1,298,718	1,472,200

4. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £
Income from dividends; Dividends receivable from other listed investments	7,203	7,203
Interest receivable and similar income; Interest receivable on bank deposits	5,148	5,148
Total	12,351	12,351

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2023 £
Income from dividends; Dividends receivable from other listed investments	6,580	6,580
Interest receivable and similar income; Interest receivable on bank deposits	2,344	2,344
Total	8,924	8,924

5. Expenditure on raising funds

a) Investment management costs

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £
Other investment management costs; Amounts payable to investment managers	2,344	2,344
Total	2,344	2,344

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2023 £
Other investment management costs; Amounts payable to investment managers	2,218	2,218
Total	2,218	2,218

6. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Activity undertaken directly £	Grant funding of activity £	Activity support costs £ (note 7)	2024 £
Grant and project expenses	212,539	-	116,513	329,052
Member support	-	-	125,267	125,267
Grants distributed	-	210,411	-	210,411
Contract expenses	22,238	-	31,041	53,279
Total	234,777	210,411	272,821	718,009

	Activity undertaken directly £	Grant funding of activity £	Activity support costs £ (note 7)	2023 £
Grant and project expenses	102,218	-	284,991	387,209
Member support	48,570	-	139,772	188,342
Grants distributed	-	815,190	-	815,190
Contract expenses	18,387	-	43,348	61,735
Total	169,175	815,190	468,111	1,452,476

7. Analysis of governance and support costs

Support costs allocated to charitable activities

	Basis of allocation	Finance costs £	Information technology £	Staff costs £	Premises costs including depreciation £	Other support costs £	Total 2024 £
Member support	Expenditure	944	26,068	-	6,453	91,802	125,267
Grants and project expenses	Expenditure	-	-	59,614	-	56,899	116,513
Contract expenses	Expenditure	-	-	26,591	-	4,450	31,041
Total		944	26,068	86,205	6,453	153,151	272,821

	Basis of allocation	Finance costs £	Information technology £	Staff costs £	Premises costs including depreciation £	Other support costs £	Total 2023 £
Member support	Expenditure	1,314	12,832	-	5,848	119,778	139,772
Grants and project expenses	Expenditure	-	-	211,622	-	73,369	284,991
Contract expenses	Expenditure	-	-	30,614	-	12,734	43,348
Total		1,314	12,832	242,236	5,848	205,881	468,111

Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Audit and accountancy fees IE and accounts preparation	10,000	10,000	14,574
Trustees remuneration and expenses	2,544	2,544	3,033
Total	12,544	12,544	17,607

8. Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs during the year were as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	275,498	323,914
Social security costs	23,178	34,300
Pension costs	53,110	26,033
Total	351,786	384,247

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management team) employed by the charity during the year was as follows:

	2024 No.	2023. No
Average number of employees	8	10

8 (2023 - 10) of the above employees participated in the Defined Contribution Pension Schemes.

Contributions to the employee pension schemes for the year totalled £53,110 (2023 - £26,033).

The current year charge includes £36,239 in relation to the crystallised liability arising on the withdrawal from the defined benefit pension scheme.

The number of employees whose emoluments fell within the following bands was:

	2024 No.	2023 No.
£60,001 - £70,000	-	1
£70,001 - £80,000	1	-

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £132,863 (2023 - £126,201).

9. Fixed asset investments

	2024 £	2023 £
Other investments	256,315	245,005

Other investments

	Listed investments £	Total £
Cost or Valuation		
At 1 April 2023	245,005	245,005
Revaluation	(3,393)	(3,393)
Additions	88,964	88,964
Disposals	(74,261)	(74,261)
At 31 March 2024	256,315	256,315
Net book value		
At 31 March 2024	256,315	256,315
At 31 March 2023	245,005	245,005

10. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	8,172	50,545
Prepayments	1,663	1,512
Other debtors	-	66,518
Total	9,835	118,575

11. Cash and cash equivalents

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash on hand	-	21
Cash at bank	308,390	545,145
Total	308,390	545,166

12. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	629	34,888
Other taxation and social security	24,395	7,837
Other creditors	2,019	2,497
Accruals and deferred income	69,326	102,264
Total	96,369	147,486

13. Creditors: amounts falling due after one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Other creditors	-	6,013

14. Obligations under leases and hire purchase contracts

Operating lease commitments

Total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Land and buildings		
Within one year	1,878	5,635
Between one and five years	-	1,878
Total	1,878	7,513

15. Pension and other schemes

Defined benefit pension schemes

During the period the charity withdrew from its defined benefit pension scheme paying the sum of £36,239 to cover the crystalised liability on withdrawal (excluding fees).

16. Charity status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £5 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

17. Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds						
General						
General Funds	285,868	332,621	(393,439)	47,500	6,450	279,000
Designated						
Closure & development provision	227,000	-	-	(47,500)	-	179,500
Total unrestricted funds	512,868	332,621	(393,439)	-	6,450	458,500
Restricted funds						
Assura	-	70,000	(55,000)	-	-	15,000
Ukraine	220,410	-	(220,410)	-	-	-
DCMS EP Phase III	4,671	-	-	-	-	4,671
Social Prescribing	17,298	1,208	(18,506)	-	-	-
TNLCF Development	-	32,998	(32,998)	-	-	-
Total restricted funds	242,379	104,206	(326,914)	-	-	19,671
Total funds	755,247	436,827	(720,353)	-	6,450	478,171

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds						
General						
General Funds	267,563	215,755	(231,406)	57,665	(23,709)	285,868
Designated						
Closure & development provision	267,000	-	-	(40,000)	-	227,000
Total unrestricted funds	534,563	215,755	(231,406)	17,665	(23,709)	512,868
Restricted funds						
HWA Coordinator	-	12,625	(12,625)	-	-	-
NHSE Embedding VCSE	45,400	-	(45,400)	-	-	-
NHSE Integrated Toolkit	49,800	-	(49,800)	-	-	-
C&P ICS	-	20,551	(20,551)	-	-	-
Cost of Living Support	-	680,000	(680,000)	-	-	-
Intelligence Gathering ICS	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-	-
Vision for Volunteering	-	45,750	(45,750)	-	-	-
Ukraine	-	440,000	(219,590)	-	-	220,410
DCMS EP Grant Distribution	51,965	-	(51,965)	-	-	-
DCMS EP Phase III	4,671	-	-	-	-	4,671
Social Prescribing	10,525	71,792	(65,019)	-	-	17,298
Tender Support Project	4,049	-	-	(4,049)	-	-
Public Law Project	13,616	-	-	(13,616)	-	-
VCSEP	-	18,000	(18,000)	-	-	-
Total restricted funds	180,026	1,298,718	(1,218,700)	(17,665)	-	242,379
Endowment funds						
Expendable						
Sir John Wriggley Bequest	4,588	-	(4,588)	-	-	-
	4,588	-	(4,588)	-	-	-
Total funds	719,177	1,514,473	(1,454,694)	-	(23,709)	755,247

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

HWA Coordinator - NAVCA is a member of the VCSE Health & Wellbeing Alliance (HWA). The HWA is a partnership between the voluntary sector and the health and care system (as represented by NHS England, Department of Health & Social Care, and Public Health England) to provide a voice and improve health and wellbeing for all communities.

NHSE Embedding VCSE and NHSE Integrated Toolkit - NAVCA was commissioned by NHSE to work with the emerging Integrated Care Systems, supporting the VCSE to engage with the new systems, through resources and networks to share learning and experiences.

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough ICS – wanted to engage the VCS more effectively in integrated care systems. Through working with the local infrastructure organisation they identified the need for a strategy, with the development being supported by an informed, neutral advocate. By providing this support the VCS and health systems came together to produce a strategy agreed by all parties.

Cost of Living Support funding provided by DCMS enabled NAVCA to fund its members and local organisations to meet additional costs and build capacity to meet rising demand arising from the cost of living crisis.

Intelligence Gathering ICS enabled NAVCA to bring together a range of experiences and information about the emerging ICS transformation and present it in a clear report.

Vision for Volunteering - as part of a partnership with NCVO, Volunteer Matters, Sport England and the Association of Volunteer Managers NAVCA received funding to develop a vision for volunteering, providing inspiration to create conditions for diverse and exciting volunteering over the next 10 years.

Ukraine Support Fund – recognising the need for strong support for Ukrainian arrivals in communities the British Red Cross funded strong infrastructure support through NAVCA and its members .

DCMS EP Phase III - NAVCA worked with the British Red Cross to deliver the programme 'VCS Emergencies Partnership co-ordination of the voluntary sector's Covid-19 response' which is funded by the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). This grant was an extension of that programme to provide ongoing support in the next phase of Covid-19 and to enable the transition of VCSEP from a covid-model to a future preparedness model.

Social Prescribing – NAVCA has partnered with The National Academy for Social Prescribing to support increased co-design/production of social prescribing infrastructure through greater engagement with local VCS infrastructure organisations at a local, regional and national level. Funds towards this project are also being provided by Spirit of 2012, a registered charity.

Tender Support Project - This was a project to provide support to increase organisations' ability to win contracts to deliver public services.

Assura - funding from Assura to offer peer support and develop good practice in VCS engagement with Integrated Care Systems.

TNLCF Development - a project for NAVCA to review and develop our offer to members, maximizing the impact of the network. Members have been at the heart of the approach to focus on the outcomes they want from NAVCA and develop the support, services and activities which achieve these.

Public Law Project - NCVO was the lead partner on this Big Lottery funded project. This was to work with NCVO on development of a legacy for the project.

VCSEP - with British Red Cross NAVCA co-chairs the Voluntary and Community Sector Emergencies Partnership. This supports the whole voluntary sector to be better prepared for, respond to and learn from emergencies, influencing government and other stakeholders to enable the VCS to reach its full potential. We receive funds to fulfil the chair and leadership role, working through a secretariat team hosted within British Red Cross.

Designated and Endowment funds

The closure and development fund is a designated fund to provide future business development and in the worst case cover the potential costs of closure of the organisation.

The Sir John Wrigley Bequest was made in 1978 to the National Council for Social Services and subsequently devolved to NAVCA. The income from the bequest is being used as instructed, to assist the staff of CVS to take part in community work seminars, conferences and other training opportunities in the UK or in Europe.

18. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted	Unrestricted		
	General £	Designated £	Restricted £	2024 Total Funds £
Fixed asset investments	76,815	179,500	-	256,315
Current assets	298,554	-	19,671	318,225
Current liabilities	(96,369)	-	-	(96,369)
Total net assets	279,000	179,500	19,671	478,171

	Unrestricted	Unrestricted		
	General £	Designated £	Restricted £	2023 Total Funds £
Fixed asset investments	18,005	227,000	-	245,005
Current assets	421,362	-	242,379	663,741
Current liabilities	(147,486)	-	-	(147,486)
Creditors over 1 year	(6,013)	-	-	(6,013)
Total net assets	285,868	227,000	242,379	755,247

19 Financial instruments

Categorisation of financial instruments

	2024 £	2023 £
Financial assets that are debt instruments measured at amortised cost	316,562	595,711
Financial assets that are equity instruments measured at cost less impairment	256,315	245,005
	572,877	840,716
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	10,629	49,463

20. Trustees remuneration and expenses

During the year the charity made the following transactions with trustees:

Kerrie Fletcher

Kerrie Fletcher received remuneration of £1,450 (2023: £2,640) during the year.

This was through an arm's length contract to deliver quality assurance services as permitted by clause 12(5)b of The Articles of association of the organisation.

During the period 8 (2022: 7) Trustees claimed expenses totalling £8,853 (2023: £1,978) primarily for travel costs.

21 Related party transactions

During the year the charity made the following related party transactions:

VAST

(Lisa Healings is the CEO of VAST)

VAST received funding from NAVCA in the period for Ukraine £16,800 (2023: £14,500), cost of living support £nil (2023: £9,500) and other services £nil (2023: £1,305). VAST also paid £225 (2023: £nil) for LIQA accreditation. At the balance sheet date the amount due to/from VAST was £Nil (2023 - £Nil).

York CVS

(Alison Semmence is the CEO of York CVS. Alison Semmence resigned as trustee of the charity on 16 November 2023.)

During the period York CVS received £144 (2023: £nil) for Cyber Security Training and £nil (2023: £10,000) for cost of living support. At the balance sheet date the amount due to/from York CVS was £Nil (2023 - £Nil).

Sefton CVS

(Angela White OBE is the CEO of Sefton CVS)

During the period Sefton CVS paid £1,800 (2023: £nil) for the VCQA Accreditation and received funding of £nil (2023: £10,000) for Cost of Living support. At the balance sheet date the amount due to/from Sefton CVS was £Nil (2023 - £Nil).

Communities 1st

(Stephen Craker is the CEO of Communities 1st)

During the period Communities 1st received funding of £5,000 (2023: £5,000) for Ukraine, £nil (2023: £10,000) for cost of living support and £nil (2023: £1,560) for Quality Assessment work. Communities 1st also paid £2,250 (2023:£nil) for LIQA Accreditation. At the balance sheet date the amount due to/from Communities 1st was £nil (2023 - £nil).

Hunts Forum

(Julie Farrow is the CEO of Hunts Forum for Voluntary Services)

During the period Hunts Forum received funding of £nil (2023: £10,000) for Cost of Living Support plus £nil (2023: £2,400) for Quality Assessment work. At the balance sheet date the amount due to/from Hunts Forum was £Nil (2023 - £Nil).

22. Grant-making

Analysis of grants

	Grants to institutions 2024 £	Grants to institutions 2023 £
Analysis		
Cost of Living	-	625,600
Ukraine	210,411	189,590
	210,411	815,190

The support costs associated with grant-making are £nil (2023: £nil).

Funds received from central government have been distributed as grants to member organisations to deal with the cost of living crisis.

No individual grants made to institutions during the year are material.

Local VCS infrastructure organisations

For thriving communities, where people can take action on the things which matter to them.

navca



Leadership and advocacy

Mobilising and encouraging community action, strengthening our sector's voice and influence on key decision-makers and funders.

Partnerships and collaborations

Creating opportunities and driving effective joint working by building networks of local organisations and strategic partners.





Capacity building

Providing practical support and development for local people and organisations, to nurture skills and build community resilience.

Volunteering

Building an environment in which volunteers and their communities thrive, by encouraging and nurturing volunteering opportunities.





navca

local focus national voice

National Association for Voluntary and Community Action

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Company registration number: 02575206 | Charity registration number: 1001635

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY ACTION

England & Wales - Charity number 1001635

Accounts

navca
local focus national voice

National Association for Voluntary and Community Action

(A company limited by guarantee)
Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Company registration number: 02575206
Charity registration number: 1001635

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Legal and administrative details

The trustees of the charity during the year were as follows:

Name	Roles/committee membership	Date elected/re-elected/ appointed	Date of leaving
Judy Robinson	Chair Finance, Audit & Risk Committee Succession Planning Task & Finish Group	Appointed Chair January 2020	Resigned as Chair 17 July 2023
Sandra Meadows MBE	Chair from July 2023	17 July 2023	
Julie Farrow	Vice-chair until November 2022 Chair HR committee until January 2023 Succession Planning Task & Finish Group Appointed as Board advisor in November 2022	6 December 2019	Resigned from Board 17 November 2022 Appointed as Board Advisor for 1 year in November 2022
Richard Jackson	Vice-chair until September 2022	4 December 2020	Resigned from Board 6 September 2022
Stephen Craker	Vice-Chair from November 2022 Chair HR Committee from January 2023 Finance, Audit & Risk Committee	November 2018	
Kerrie Fletcher	Vice-Chair from October 2022 Chair Finance, Audit & Risk Committee Appointed as co-opted member 17 November 2022	November 2019	
Brian Coghlan	Treasurer until November 2022 Finance, Audit & Risk Committee	December 2018	Resigned from Board at the AGM 17 November 2022

Name	Roles/committee membership	Date elected/re-elected/ appointed	Date of leaving
Lisa Healings	Treasurer from 17 November 2022 Finance, Audit & Risk Committee	17 November 2022	
Alison Semmence	HR committee Succession Planning Task & Finish Group	4 December 2020	
Michelle Warburton		November 2020	Resigned from Board 31 January 2023
Angela White (Carter) OBE	HR committee Finance, Audit & Risk Committee	November 2019	
Clive Clarke	Co-opted	June 2021	
Jess Sumner	HR Committee Succession Planning Task & Finish Group	17 November 2022	
Hannah Reid		17 November 2022	
Christine Blythe		17 November 2022	

Company Secretary & Chief Executive Officer

Maddy Desforges OBE

Charity Registration Number

1001635

Company Registration Number

02575206

Registered Office

The Circle
33 Rockingham Lane
Sheffield
South Yorkshire
S1 4FW

Auditor

Philip Allsop FCA
Senior Statutory Auditor
BHP
2 Rutland Park
Sheffield
S10 2PD

Bankers

Unity Trust Bank plc
Nine Brindley Place
Birmingham
B1 2HB

Investment Managers

Investec Wealth and Investment
Beech House
61 Napier Street
Sheffield
S11 8HA

Our Funders

In 2022/23, NAVCA was grateful to receive funding from the following organisations, which enabled us to pursue our strategic objectives;

- National Cyber Security Centre
- Aide CRM and Volunteer Plus (Pipe Media)
- Health and Wellbeing Alliance
- VCS Emergencies Partnership
- NHS England (NHSE)
- National Academy for Social Prescribing (NASP)
- Spirit of 2012
- The National Lottery Community Fund
- British Red Cross
- NHS Confederation
- Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS)
- Ladbrook Insurance
- Paul Hamlyn Foundation



Acknowledgements

Thank you to NAVCA members Slough CVS and Nova Wakefield District for allowing us to use their images in this report

Photographs from the NAVCA Annual Conference 2022 were taken by Ed Jones and Melody Peacock.

Thank you to Ellie Ewing from Community First for designing the annual report.

Thank you to our sponsor Ladbrook Insurance for their support.

Highlights

Publication of Connecting Locally, which demonstrates the impact and value of the NAVCA membership

£625,000

funds distributed to support cost of living activity

Supporting over

73 NAVCA members

350 VCSE organisations

We committed

£400,000

to NAVCA members for activities to support Ukrainian refugees arriving in England

We funded

We funded 36 members, including 6 partnerships, across all 9 regions of England

Supporting over

20,000

Ukrainian refugees

All

5

members

who took part in the LIQA pilot project achieved accreditation

The first

11

organisations

achieved the refreshed VCQA accreditation

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“I just wanted to say thank you for arranging [the new CEO network] meetings – I was really looking forward to it and found it beneficial. More widely, I’d like to add how much I admire NAVCA’s work, which I feel is elevating the role and value of infrastructure organisations.”

Christina Alexander, CEO
Peterborough Council for Voluntary Services



Chair's Foreword 2022-2023

People in voluntary organisations, especially infrastructure ones, are natural optimists. They have to be - particularly in a changing landscape! And when the landscape is changing, you need a good map/sat-nav, some landmarks and helpful guidance. This pretty much sums up NAVCA's work in 2022/2023.

In this foreword, I want to look at the particular achievements of the year which are setting the NAVCA network on the right course. I'll reflect, as well, on what sort of voluntary and community sector (VCS) infrastructure a good, fair society needs, and whether our vision and mission meet this challenge.

Pragmatism and practical action to help people are hallmarks of two programmes NAVCA designed and delivered to get resources to members in all nine English regions - the Cost of Living and Ukraine funds. Both funds delivered much-needed grants to assist local activity, for example, cooking lessons to help people cook in a cost-effective way.

The Connecting Locally research project with Sheffield Hallam University allowed NAVCA to stand back to look at the work of members through evidence and analysis. The importance of this research to shape NAVCA's policy and practice and set the right course cannot be overstated. In addition, it provides evidence to inform decision-makers.

Informing and connecting, in a more day-to-day way than research, were also part of the year's work. This was seen in the New CEOs Network, the Barking Owl group (great name!) for member communications staff, and the Quarterly Briefings for members. In all this (careful attention to building information channels, connecting members together and creating space to learn and reflect), we are developing a network that is informed and credible.

Increasingly, NAVCA has sought to develop its public policy work, for instance on Levelling Up, the cost-of-living crisis, health service reorganisation and relationships with local government. As the annual report details, this has brought us into active contact with agencies like The National Lottery, government departments, NHSE, and partners in the voluntary sector. It has drawn on the intelligence and know-how of members.

In this changing landscape, two accreditation systems, for local infrastructure and for volunteer centres, are providing assurance and learning opportunities, thus anchoring organisations to quality and impact. Quality assurance has been a longstanding NAVCA ambition and it is cheering to see it taking off with increasing numbers of applicants.

Partnerships such as the Voluntary and Community Sector Emergencies Partnership (VCSEP) and the work with the National Cyber Security Centre, and with other national infrastructure organisations, have been a developing feature of 2022/23 and, as well as fulfilling practical needs to work together, they encourage the discovery of common causes and improved sector relationships.

The changing landscape for NAVCA and all charities in 2022/23 is one of connected crises and growing poverty and inequality. What's the purpose of social action in this? Is it a sticking plaster or substitute for retreating public services?

Of course, purpose is seen in the programmes and initiatives described in this report and in the work of members, but these must not be disconnected from the ultimate purpose. It is in NAVCA's vision and strategy, refreshed this year, that this purpose is found: **"strong social action to drive justice and active citizenship".**

This purpose influenced the Vision for Volunteering's commitment that volunteering can't mainly happen in the affluent parts of society - it's for all, everywhere.

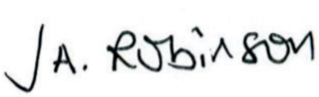
It is the questioning about why funding and support came for Ukranians but not with the same energy for other refugees. It is in the understanding that vibrant democracies need civil society to engage with political issues so there can be informed debate and better decisions. And successful, fair societies need active involvement from all communities, often brokered by the local VCS infrastructure organisation.

In times of major change, it seems to me that NAVCA offers thoughtful ways to do things differently. It speaks out when aspects of change threaten human flourishing and it is finding ways to shape its own future. Effective organisations not only plan for the future, they imagine what it could look like.

This is my last report as NAVCA Chair. I leave NAVCA not without challenges to come, but in good heart and good shape. This report is testament to that progress.

I've been involved with VCS infrastructure and the NAVCA movement for a long time and I know that we stand in the shoes of so many outstanding people who came before us and will follow. The NAVCA movement has never ceased to impress me with the ability to keep on keeping on through changing governments, reorganisations and endless new initiatives! It is creative and determined to make tangible improvements for people and communities. Infrastructure may be unsung, but it IS heroic!

Thanks to partners and funders, to staff for commitment, resourcefulness and hard work, to CEO Maddy Desforges for her steadfast leadership, calmness under pressure and energy, and to my trustee board for solid advice, friendship and good counsel, without which I could not have stayed the chairing course. Good luck and support to my successor, Sandra Meadows MBE. And now, farewell!



JA Robinson, July 2023

“NAVCA offers thoughtful ways to do things differently. It speaks out when aspects of change threaten human flourishing and it is finding ways to shape its own future. Effective organisations not only plan for the future, they imagine what it could look like.”

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“We all appreciate the new vision and energy that you bring, as well as the access to vital resources that we are struggling to get elsewhere.”

Navinder Kaur, CEO
Voluntary Action Islington



Trustees' Annual Report

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, are pleased to present their report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The legal and administrative information set out on pages 3 to 5 forms part of this report.

The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements and the trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities FRS 102 (second edition, October 2019)" in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

Nature of governing document

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and registered charity established in January 1991. It is operated under the rules of its memorandum and articles of association dated January 1991 and most recently amended December 2019. It has no share capital and the liability of each member in the event of winding-up is limited to £5.

Objectives and activities for public benefit

The principal objects of the charity are "to promote any charitable purposes for the benefit of the public, in England, and, in particular, build the capacity of local support and development organisations and provide them with the necessary support, information and services to enable them to pursue or contribute to any charitable purpose."

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and are satisfied that the organisation's strategic framework, which provides the template for all of its work, conforms to these requirements.

Strategy and Delivery:

Vision, mission and aims (2022/23) – local focus, national voice

NAVCA's vision through to 2022/23 was 'a society based on equality, fairness, active citizenship, strong communities and social action'. Our mission was to strengthen and champion social action through effective voluntary and community sector infrastructure.

Our aims were to be the voice for local action at national level, championing and advocating for our membership, as well as providing support, and to support a vibrant network of local infrastructure organisations across England, to help them grow in strength, confidence and impact and to increase their influence nationally.



Our outcomes, against our strategic objectives for 2022/23

Our strategic objectives for 2022/23 reflected the four key functions of infrastructure. This informed our work throughout the year as we continued to develop our new strategy. Our activity is set out under these headings below.

Leadership and advocacy:



Our aim was to nurture ambition and be a catalyst, so local communities are actively influencing local and national systems, and their assets are used to influence decisions and actions.

The need for **good quality evidence and research** on the impact of local infrastructure underpins much of what we do, and is also essential for members to place their work in the wider context. We partnered with the Centre for Regional Economic and Social Research at Sheffield Hallam University to produce a baseline of data and qualitative information on the work of NAVCA members. Published in November 2022, **Connecting Locally** gives us a clear understanding of the extent of member activity, the reach of members into the VCSE sector, and an evidenced basis for advocacy and influencing. Data from Connecting Locally was used to develop standalone research pieces to inform partners and funders about the work of local infrastructure organisations, and so that members can use the research to practically inform their own work.

As part of the developing work on **public policy**, we worked with DCMS and DLUHC on Levelling Up, the cost of living crisis and relationships with government including local authorities with the LGA (Local Government Association). We responded to consultations from the Charity Commission on changes to the annual returns, transparency and use of data, and draft trustee social media guidance. We contributed to the thinking on the National Lottery Community Fund strategic renewal programme and to the consultation on the use of dormant assets. We gathered research and evidence to support the work of NAVCA members on volunteering, relationships with the local authorities, support for Ukrainian refugees and the cost of living crisis. We did this through gathering case studies, talking to members on a one-to-one basis and running online consultations.

Through regular briefings, fortnightly newsletters and social media, we kept our members informed on current policy priorities across a wide range of issues so they can respond to local community needs more effectively. Topics have included government support for energy bills, changes in government ministers, budgets and financial statements, and implications of various research reports for local infrastructure. We also used our position to bring members together to deliver against pressing issues experienced across the network.

From January to March 2023, we designed and launched the **Cost of Living Fund and Ukraine fund**.

The Cost of Living Fund distributed:

£625,000

to our members and the VCSE organisations they work with, supporting supporting 73 NAVCA members and over 350 VCSE organisations across England. Through the fund, members received £5,000 for cost of living related activities from November 2022 – March 2023; as well as £5,000 to onward grant to local charities and community groups.

Our members and their local community organisations offered a range of activities in their communities with the funding received. For example:

Voluntary Action North East Lincolnshire (VANEL) funded West Marsh Community Centre to run a weekly food larder and drop-in for advice about cost of living and where to go for more help and support.

High Peak CVS collated local, regional and national information aimed at front line groups; held

Community Voice networking events to discuss issues such as financial stability of local organisations and the impact on volunteering; shared intelligence with strategic partners; and provided support to new organisations. Grants in Buxton, an area covered by High Peak CVS, funded a series of Slow Cooking Lessons led by **Grapevine**, helping people learn about more cost-effective ways to cook in a recognised safe space for people with mental health conditions or struggling with their wellbeing.

Grapevine sent the following feedback from a session this funding helped them run:

> "It has been the most practical and well received workshop we have run in such a long time. We had a mix of Grapevine members and people from the community attend and we've had some lovely feedback showing us many of the recipes they have been cooking."

The **Ukraine Infrastructure Fund** supported members with projects and activity strengthening local community support for Ukrainian arrivals to England. We committed:

£400,000

to NAVCA members to coordinate the local VCS response, enhance community cohesion and lead on cross-sector response to local needs. We funded 36 members, including 6 partnerships, across all 9 regions of England, supporting over 20,000 Ukrainians. This project will continue until December 2023.

Third Sector Leaders Kirklees used the funding to establish a Ukrainian focused partnership across the local VCS, working with the local council and statutory partners. The partnership will establish a clear offer of activities and support. Cambridge CVS and Hunts Forum also worked as a partnership to provide capacity for organisations to contribute to local authority meetings; to represent the VCS sector and provide support to groups working directly with Ukrainian families; and to train groups and to build a programme of activity to bring together a network including new groups.



NAVCA and British Red Cross: Ukraine Support Fund

navca

£400,000



In 2022, we secured £400,000 from British Red Cross to distribute to NAVCA members. This funding will build infrastructure support for local groups, focused on helping Ukrainian refugees and communities.

36 NAVCA members funded





including 6 partnership projects between members working in similar regions.





9 regions

We are funding applications across all nine English regions, meaning support is well distributed and widely available.

20,000 people supported



We estimate that 20,439 Ukrainian people will be supported through this fund. This enables access to local help including translation support, housing provision, and more

Next steps:

Throughout 2023, we will follow up with the successful applicants to assess the impact of the funding. We are proud to support our members with the vital work they do in responding to emergencies.

Capacity building:



Our aim was to create spaces and strengthen opportunities for people to come together, driving aspirations and sharing best practice to strengthen the network.

We **strengthened the network** by welcoming new members and supporting members to develop. We were delighted to have three new members join the NAVCA network in 2022-2023: Links CVS, serving the sector of Chesterfield & North East Derbyshire; Community360, serving Essex since 1968; and Wirral CVS, a new infrastructure body set up in 2021.

As part of our revised offer, we started to formalise some things NAVCA has previously done on a more ad-hoc basis. One of these was the **new CEOs network**. Each 6 months, we bring new CEOs together to form a support network, with three meetings over 6 months to review the challenges and strengths they are experiencing. The group then decides how to continue its support, whether through regular online meetings, electronic communication or other means. 17 CEOs joined our new CEOs networks in 2022/23, building important alliances and support networks with others at a similar stage on their leadership journey.

We have built our approach to supporting high-quality local infrastructure across England by developing and launching the **LIQA (Local Infrastructure Quality Accreditation)**. This followed a substantial programme to build an effective quality accreditation offer specifically for local infrastructure organisations. The LIQA replaced the previous NAVCA Quality Accreditation and has been coproduced throughout the year with members and key stakeholders, including local councils, NHS bodies, national funders and government departments. It offers a route for organisations to demonstrate their impact for their communities, a tool for organisational development, and a badge of recognition.

The pilot programme completed in December 2022 and saw five members successfully accredited. This process helped make sure the programme is focused on the needs of local communities and VCSE organisations. Engagement with members of the LGA (Local Government Association) has seen over 40 local councils engage in the development of the LIQA, helping to ensure the programme is also responsive to the needs of local infrastructure commissioners and funders.

Following its launch in April 2023, 15 members have signed up to undertake the LIQA and we are looking forward to working with more members through the process to review their strengths and areas for development. For members who achieve accreditation, we are able to promote their value and impact in their local community and with their stakeholders. **More information about the LIQA is available here**, including testimonials from members who went through the pilot process.

> “We found it a very worthwhile process and a great outcome in terms of the learning.”
>
> **Mark Davis, CEO**
> **Sandwell CVO**

> “We use the LIQA to reflect and look back, look at where our gaps are and where our strengths are, and build on those strengths to achieve better outcomes for supporting the sector.”
>
> **Amber Skyring, CEO**
> **Community Action Wessex**

After taking on the **VCQA (Volunteer Centre Quality Accreditation)** programme from NCVO last year, 11 Volunteer Centres have successfully completed re-accreditation (by the end of March 2023), with a further 22 part way through the process.

> "Working our way through the submission has helped us to take pride in the areas where our strengths lie and given us the opportunity to focus on development areas."
>
> **Jane Holdsworth, Area Manager Warwickshire Community and Voluntary Action**



Events and networks

We held **events and networks** on a wide variety of individual topics when relevant, as well as regular themed meetings including the Anti-Racist Group and the Barking Owl network for communications workers. We launched Quarterly Members' Briefings, giving the opportunity for members to hear about the areas of work NAVCA has been focusing on, and finding out more about the detail of what we have been doing. Through broadening our reach and shifting the focus of these meetings, we have been able to inform members more efficiently about our work, and hear from our members about their work, their views and their concerns, to make sure that feeds into national conversations with government and others.

Feedback from quarterly members briefings:

> "Really informative session today. Thanks so much for organising and sharing this valuable information."

November 2022 saw the whole NAVCA team head to Manchester for our first in-person conference since 2019. Over 100 of our members and stakeholders attended, to network, build relationships and share ideas around the theme of tackling poverty locally. Through a diverse series of keynote speeches and workshop themes, we equipped members with knowledge and inspiration to take action on key topics in their communities.



> "The trans inclusion is for everyone session was incredible and has led to further research and reading to inform our organisational policy."



> "Lots of useful elements - the workshops were very interesting, insightful speakers and lots of opportunity to network."

Our NAVCA **Anti-Racist Group** brings members, staff and trustees together to share ideas and experiences on tackling racism in our communities. We held these meetings every six weeks, creating a safe space for people to share and explore their thinking. Building on our **Anti-Racism Statement and Call to Action**, we published a trustee recruitment strategy and continue to be part of the Civil Society Group's Dismantling Racism project. We are currently offering a series of four further anti-racist workshops including language and allyship, broadening the anti-racist work to the wider NAVCA network. This strengthens our commitment to becoming an anti-racist organisation, working closely with members to encourage change in the wider network.

> "The NAVCA Anti-Racist Group gave me strength and confidence to have control and to act."
>
> **Anthony Henriques**
> **Community Action Derby**

Volunteering:

Our aim was to lead, facilitate and influence the VCS and other partners to create a culture and develop systems where volunteering thrives, with ready connections to volunteer opportunities.

We are proud to be a partner in the Vision for Volunteering, and thank our members who contributed by co-chairing the groups leading to its development. After the launch in May 2022, we worked to develop governance arrangements and funding, recruiting a small team to take the work forward in 2023/24. The five themes of the vision give a challenging agenda to develop, with the next stage about storytelling and network building. NAVCA and its network will continue to play a key role to elevate the importance of community-based volunteering.

Partnerships:

Our aim was to bring together and lead partnerships to meet need, have greater impact or lever in funding.

As co-chair of the **VCS Emergencies Partnership** with British Red Cross, we are at the forefront of bringing a wide range of VCS organisations together. The focus this year has been on consolidation as well as coordinating emergency responses as required. We shifted the focus to capacity building and preparedness, with tabletop exercises and specific sessions, for example on planning for extreme weather, notably heatwaves. We contributed to the government's National Resilience Strategy, working to elevate the importance of the VCS as integral to an emergency response which focuses on community resilience. As part of that strategy, the role of the VCS in Local Resilience Forums (LRF) is brought more to the fore, and we have worked with LRF Chairs and others to better understand how to embed the VCS fully in LRF structures, and what support is needed to make that happen.

Our work on **Social Prescribing** with the National Academy for Social Prescribing (NASP), Spirit of 2012 and NHS England's Personalised Care Team builds our relationships and partnerships. We co-produced a self-assessment toolkit for organisations hosting social prescribing link workers, both in the VCSE sector and the NHS, to provide them with a framework for building and maintaining successful social prescribing practice. This living document will be released via NASP's website in 2023.

We worked closely with NHS England's Personalised Care Team to influence key documents including the Social Prescribing Maturity Framework and Workforce Development Framework. We also produced a series of case studies demonstrating NAVCA members' involvement in both hosting Social Prescribing Link Workers and their wider involvement in strengthening Social Prescribing systems.

Transformation of the way **health and social care** is organised into new Integrated Care Systems continues to dominate our engagement and integration with health bodies. Our members are typically heavily engaged with, and influencing, the re-organisation in their areas, so throughout the year we have provided space for members to meet, discuss and collaborate. Our regular Health and Wellbeing Forum has covered a range of topics, providing opportunities to share successes and challenges, and to inform NAVCA's work to influence system partners at a national level. We have also used intelligence and insight from these forums to make sure we are connected to members. This enables us to ensure the views and experiences of local VCSE infrastructure continue to shape the recommendations around integrated care, for example engaging in and responding to the Hewitt Review.



Working alongside NHS England's Voluntary Partnerships Team, we led a Peer Network for **VCSE Alliances**, bringing together representatives from the VCSE sector and NHS bodies in each of the 42 Integrated Care Systems (ICSs) in England. A large proportion of VCSE representative organisations are NAVCA members, and this work facilitates their embedding with local and national NHS bodies as members of these partnerships. We delivered a series of online seminars showcasing good practice in integrated care system engagement and addressing key issues such as supporting diverse VCSE engagement and sustaining investment. These events, attended by hundreds of people from across different sectors, have supported the development of robust and more inclusive local partnerships and informed national policy.

Alongside this, we directly supported individual integrated care systems, including to develop strategies. For example, we led the successful VCSE strategy development programme in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough ICS, helping strengthen partnership working around common goals and supporting investment into the sector. This resulted in investment of £2 million in the local VCSE sector. We continue to collate and analyse learning on VCSE engagement in integrated care, enabling us to inform practice and policy and produce publications such as **Snowballs and Eels**, commissioned by The National Lottery Community Fund. This sets out the current position and informs practice for the future on funding partnership building in health and care. This work has informed our current focus on building and maintaining a comprehensive informational resource on the engagement between the VCSE sector and ICSs bringing together our knowledge on VCSE Alliances, ICSs, local infrastructure partnerships, and more.

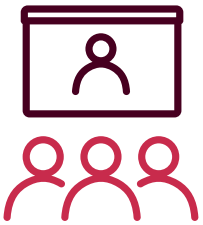
Staying safe online is a growing concern for individuals and members, with many small organisations not aware of the risks. We worked with the National Cyber Security Centre to deliver our **Cyber Security Train the Trainer** scheme, supporting our members to deliver Cyber Security Awareness training to local VCSE organisations. Over 200 organisations have received this training, helping them to make small, simple changes which improve their protection against cyber crimes. Over 98% of attendees have stated that this training improved their awareness, knowledge, skills and confidence in how to better protect their organisation online.

Over

200



Organisations trained in cyber security awareness.



Over

98%

Said the training improved their knowledge, awareness and skills.

"Lydia did a fantastic job delivering the Train the Trainer session on Cyber Security. Lydia also provided really useful tips and insights into how we can deliver our sessions to local small charities."

Enablers

Whilst we are a small team, we have worked through the year to make sure the basics are right to enable us to function smoothly and efficiently.

The last member of the newly formed team joined us at the start of the year, and we have continued to develop and consolidate a culture of being open, flexible, and supportive to develop and make the best use of our skilled team.

This year we made some fundamental changes to our internal processes and procedures. We simplified our file structure, making it more relevant and easier for the team to use. We started to review our financial processes, aiding efficiency and providing a clearer picture when reporting to trustees. We also continued to review and update our policies to ensure they reflected the latest legislation and operational practices.

We expanded our reach by broadening our **communications with members**, moving to communicating with a wider range of staff members beyond CEOs, such as volunteer managers and communications officers. Through our fortnightly newsletter and open events, more members are accessing our work and we are listening to a more diverse range of perspectives on different topics such as the cost of living crisis and anti-racism.

For a while, we have wanted to improve how we understand and engage with our members as well as better capture information and intelligence. The new CRM system we have implemented helps us do just that. Over the past year, we have successfully integrated functions of this system, such as our centralised event bookings, and are currently working on our new portal for LIQA and VCQA applications. Work is ongoing to make sure we make best use of the system, including to manage events, bookings and mailings.

Our **new staff structure** evolved over the year and by March 2023, team members were settled into their roles and building strong relationships with the network and stakeholders. As a team we have been spending more time in the office, enabling us



to better connect with each other, learn more about each others areas of work and discover opportunities to work collaboratively. Restructured team meetings, where we have a longer session once a month and explore an idea in more depth, only enhances this.

Team members in 2022/23 were:

- Marcus Bowen
- Alex Boys
- Helen Carter
- Maddy Desforges OBE
- Jill Hopkinson
- Cheng Ee Kok
- Emily Lewis
- Lydia Lowther
- Anne-Marie Morrison
- Conor Smith
- Karen Spark
- Rebecca Vickers
- Lydia Warden

Trustees were:

- Christine Blythe
- Clive Clarke
- Brian Coghlan
- Stephen Craker
- Julie Farrow
- Kerrie Fletcher
- Lisa Healings
- Richard Jackson
- Hannah Reid
- Judy Robinson
- Alison Semmence
- Jess Sumner
- Michelle Warburton
- Angela White (Carter) OBE

NAVCA Membership Survey 2023

Local infrastructure support for VCSE organisations

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Membership, priorities and concerns

179
NAVCA members

Reaching at least
165,000
VCSE organisations



Top priorities for supporting VCSE:

1. Leadership, partnership working and capacity building
2. Support and funding for organisations delivering frontline cost of living support
3. Advice to access grants and funding, and planning for financial sustainability
4. Representation of the VCSE in health systems (ICS/ICB)
5. Volunteering - recruitment and retention
6. Influencing local systems and decision making

NAVCA members are concerned about:

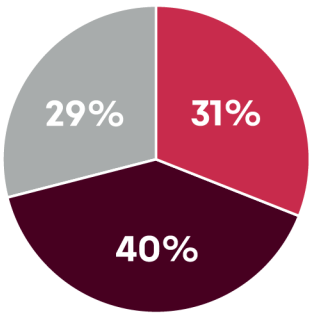
1. Securing sustainable funding
2. Impact of the cost of living crisis on VCSE
3. Staff and volunteer wellbeing, retention and recruitment
4. Representation of the VCSE in health systems (ICS/ICB)

Funding

Membership by size of organisation:

- Income £0 - £499k
- Income £500k - £999k
- Income > £1m







Funding for core support work is precarious and usually does not cover the full costs

Costs of core support are cross subsidised through:

- £ commercial / earned income
- £ management fees
- £ contracts
- £ top slicing project grants

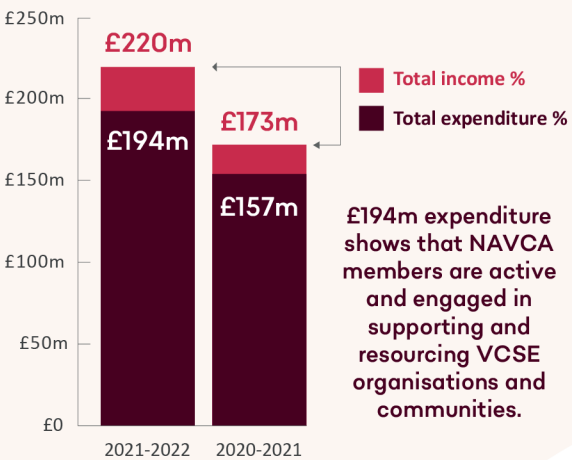
£+
The main funders of core support work are local authorities, grant making organisations and health systems.



Finances

(Figures adjusted for inflation)

Income and expenditure of NAVCA members:



£194m expenditure shows that NAVCA members are active and engaged in supporting and resourcing VCSE organisations and communities.

NAVCA has a growing number of members with incomes over £1m

71% of NAVCA members are classed as small charities (income under £1m) but are providing wide ranging support for the VCSE sector and communities



2021-22 shows a significant increase in income and expenditure due to:

Covid Recovery Grants
from Government and other funders

Additional grants
to support activities during the pandemic and the cost of living crisis

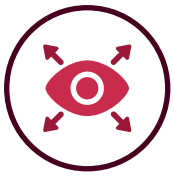
NAVCA members acting as grant giving bodies
on behalf of other organisations e.g. local authorities or grant giving trusts

Looking ahead - 2023/24: Strategy development

Through the second half of 2022/23, we worked with members, trustees and stakeholders to refresh our strategy and define our offer. This gave us the opportunity to reflect on our focus and that of the movement, and what is needed to work with, advocate for and support local infrastructure in the current climate. We reflected on lessons learned through Covid, the impact of the cost of living crisis, the importance of thriving communities, and the key role of infrastructure.

As a result of that work, we sharpened our vision:

that every local area has a thriving community and voluntary sector and strong social action to drive justice and active citizenship.



We updated our mission:



to strengthen and champion a thriving and influential voluntary and community sector through high quality local support organisations.

And we refreshed our strategic ambitions to:

- influence change and innovation in systems and services, locally and nationally, to shape a more fair and equal future and improve people's lives;
- bring together thinking and action to increase the impact of our network;
- create a valued hub of knowledge which is shared widely to strengthen our action and impact;
- ensure the NAVCA movement has the tools, resources and connections it needs.

Some aspects of that offer are already in place. For example, we have launched the LIQA and will work with members going through that to demonstrate their impact. For other areas we have plans in place, for example to develop our website to enable us to curate and share key resources for members. We will continue to work with members as we identify activity and workstreams to develop, to ensure we co-produce the offer and meet need.

Our Trustee Board

NAVCA is managed by a Trustee Board comprising up to 13 trustees. Nine must be elected by NAVCA members, and a further four can be appointed/co-opted by the trustees. Trustees are appointed for a three-year term and can serve no more than six consecutive years as a trustee. The Chair is appointed by trustees, and again must serve no more than six consecutive years.

Two Vice Chairs support the Chair. The Board is served by two standing sub committees, chaired by the two Vice Chairs – Finance, Audit and Risk, and HR – which meet quarterly. In addition, the board establishes working groups on specific topics, chaired by a trustee, to undertake tasks delegated to them by the Board, and advise the Board on policy and strategy.

In 2022/23, we had recruited new Vice Chairs and Treasurer as terms of office ended and circumstances changed. At the beginning of the year, our Vice Chairs were Richard Jackson and Julie Farrow, and Treasurer was Brian Coghlan. They were replaced by Kerrie Fletcher and Stephen Craker as Vice Chairs and Lisa Healings as Treasurer.

The HR Committee, chaired by Julie Farrow until November 2022 and Stephen Craker from November 2022, was heavily involved in improvements to our HR policies and procedures. The scope of the Finance Committee broadened to become the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee, chaired by Kerrie Fletcher, ensured appropriate scrutiny of NAVCA's financial reporting and decision making, audit process and risk management on behalf of the Board and in line with the NAVCA Scheme of Delegation.

New trustees are provided with induction, ongoing

support and development to help them fulfil their role. Details of trustees who have served during the year are set out on pages 3 and 4.

All trustees give their time freely and no trustee was paid during the year. Details of trustee expenses and related party transactions are disclosed in notes 18 and 19 of the accounts.

Trustees are required to disclose all relevant interests and register them with the company secretary and, in accordance with the organisation's Memorandum and Articles, withdraw from decisions where a conflict of interest arises.

Internal control and risk management

The trustees examine the major risks faced by the charity, in relation to external factors and relationships, its governance and management, its internal operations and its business. The management of risk is reviewed by the senior management team and the Trustee Board.

The principal risks and their mitigations are:



Governance – sufficient breadth and depth of experience among trustees to ensure the capacity and insight is brought to bear to successfully oversee and steer the organisation. As four trustees resigned in 2022/23, four new trustees were appointed, including a new Treasurer. One of the trustees whose term ended in 2022/23 was appointed as a Board Advisor. One trustee had left their role in a member organisation and was co-opted onto the board.



Quality - ensuring consistent quality infrastructure support is available across England. We have baselined what good infrastructure is, and published research to set out the state of the network. This provides an excellent basis to take forward work to both support and champion local infrastructure. We developed our approach to quality accreditation and have launched a new product which supports organisational review and development and provides a "badge" of quality.



Funding - the funding environment remains tight, and although we ended the year in a significantly better position than originally anticipated, we have not yet secured long term funding for our core activities. This remains a focus for the coming year. In January the Board agreed an income generation strategy to guide our approach.

The trustees keep the systems of internal financial control under review. Systems have been designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance against material misstatement or loss. They include:

- a 5-year strategic and one year business plan supported by an annual budget approved by the trustees;
- regular consideration by the trustees of financial results, variance from budgets and performance against the non-financial annual plan;
- clear delegation of authority and separation of duties.

The internal financial controls conform to guidelines issued by the Charity Commission. During the year our Resources Manager left the organisation, and we are working with Community Accounting Plus to support our financial management systems and management accounting.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The setting of pay and remuneration for SMT members of staff is reserved to the Board in NAVCA's scheme of delegation, with salaries approved annually as part of the budget setting process.

Our staffing structure

As of 31 March 2023, our organisation structure was:



Fundraising standards information

NAVCA does not carry out fundraising activities from the public. Funds come from grants, contracts and commercial income including membership fees.

Finance

We started the year with a significant deficit in our budget, relying on using reserves while we rebuilt our strategy. We secured significant resource during the course of the year to fund the activity we had planned, as well as deliver new and emerging projects such as the Cost of Living fund we distributed. The budget was not revised, but both Board and Finance, Audit and Risk Committee were kept fully up to date throughout to inform decision making. The end of year out turn, including the use of the Endowment fund (note 15) was a net increase in funds of £36,070.

Reserves policy

NAVCA's reserves policy is to retain sufficient funds to cover closure liabilities, should the organisation be faced with closure, including 3 months to cover operating costs enabling orderly closure. This equates to £147,000. In addition, we retain £80,000 for specific business development and income fluctuation. The total reserves target is therefore £227,000.

The calculated level of free reserves at 31 March 2023 was £267,863 comprising total unrestricted funds of £512,868 less the Fixed Asset Investments of £245,005 (Note 16).

Investment powers and policy

Under its Memorandum and Articles of Association, the charity has the power to make any investment that the trustees see fit. At the end of 2022/23 the amount the charity had invested stood at a market value of £245,005. Unfortunately, as a result of the economic situation we have seen a fall in the value of the investments we hold. We anticipate this will return to previous levels in due course.

Bank interest receivable during the year amounted to £2,344 (2022:47.00).

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure are sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.



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“Thank you for the support and information NAVCA provide, it has been a resource and authority I have used to try and simplify the role of an infrastructure organisation.”

Janette Hilton, CEO
Voluntary & Community Action Sunderland



National Association for Voluntary and Community Action - Trustees' Report

Small companies provision statement

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

Statement of Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of National Association for Voluntary and Community Action for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".
The report and accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

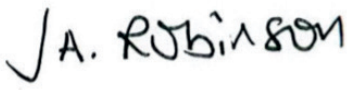
Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that can disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 5th September 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



JA Robinson
Chair, on behalf of the Board

Highlights



18,000

followers on Twitter

NAVCA member count: **182**

17

CEOs joined our new CEOs network

Over **100** stakeholders came to our conference, to network, build relationships and share ideas around the theme of tackling poverty

Over **100** attendees regularly joined each VCSE Alliance Webinar

50+ regular attendance at our Health and Wellbeing forums

Independent Auditor's Report

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of National Association for Voluntary and Community Action.

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of National Association for Voluntary and Community Action for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cashflows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent

with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report (incorporating directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the directors' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 27, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and

regulations;

- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the charity through discussions with management and trustees, and from our knowledge and experience of this charity;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the charity, including the Charities Act 2011, data protection, employment law, building regulations and health and safety legislation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and trustees;
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management and trustees as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risks of fraud through management bias and override controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected variances;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in note 1 were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the **FRC's website**. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, and the charitable company's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Philip Allsop FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of
BHP LLP
2 Rutland Park
Sheffield
S10 2PD

Date: 21 September 2023

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”I just wanted to thank you for a great meeting to discuss the Big Help Out. I appreciated your thoughts, overview, opportunities, and the positivity to use this to promote and enhance awareness of the NAVCA network. The role NAVCA plays is a pivotal one, to ensure we have the best local infrastructure support available – a challenge during these recent times.”

Chris Hailey-Norris, CEO
Up For Yorkshire

”



Statement of Financial Activities

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2023 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	33,349	-	-	33,349
Charitable activities	3	173,482	1,298,718	-	1,472,200
Investment income	4	8,924	-	-	8,924
Total Income		215,755	1,298,718	-	1,514,473
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5	(2,218)	-	-	(2,218)
Charitable activities	6	(229,188)	(1,218,700)	(4,588)	(1,452,476)
Total Expenditure		(231,406)	(1,218,700)	(4,588)	(1,454,694)
Gains/losses on investment assets		(23,692)	-	-	(23,692)
Net (expenditure)/income		(39,343)	80,018	(4,588)	36,087
Transfers between funds		17,665	(17,665)	-	-
Other recognised gains and losses					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes		(17)	-	-	(17)
Net movement in funds		(21,695)	62,353	(4,588)	36,070
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		534,563	180,026	4,588	719,177
Total funds carried forward	15	512,868	242,379	-	755,247

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for the period is shown in note 15.

These are the figures for the previous accounting period and are included for comparative purposes

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2022 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Charitable activities	3	363,453	986,566	-	1,350,019
Investment income	4	5,959	-	-	5,959
Total Income		369,412	986,566		1,355,978
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5	(1,593)	-	-	(1,593)
Charitable activities	6	(347,860)	(887,513)		(1,235,373)
Total Expenditure		(349,453)	(887,513)		(1,236,966)
Gains/losses on investment assets		11,015	-	-	11,015
Net income		30,974	99,053	-	130,027
Other recognised gains and losses					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes		10	-	-	10
Net movement in funds		30,984	99,053	-	130,037
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		503,579	80,973	4,588	589,140
Total funds carried forward	15	534,563	180,026	4,588	719,177

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Investments	21	245,005	264,452
Current assets			
Debtors	10	118,575	47,806
Cash at bank and in hand	11	545,166	567,805
		663,741	615,611
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	12	(147,486)	(151,454)
Net current assets		516,255	464,157
Total assets less current liabilities		761,260	728,609
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	13	(6,013)	(9,432)
Net assets		755,247	719,177
Funds of the charity:			
Endowment funds		-	4,588
Restricted income funds			
Restricted funds	15	242,379	180,026
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		512,868	534,563
Total funds		755,247	719,177

The financial statements on pages 33 to 53 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 5th September 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



Lisa Healings
Trustee

Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash income		36,070	130,037
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items			
Investment income	4	(8,924)	(5,959)
Gains-Loss on investments		23,692	(11,015)
		50,838	113,063
Working capital adjustments			
Increase in debtors	10	(70,769)	(13,287)
Decrease in creditors	12	(34,941)	(248,225)
Increase in deferred income	12	27,554	74,710
Net cash flows from operating activities		(27,318)	(73,739)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest receivable and similar income	4	2,344	47
Purchase of investments	21	(21,028)	(15,069)
Sale of investments		16,783	14,093
Income from dividends	4	6,580	5,912
Net cash flows from investing activities		4,679	4,983
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents		(22,639)	(68,756)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April 2022		567,805	636,561
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March 2023		545,166	567,805
Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net funds			
Decrease in cash		(22,639)	(68,756)
Net funds at 1 April 2022		567,805	636,561
Net funds at 31 March 2023		545,166	567,805

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two periods.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

1. Accounting policies

National Association for Voluntary and Community Action is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is The Circle, 33 Rockingham Lane, Sheffield, South Yorkshire, S1 4FW.

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

National Association for Voluntary and Community Action meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

Income and endowments

Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Deferred income

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which, it has been received. Such income is only deferred when:

- The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or
- The donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

Investment income

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank. Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Raising funds

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, the management of investments and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Furniture & equipment	20% straight line
Computer equipment	33% straight line

Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments, other than programme related investments, are included at market value at the balance sheet date. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their market value at the start of the year, or their subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market values during the year and are credited or charged to the Statement of Financial Activities based on the market value at the year end.

Trade and other debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Trade and other creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those grants for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Pensions and other post retirement obligations

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the charity has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions even if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when they are due. If contribution payments exceed the contribution due for service, the excess is recognised as a prepayment.

2. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Grants, including capital grants; Grants from other charities	33,349	33,349	-
	33,349	33,349	-

3. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Grant and project income	-	1,298,718	1,298,718	1,235,566
Membership	54,909	-	54,909	47,939
Contracts	68,167	-	68,167	66,514
Quality accreditation	39,175	-	39,175	-
Events	10,486	-	10,486	-
Other income	745	-	745	-
	173,482	1,298,718	1,472,200	1,350,019

4. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Income from dividends; Dividends receivable from other listed investments	6,580	6,580	6,580
Interest receivable and similar income; Interest receivable on bank deposits	2,344	2,344	47
	8,924	8,924	5,959

5. Expenditure on raising funds

a) Investment management costs

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Other investment management costs; Amounts payable to investment managers	2,218	2,218	1,593
	2,218	2,218	1,593

6. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Activity undertaken directly £	Grant funding of activity £	Activity support costs £	2023 £	2022 £
Member support	48,570	-	139,772	188,342	242,874
Grant and project expenses	102,218	-	284,991	387,209	194,021
Grants distributed	-	815,190	-	815,190	669,097
Contract expenses	18,387	-	43,348	61,735	129,381
	169,175	815,190	468,111	1,452,476	1,235,373

Within the expenditure analysed above, there are governance costs of £17,607 (2022 - £23,982) which relate directly to charitable activities. See note 7 for further details.

7. Analysis of governance and support costs

Support costs allocated to charitable activities

	Basis of allocation	Finance costs £	Information technology £	Staff costs £	Premises costs including depreciation £
Member support	Expenditure	1,314	12,832	-	5,848
Grants and project expenses	Expenditure	-	-	211,622	-
Contract expenses	Expenditure	-	-	30,614	-
Total for 2023		1,314	12,832	242,236	5,848
Total for 2022		1,597	16,819	-	7,702

	Other support costs £	Total funds £
Member support	119,778	139,772
Grants and project expenses	73,369	284,991
Contract expenses	12,734	43,348
Total for 2023	205,881	468,111
Total for 2022	65,983	92,101

Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Audit and accountancy fees Audit and accounts preparation	14,574	14,574	8,775
Trustees remuneration and expenses	3,033	3,033	1,047
Other governance costs	-	-	14,160
	17,607	17,607	23,982

8. Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	323,914	319,700
Social security costs	34,300	30,027
Pension costs	26,033	26,841
Other staff costs	-	5,904
	384,247	382,472

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management team) employed by the charity during the year was as follows:

	2023 No	2022 No
Average number of employees	10	10

10 (2022 - 10) of the above employees participated in the Defined Contribution Pension Schemes.

Contributions to the employee pension schemes for the year totalled £26,033 (2022 - £26,841).

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £69,851 (2022 - £59,400).

Key Management Personnel comprises Maddy Desforges, CEO.

9. Tangible fixed assets

	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 April 2022	106,818	101,996	208,814
Disposals	(106,818)	(101,996)	(208,814)
At 31 March 2023	-	-	-
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2022	106,818	101,996	208,814
Eliminated on disposals	(106,818)	(101,996)	(208,814)
At 31 March 2023	-	-	-
Net book value			
At 31 March 2023	-	-	-
At 31 March 2022	-	-	-

10. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	50,545	35,906
Prepayments	1,512	11,900
Other debtors	66,518	-
	118,575	47,806

11. Cash and cash equivalents

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash on hand	21	21
Cash at bank	545,145	567,784
	545,166	567,805

12. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	34,888	37,365
Other taxation and social security	7,837	39,379
Other creditors	2,497	-
Deferred income	102,264	74,710
	147,486	151,454

13. Creditors: amounts falling due after one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Other creditors	6,013	9,432

14. Pension and other schemes

Defined benefit pension schemes

SCHEME: TPT Retirement Solutions – The Growth Plan

The company participates in the scheme, a multi-employer scheme which provides benefits to some 638 non-associated participating employers. The scheme is a defined benefit scheme in the UK. It is not possible for the company to obtain sufficient information to enable it to account for the scheme as a defined benefit scheme. Therefore it accounts for the scheme as a defined contribution scheme.

The scheme is subject to the funding legislation outlined in the Pensions Act 2004 which came into force on 30 December 2005. This, together with documents issued by the Pensions Regulator and Technical Actuarial Standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council, set out the framework for funding defined benefit occupational pension schemes in the UK.

The scheme is classified as a 'last-man standing arrangement'. Therefore the company is potentially liable for other participating employers' obligations if those employers are unable to meet their share of the scheme deficit following withdrawal from the scheme. Participating employers are legally required to meet their share of the scheme deficit on an annuity purchase basis on withdrawal from the scheme.

A full actuarial valuation for the scheme was carried out at 30 September 2020. This valuation showed assets of £800.3m, liabilities of £831.9m and a deficit of £31.6m. To eliminate this funding shortfall, the Trustee has asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme as follows:

Deficit contributions

From 1 April 2022 to 31 January 2025: £3,312,000 per annum (payable monthly).

Unless a concession has been agreed with the Trustee the term to 31 January 2025 applies.

Note that the scheme's previous valuation was carried out with an effective date of 30 September 2017. This valuation showed assets of £794.9m, liabilities of £926.4m and a deficit of £131.5m.

To eliminate this funding shortfall, the Trustee asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme as follows:

From 1 April 2019 to 30 September 2025: £11,243,000 per annum payable monthly and increasing by 3% each on 1st April.

The recovery plan contributions are allocated to each participating employer in line with their estimated share of the Series 1 and Series 2 scheme liabilities.

Where the scheme is in deficit and where the company has agreed to a deficit funding arrangement the company recognises a liability for this obligation. The amount recognised is the net present value of the deficit reduction contributions payable under the agreement that relates to the deficit. The present value is calculated using the discount rate detailed in these disclosures. The unwinding of the discount rate is recognised as a finance cost.

Present values of provision

	31 March 2023 (£s)	31 March 2022 (£s)	31 March 2021 (£s)
Present value of provision	6,013	9,432	35,846

Reconciliation of opening and closing provisions

	Period Ending 31 March 2023 (£s)	Period Ending 31 March 2022 (£s)
Provision at start of period	9,432	35,846
Unwinding of the discount factor (interest expense)	178	207
Deficit contribution paid	(3,436)	(9,071)
Remeasurements - impact of any change in assumptions	(161)	(217)
Remeasurements - amendments to the contribution schedule	-	(17,333)
Provision at end of period	6,013	9,432

Income and expenditure impact

	Period Ending 31 March 2023 (£s)	Period Ending 31 March 2022 (£s)
Interest expense	178	207
Remeasurements – impact of any change in assumptions	(161)	(217)
Remeasurements – amendments to the contribution schedule	-	(17,333)
Contributions paid in respect of future service*	*	*
Costs recognised in income and expenditure account	*	*

*includes defined contribution schemes and future service contributions (i.e. excluding any deficit reduction payments) to defined benefit schemes which are treated as defined contribution schemes. To be completed by the company.

Assumptions

	31 March 2023 % per annum	31 March 2022 % per annum	31 March 2021 % per annum
Rate of discount	5.52	2.35	0.66

The discount rates shown above are the equivalent single discount rates which, when used to discount the future recovery plan contributions due, would give the same results as using a full AA corporate bond yield curve to discount the same recovery plan contributions.

14.1 Non-adjusting events after the financial period

Closure of the Defined Benefit Pension Plan

Following the end of the financial period a decision was made to withdraw from the TPT Retirement Solutions - The Growth Plan defined benefit pension scheme and to crystallise the liability to the organisation. In April 2023 the last member of NAVCA staff was withdrawn from the scheme triggering NAVCA's liability in respect of scheme deficits. Calculation of the liability is currently being made by the scheme actuaries; however, it is expected that the liability will be no more than £75000.

15. Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds						
General						
General Funds	267,563	215,755	(231,406)	57,665	(23,709)	285,868
Designated						
Closure & development provision	267,000	-	-	(40,000)	-	227,000
Total unrestricted funds	534,563	215,755	(231,406)	17,665	(23,709)	512,868
Restricted funds						
HWA Coordinator	-	12,625	(12,625)	-	-	-
NHSE Embedding VCSE	45,400	-	(45,400)	-	-	-
NHSE Integrated Toolkit	49,800	-	(49,800)	-	-	-
C&P ICS	-	20,551	(20,551)	-	-	-
Cost of Living Support	-	680,000	(680,000)	-	-	-
Intelligence Gathering ICS	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-	-
Vision for Volunteering	-	45,750	(45,750)	-	-	-
Ukraine	-	440,000	(219,590)	-	-	220,410
DCMS EP Grant Distribution	51,965	-	(51,965)	-	-	-
DCMS EP Phase III	4,671	-	-	-	-	4,671
Social Prescribing	10,525	71,792	(65,019)	-	-	17,298
Tender Support Project	4,049	-	-	(4,049)	-	-
Public Law Project	13,616	-	-	(13,616)	-	-
VCSEP	-	18,000	(18,000)	-	-	-
Total restricted funds	180,026	1,298,718	(1,218,700)	(17,665)	-	242,379
Endowment funds						
Expendable						
Sir John Wriggley Bequest	4,588	-	(4,588)	-	-	-
	4,588	-	(4,588)	-	-	-
Total funds	719,177	1,514,473	(1,454,694)	-	(23,709)	755,247

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Unrestricted funds						
General						
General Funds	306,179	369,412	(349,453)	(69,600)	11,025	267,563
Designated						
Underwriting fund	150,000	-	-	(150,000)	-	-
Development and redundancy	47,400	-	-	(47,400)	-	-
Closure & development provision	-	-	-	267,000	-	267,000
	197,400	-	-	69,600	-	267,000
Total unrestricted funds	503,579	369,412	(349,453)	-	11,025	534,563
Restricted funds						
HWA Coordinator	-	20,500	(20,500)	-	-	-
NHSE Embedding VCSE	-	45,400	-	-	-	45,400
NHSE Integrated Toolkit	-	49,800	-	-	-	49,800
VCSEP	-	80,100	(80,100)	-	-	-
DCMS EP Grant Distribution	29,965	616,266	(594,266)	-	-	51,965
DCMS EP Phase III	-	100,000	(95,329)	-	-	4,671
Social Prescribing	-	32,000	(21,475)	-	-	10,525
Tender Support Project	4,049	-	-	-	-	4,049
Public Law Project	13,616	-	-	-	-	13,616
DCMS Safeguarding	33,343	42,500	(75,843)	-	-	-
Total restricted funds	80,973	986,566	(887,513)	-	-	180,026
Endowment funds						
Expendable						
Sir John Wriggley Bequest	4,588	-	-	-	-	4,588
	4,588	-	-	-	-	4,588
Total funds	589,140	1,355,978	(1,236,966)	-	11,025	719,177

The transfers from the Restricted funds to the General fund relate to activities which have ceased, and the release of any restrictions on the use of these funds.

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

HWA Coordinator - NAVCA is a member of the VCSE Health & Wellbeing Alliance (HWA). The HWA is a partnership between the voluntary sector and the health and care system (as represented by NHS England, Department of Health & Social Care, and Public Health England) to provide a voice and improve health and wellbeing for all communities.

NHSE Embedding VCSE and NHSE Integrated Toolkit - NAVCA was commissioned by NHSE to work with the emerging Integrated Care Systems, supporting the VCSE to engage with the new systems, through resources and networks to share learning and experiences.

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough ICS wanted to engage the VCS more effectively in integrated care systems. Through working with the local infrastructure organisation they identified the need for a strategy, with the development being supported by an informed, neutral, advocate. By providing this support the VCS and health systems came together to produce a strategy agreed by all parties.

Cost of Living Support funding provided by DCMS enabled NAVCA to fund its members and local organisations to meet additional costs and build capacity to meet rising demand arising from the cost of living crisis.

Intelligence Gathering ICS enabled NAVCA to bring together a range of experiences and information about the emerging ICS transformation and present it in a clear report.

Vision for Volunteering - as part of a partnership with NCVO, Volunteer Matters, Sport England and the Association of Volunteer Managers, NAVCA received funding to develop a vision for volunteering, providing inspiration to create conditions for diverse and exciting volunteering over the next 10 years.

Ukraine Support Fund – recognising the need for strong support for Ukrainian arrivals in communities, the British Red Cross funded strong infrastructure support through NAVCA and its members.

DCMS EP Phase III - NAVCA worked with the British Red Cross to deliver the programme 'VCS Emergencies Partnership co-ordination of the voluntary sector's Covid-19 response' which is funded by the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). This grant was an extension of that programme to provide ongoing support in the next phase of Covid-19 and to enable the transition of VCSEP from a covid-model to a future preparedness model.

DCMS VCSEP grant distribution - NAVCA worked with the British Red Cross to deliver the programme 'VCS Emergencies Partnership co-ordination of the voluntary sector's Covid-19 response' which is funded by the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). NAVCA co-ordinated the delivery of the emergency response to Covid-19 with a goal of improving well-being and reducing vulnerabilities of people affected by the pandemic. This involved the distribution of grants to relevant organisations for this purpose.

Social Prescribing – NAVCA partnered with The National Academy for Social Prescribing to support increased co-design/production of social prescribing infrastructure through greater engagement with local VCS infrastructure organisation at a local, regional and national level. Funds towards this project are also being provided by Spirit of 2012, a registered charity.

Tender Support Project - This was a project to provide support to increase organisations' ability to win contracts to deliver public services.

Public Law Project - NCVO was the lead partner on this Big Lottery funded project. This was to work with NCVO on development of a legacy for the project.

DCMS Safeguarding - NAVCA is a member of the Safer Social Partnership (along with NCVO, Acre, Children England and others) which won funding from the National Lottery Community Fund to develop safeguarding resources for the voluntary sector in England under phase 1 of the Safeguarding Training Fund.

VCSEP - Working with British Red Cross, NAVCA co-chairs the Voluntary and Community Sector Emergencies Partnership. This supports the whole voluntary sector to be better prepared for, respond to and learn from

emergencies, influencing government and other stakeholders to enable the VCS to reach its full potential. We receive funds to fulfil the chair and leadership role, working through a secretariat team hosted within British Red Cross.

Endowment Fund

Sir John Wriggley Bequest - The Sir John Wrigley Bequest was made in 1978 to the National Council for Social Services and subsequently devolved to NAVCA. The income from the bequest is being used as instructed, to assist the staff of CVS to take part in community work seminars, conferences and other training opportunities in the UK or in Europe.

Designated Funds

The closure and development fund is a designated fund to provide future business development and in the worst case cover the potential costs of closure of the organisation.

16. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted		
	General £	**Restricted £**	**2023 Total Funds £**
Fixed asset investments	245,005	-	245,005
Current assets	421,362	242,379	663,741
Current liabilities	(147,486)	-	(147,486)
Creditors over 1 year	(6,013)	-	(6,013)
Total net assets	512,868	242,379	755,247

	Unrestricted	Endowment		
	General £	**Restricted £**	**Expendable £**	**2022 Total Funds £**
Fixed asset investments	264,452	-	-	264,452
Current assets	430,997	180,026	4,588	615,611
Current liabilities	(151,454)	-	-	(151,454)
Creditors over 1 year	(9,432)	-	-	(9,432)
Total net assets	534,563	180,026	4,588	719,177

17. Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

18. Trustees remuneration and expenses

During the year the charity made the following transactions with trustees:

Kerrie Fletcher

Kerrie Fletcher received remuneration of £2,640 (2022: £Nil) during the year.

This was through an arm's length contract to deliver quality assurance services as permitted by clause 12(5) b of The Articles of Association of the organisation During the period 7 (2022: 2) Trustees claimed expenses totalling £1,978 (2022:£1,047).

19. Related party transactions

During the year the charity made the following related party transactions:

Lisa Healings

(Lisa is the CEO of VAST)

VAST received funding from NAVCA in the period for Ukraine £14,500, Cost of Living Support £9,500 and other services £1,805. At the balance sheet date the amount due to/from VAST was £Nil (2022 - £Nil).

Angela Carter

(Angela is the CEO of Sefton CVS)

During the period Sefton CVS received funding from NAVCA of £10,000 for Cost of Living support. At the balance sheet date the amount due to/from Sefton CVS was £Nil (2022 - £Nil).

Alison Semmence

(Alison is the CEO of York CVS)

During the period York CVS received funding from NAVCA of £10,000 for Cost of Living support. At the balance sheet date the amount due to/from York CVS was £Nil (2022 - £Nil).

Stephen Craker

(Stephen is the CEO of Communities 1st)

During the period Communities 1st received funding from NAVCA of £10,000 for Cost of Living support, £5,000 for Ukraine and £1,560 for Quality Assessment work. At the balance sheet date the amount due to/from Communities 1st was £Nil (2022 - £Nil).

Julie Farrow

(Julie is the CEO of Hunts Forum for Voluntary Services)

During the period Hunts Forum received funding from NAVCA of £10,000 for Cost of Living support plus £2,400 for Quality Assessment work. At the balance sheet date the amount due to/from Hunts Forum was £Nil (2022 - £Nil).

20. Grant-making

Analysis of grants

	Grants to institutions 2023 £
Analysis	
Cost of Living	625,600
Ukraine	189,590
	815,190

The support costs associated with grant-making are £Nil (31 March 2022 - £Nil).

Funds received from Central Government have been distributed as grants to member organisations to deal with the Cost of Living crisis and to support local work with Ukrainian refugees.

No individual grants made to institutions during the year were material.

21. Fixed asset investments

	2023 £	2022 £
Other investments	245,005	264,452

Other investments

	Listed investments £	Total £
Cost or valuation		
At 1 April 2022	264,452	264,452
Revaluation	(23,692)	(23,692)
Additions	21,028	21,028
Disposals	(16,783)	(16,783)
At 31 March 2023	245,005	245,005
Net book value		
At 31 March 2023	245,005	245,005
At 31 March 2022	264,452	264,452

Local VCS infrastructure organisations

For thriving communities, where people can take action on the things which matter to them.

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Leadership and advocacy

Mobilising and encouraging community action, strengthening our sector's voice and influence on key decision-makers and funders.

Partnerships and collaborations

Creating opportunities and driving effective joint working by building networks of local organisations and strategic partners.





Capacity building

Providing practical support and development for local people and organisations, to nurture skills and build community resilience.

Volunteering

Building an environment in which volunteers and their communities thrive, by encouraging and nurturing volunteering opportunities.



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National Association for Voluntary and Community Action

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Company registration number: 02575206 | Charity registration number: 1001635

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY ACTION

England & Wales - Charity number 1001635

Accounts

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Annual Report

2021/22

100+

users on Health and Wellbeing Slack workspace

6 regional roundtable events on social prescribing with over 70 members

17.6k

followers on Twitter

Our website recieved

50,000+

views between March 2021 & April 2022

NAVCA member count:

187!



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Legal and administrative details:

Legal status:

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY ACTION is a charity (No. 1001635) and a company limited by guarentee (No. 2575206)

Directors and trustees:

The directors of the charitable company ('the charity') are its trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout the report they are collectively referred to as 'the trustees'.

The trustees of the charity during the year are set out on the right.

National Association for Voluntary and Community Action (NAVCA) is a company limited by guarantee. It does not have any paid-up share capital.

In January 2020, the Board appointed Judy Robinson as Chair, with Julie Farrow and Richard Jackson as Vice Chairs. They continued to hold these positions during 2021/22.

Name:	Roles/committee membership:	Date elected/ re-elected/ appointed:
Judy Robinson	Chair Officers' group Recruitment sub-group	Appointed Chair January 2020
Julie Farrow	Vice-chair Officers' group Chair HR committee Recruitment sub-group	December 2019
Richard Jackson	Vice-chair Officers' group Recruitment sub-group	December 2020
Brian Coghlan	Treasurer Officers' group Chair Finance committee Recruitment sub-group	December 2018
Stephen Craker		November 2018
Kerrie Fletcher	Finance committee Recruitment sub-group	November 2019
Alison Semmence	HR committee	December 2020
Michelle Warburton		November 2020
Angela White (Carter) OBE	HR committee Recruitment sub-group	November 2019
Clive Clarke	Co-opted	June 2021

Chief Executive:
Maddy Desforges

Company Secretary:
Brian Coghlan to 5 June 2021
Maddy Desforges from 5 June 2021

Principal and Registered Office:
From August 2021
The Circle
33 Rockingham Lane
Sheffield
S1 4FW

April-August 2021:
The Workstation
15 Paternoster Row
Sheffield
S1 2BX

Auditors:
BHP LLP
2 Rutland Park
Sheffield
S10 2PD

Bankers:
Unity Trust Bank plc
Nine Brindley Place
Birmingham
B1 2HB

Investment Managers:
Investec Wealth and Investment
Beech House
61 Napier Street
Sheffield
S11 8HA

Our funders:

In 2021/22, NAVCA was grateful to receive funding from the organisations set out on the right which enabled us to pursue our strategic objectives.

Acknowledgments:

Thank you to all of NAVCA's members for allowing us to use their photographs in the annual report.

Thank you to Charlotte Ware at Basingstoke Voluntary Action for supporting with the design of this Annual Report.

Lloyds Bank Foundation

Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport

The Tudor Trust

Paul Hamlyn Foundation

The National Lottery Community Fund

National Voices

Spirit of 2012

National Academy for Social Prescribing

Cambridgshire & Peterborough ICS

Supported by NHS England & NHS Improvement

NHS England

Chair's Foreword

Voluntary sector infrastructure really is like railways or roads: it has to build new connections; it needs to keep maps and information up-to-date as things change and maintain; and it needs to improve the basics from dealing with potholes to preventing log jams!

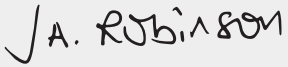
NAVCA's report for 2021/2022 demonstrates what good voluntary sector infrastructure looks like and what it does. I want to highlight some of this work.

First, building new connections is about relationships which are trusted and effective. Here are three examples. By bringing members together in regional forums or the health and wellbeing forum and by involving them in helping to shape responses to policies such as Levelling Up, NAVCA has shown its determination to be a movement which is led by excellent member relations drawing in experience and understanding from localities. As the new structures in health and social care – Integrated Care Systems (ICS), have emerged new connections had to be made. We have advocated for the proper involvement of the VCS in ICS so that services are better connected to communities and citizens. National connections matter too so the Vision for Volunteering has built a new alliance of national organisations to promote and develop volunteering informed by NAVCA members and other organisations. Government has been supportive of this initiative and NAVCA has made strides this year in developing productive links with a range of government departments including DCMS and the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.

Second, the right information underpins what NAVCA does and how we support members. Getting a crisp message about why infrastructure matters, what it does and its impact has been welcomed widely. Adding to this have been a series of briefings and a major research project to understand the situation of members and their priorities. All this means NAVCA has tools both to understand future trends, using shared member intelligence and to "map" directions in an uncertain context.

Third, maintaining, developing and improving. Everyone knows how annoying potholes or poorly maintained stations are and how they are symptoms of organisations that are not committed to improvement. So it is with VCS infrastructure. That's why NAVCA has developed a new quality standard for members which will enable organisations to validate their quality and their work. Maintaining a focus on quality, a commitment to learn and embed best practice are features of improving organisations and they are seen in NAVCA's programme on safeguarding with an emphasis on awareness and training. Embedding NAVCA'S commitment to become an anti-racist organisation has involved practical things like ensuring interview panels include a perspective from someone with a black, Asian or ethnic minority background and setting up an Anti-Racism Group of staff, trustees and members to drive that commitment to quality and change. NAVCA is making sure the benefits of social prescribing improve people's health and link them to communities, as an integral part of how services operate through improved shared learning and connections.

NAVCA's vision is a society based on fairness, active citizenship and social action. Trustees and staff have the task of making that vision a reality – I think this report shows how much progress is being made to connect, inform and improve. And for doing this, thanks are due to members for engaging and contributing, to an excellent staff team led by our CEO Maddy Desforges, to the Trustee Board for advice and guidance and to our funders and stakeholders for ongoing support.



JA Robinson

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Trustees' Report

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, are pleased to present their report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022. The legal and administrative information set out on page 4 forms part of this report.

The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements and the trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities FRS 102 (second edition, October 2019)" in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

Governing Document:

NAVCA is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 21 January 1991 and registered as a charity on 24 January 1991. The company is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association that were last amended on 6 December 2015. In the event of the company being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £5.

Vision, mission and aims:

NAVCA's vision is for a society based on equality, fairness, active citizenship, strong communities and social action. We are the voice for local place at national level, providing leadership and support to our members. We exist to support a vibrant network of local infrastructure organisations across England, to help them grow in strength, confidence and impact and to increase their influence nationally.

Our mission is to strengthen and champion social action through effective local voluntary and community sector infrastructure.
Our aims are that:

- every community in England benefits from a thriving local voluntary sector, strengthened through excellent local support and development;
- any person in England who wants to volunteer, start a charity or social enterprise or create a voluntary organisation has a place to go for good, local advice and support; and
- our members have clear, effective influence and engaged support amongst key stakeholders, locally and nationally.

The principal objects of the charity are "to promote any charitable purposes for the benefit of the public, in England, and, in particular, build the capacity of local support and development organisations and provide them with the necessary support, information and services to enable them to pursue or contribute to any charitable purpose."

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and are satisfied that the organisation's strategic framework, which provides the template for all of its work, conforms to these requirements.



Strategy and Delivery:

Our three strategic objectives are our five-year strategy published in 2019, Excellence, Everywhere:

- Assure the quality: We can demonstrate and champion the quality of local sector support and development as delivered by every member of NAVCA.
- Make the case and fill the gaps: The local VCSE in every part of England has access to the quality support and development services it needs, either through a NAVCA member, a non-member local infrastructure body or an effective alternative model of provision.
- Act as innovative infrastructure organisation: We have credibility and influence as the voice of local sector support and development, and provide the best possible support for our members, by being the best national infrastructure body we can be.



Our outcomes, against our strategic objectives

Assure the quality:

We demonstrate and champion the quality of local sector support and development, as delivered by every member of NAVCA.

During 2021/22 our members started to come through the immediate pressures of the pandemic, to face new challenges in both their own sustainability and operations, and the reality of managing the impact of the pandemic (such as contributing to the booster programme in December as the Omicron variant gained traction), and the growing cost of living crisis. We concentrated on understanding the challenges and issues faced by our members, so that we could focus our work and ensure we were sharing the information needed, and offering useful services and support. We also looked to baseline local infrastructure – to better understand what it is doing now, the challenges it faces, and what is needed to demonstrate impact.

We brought members together and created space to develop and share thinking

We reviewed our engagement mechanisms. We brought members together in 20 regional forums through the year, to network with other members working locally, connect over mutual interests, and create important space for peer support. The sessions with Rachael Maskell MP, Shadow Minister for Civil Society, were especially well received and useful to develop thinking on the wider role of the sector, the challenges it faces and how it takes its place as we emerge from Covid. In addition we facilitated topic focussed discussions, for example to develop membership model; and held casual "drop-in" sessions for CEOs to talk to us. This engagement is important for members to come together, but also provides a vital route for us to keep up to date on the challenges and opportunities at local level.

Our AGM and conference provide a focal point of the year for our members. This year, we again held the event online, as Covid rates threatened to rise and stop a face to face event. We had over 120 registrations for our "thinking space" conference, reflecting the ongoing challenge and need to make time to work through the issues we face. Engaging speakers book ended the session around imagining a different future, and the impact of polarisation in society. Provocateurs framed a number of workshop sessions around key topics including the climate emergency and racism. A more detailed write up is here: **Thinking Space 2021 - next steps.**

And developed our communications approach to make sure we gathered intelligence and shared information on key issues

We developed our regular communications with members, to gather intelligence, test thinking, and share information and insights. Our CEO bulletin is received fortnightly by around 200 CEOs, and enables us to share policy information, important updates, resources, funding opportunities and more. Our newsletter, LINX, goes to over 1800 subscribers, offering a wider audience news from the voluntary and community sector, and an insight into our work and the work of our members. COIN (Chief Officers Information Network) continues to be a go-to place for support, to test thinking, and share resources.



We expanded to new platforms, with Slack providing a useful tool to engage members. Our Barking Owl workspace, specifically for communications workers in member organisations, has over 100 members. The Health and Wellbeing Alliance Slack workspace also has over 100 members, and offers an approach to sharing information which reflects the current issues in a more segmented way.

We refreshed our approach to quality accreditation to enable the network to show our value and impact

Throughout 2021/22, we developed our Quality Accreditation offers: the Local Infrastructure Quality Accreditation (LIQA) and the Volunteer Centre Quality Accreditation (VCQA). These accreditations will enable organisations across the country to show they are delivering infrastructure support to a good standard. We worked with stakeholders from within and outside the NAVCA network to develop the content and assessment for both Accreditations, identifying what is needed in strong VCS infrastructure. The accreditations will enable organisations to demonstrate that they offer excellent support, are influential in their local system, and give confidence to stakeholders when it comes to engagement and investment.

The new Local Infrastructure Quality Award (LIQA) offers a re-fresh and re-focus of the NAVCA quality award, built around the four functions of infrastructure. We worked with members and stakeholders to identify the outcomes we expect to see, the evidence which might show those outcomes, and a simplified process to go through. The pilot was launched at the end of the reporting year, with 8 organisations taking part.

We took on oversight and management of the Volunteer Centre Quality Award (VCQA) from NCVO, working with stakeholders to develop the approach to be current and relevant. NAVCA members and those outside of the membership that hold the VCQA were engaged through a series of discussion events between late July and early September. The VCQA opened for organisations to secure an assessment spot in May 2022.

We promoted strong safeguarding approaches and led activity to develop and embed best practice

We aimed to equip every member, and their groups, with an editable resource to point people to local support and national resources for safeguarding, as well as developing confidence and knowledge within local VCSE infrastructure organisations.

Working with Community Action Suffolk and Basingstoke Voluntary Action we developed the #AreTheySafe resource pack to highlight the importance of safeguarding awareness and training. We hosted nine regional events, with engagement and participation from over 150 VCSEs from a range of backgrounds (Local Infrastructure Organisations, local and national VCSEs, village halls, citizens advice services, NHS staff, and others). We looked at how to create more effective support networks for VCSE staff and volunteers, identifying common themes where there is lack of support or access to information. We hosted the DBS Service at these events, creating connections with local VCSEs. We worked with the DBS service to explore how local VCSE sector support organisations can forge strong links with their newly appointed DBS Regional Advisors.

We engaged with University of Sussex to add to the Mutual Aid toolkit to support grassroots community groups to recognise safeguarding as their responsibility and develop their confident in identifying and reporting concerns. The report developed as a result of this research will be shared with members in 2022.

We developed a renewed approach to gathering and managing information about our network

To improve how we manage information about members we adopted an online CRM system to enable us to better track member engagement, allow us to share information within the NAVCA staff team and ensure that our members' contact details are up to date and accurate. We are able to use these details to inform our work, ensuring that we provide excellent support to our members. On 1 March 2022, we began to use AideCRM internally, developing workplace culture around use of and updating the system.

Make the case and fill the gaps:

The local VCSE in every part of England has access to the quality support and development services it needs, either through a NAVCA member, a non-member infrastructure body, or an effective alternative model of provision.

We went back to set out why infrastructure matters

We worked with members to re-think the key functions of local VCS infrastructure, and articulate the impact it has and why it matters. We identified four areas, building on previous iterations of what local infrastructure is, how impact is articulated locally, and reflecting developments over recent years. These are: leadership and advocacy; community development; volunteering; and partnerships and collaborations. These will inform and drive our work in the coming years





We commissioned research to baseline the state of local infrastructure and challenges it faces

We wanted to better understand our membership and challenges it faces working with local communities, particularly coming out of the pandemic. We commissioned Sheffield Hallam University to undertake a survey supplemented by qualitative interviews, with guidance and support from stakeholders including the LGA, NHS England, Lloyds Bank Foundation, The National Lottery Community Foundation and NAVCA members. We will aggregate the responses to make a powerful case for the importance of infrastructure, as well as to reflect on needs and challenges to inform our work and priorities. The report will be written and published in 2022.

We supported members to join new health and well being structures through ICS transformation

Health and wellbeing has been an important focus through the year, reflecting key changes in national policy. Members have invested significant time and capacity in engaging with and influencing the development of Integrated Care Systems (ICSs), which draw heavily on engaging the VCS and communities. System transformation brings its own challenges: being part of the system but also able to critique it; clarity on the legal status of engagement; and expectations about capacity and resource required from the VCS to take its place with credibility and impact.

Through regular forums and communications, we supported members to engage with these new structures, to share ways of working, understand the emerging picture and options for the way forward. We worked with NHS England to support the development of sector alliances in each of the 42 ICS areas, aiding sector engagement with health systems, promoting understanding of how to engage effectively with the VCS, what it brings to the transformation process, and the importance of investment. We were particularly pleased that the profile and importance of local infrastructure was recognised in NHS England guidance **Building strong integrated care systems everywhere; ICS implementation guidance on partnerships with the VCSE sector** (September 2021). We have begun development of a toolkit of resources to sit alongside the programme.

NAVCA has an important role to bring the voice of communities to the national table, particularly in the space of health and wellbeing, to ensure people's experiences and intelligence inform system and policy development. We can't do this alone and have worked closely with National Voices, NCVO and other partners to articulate what is needed. The VCSE Health and Wellbeing Alliance offers one route, and we have continued work with National Voices to coordinate the partnership. Quarterly working days provide space to come together, identify issues, and discuss opportunities to link up work. We have also coordinated collective responses, for example to the consultation on the health disparities white paper from Department of Health and Social Care. The strategic priorities of the alliance for the next financial year are social prescribing, primary care, mental health, and maternal health. Alongside this we have driven more proactive work including contributing to national discussions on the role and place of volunteerism within health structures, including being an advocate for place-based volunteering on the NHS Volunteer Responders Advisory Board.

We increased the recognition and support for communities leading delivery of social prescribing

We have developed a new partnerships with the National Academy for Social Prescribing (NASP) and Spirit of 2012, and are working closely with NHS England to build on our members experience and create stronger connections between local VCSE infrastructure organisation and stakeholders involved in social prescribing at a national, regional, system and place level.

We have brought together a group of NAVCA members as a steering group to lead our approach and delivered regional roundtable events to explore the challenges and possible solutions. In 2022-23 we will work through this new partnership to deliver a tangible support offer that increases the effectiveness of the social prescribing infrastructure for all involved.

Act as an innovative national infrastructure organisation:

We have credibility and influence as the national voice of local infrastructure.

Outcomes during 2021/22:

We worked with partners to develop a 10 year Vision for Volunteering

Working with NCVO, Volunteering Matters, Sport England and the Association of Volunteer Managers we led the development of a 10 year Vision for Volunteering. NAVCA staff and members designed and facilitated workshops to bring together a wide variety of organisations and individuals – over 350 people from more than 300 organisations contributed. The resulting Vision has five key themes: Awareness and Appreciation; Power (shifting power to communities); Equity and Inclusion; Collaboration; Experimentation.

The vision is far reaching, and thanks to contributions from such a wide set of perspectives, gives us a good challenge for the coming years. The vision is rightly focussed around community connections and social action, alongside service-focussed volunteering. Following the launch of the Vision in May 2022, we are engaging members in thinking about how we develop the Vision further at a local level.

> ***"NAVCA are head and shoulders above the rest with their reactive, collaborative approach to highlighting issues around volunteering."***
>
> **Claire | Volunteer lead at Halton and St Helens VCA**

We developed briefings and policy positions on key issues with our members

We provided important and timely briefings for CEOs covering policy positions on key issues, as well as setting out our position as a network to influence nationally. On Levelling Up, we provided a lead voice with partners to bring to the fore the importance of resilient communities, looking to influence the Levelling Up White Paper and its implementation. We have been increasingly concerned around levelling up at all levels – between households as well as communities and places – as a way of raising the poverty agenda. We are continuing to work on local authority relationships, with work in hand to produce a piece setting out the importance of good strategic relationships between the VCS and local Councils. To strengthen the position of the sector following on from Covid we are exploring what are the conditions for strong local infrastructure, and what happens and what is different when strong local infrastructure is in place.

We have engaged and influenced around the Ukraine crisis, particularly on how communities welcome refugees. We regularly briefed members, identified ways that local infrastructure can best engage, and have been working with the Department for Levelling Up (DLUHC), the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and the Local Government Association (LGA). We have escalated issues, reflected our members experience, and looked to influence the design of the scheme to reflect the engagement of local communities as well as specialist organisations. We have built relationships with the LGA, with whom our interests in translating a national scheme to local align, resulting for example in Government guidance for local authorities pointing to local infrastructure through the NAVCA Members Map. A number of our members are working with their local authority to coordinate the response locally, especially support for refugees and host households. NAVCA is well aligned with LGA on this, and we are looking at what work we might work on together.

We developing and supported VCS engagement in an emergency response

As co-chair of the Emergencies Partnership (VCSEP) we led the VCS planning, preparedness and response to emergencies, as well as learning in after event reviews. Regular meetings of the network, as well as a regional forum built relationships and understanding between different parts of the VCS. The partnership responded to specific emergencies: the Omicron variant booster vaccination programme in the autumn; coordinating support for the Afghan evacuation. It also continued to run capacity building exercises for example around flood or heatwave, and to share information about potential emergency response.

Both NAVCA and the VCSEP were part of the Governments review of Civil Contingency arrangements. We contributed to the Review of National Preparedness through the commission chaired by Lord Toby Harris; their report reflected well the important role communities play in emergency response, and how they should be better integrated to Local Resilience Forum. We continue to engage and seek to influence as the review of structures continues. The VCSEP continues to develop in its new structures and secretariat team, all now located within British Red Cross. DCMS has agreed a 3-year funding pot which we are front-loading to year one in anticipation of securing further funds through this year. The focus this year is on preparedness and planning.



We worked to become an Anti-Racism organisation and work closely with our members to encourage them to be actively anti-racist

We had committed to being an antiracist organisation, but knew we had, and still have, some way to go. We have reviewed our internal systems and structures to remove bias, and promote an antiracist stance, including for example blind recruitment and ensuring interview panels include a member who brings a perspective from black, Asian or ethnic minority perspective. We established an Anti-Racism group who's purpose is to create space to raise, discuss and challenge racism where we see it, including in our own organisation, other local infrastructure organisations, and those they support. The group has 25 members made up of NAVCA staff, trustees and members. Our statement of intent sets out our approach. In March 2022 we published our anti-racism statement and call to action, which we encourage all our members to commit to.

We also developed practical support and encouraged members to consider their approach to being anti racist. We partnered with Gamiel Yafai from Diversity Marketplace to offer a series of workshops around how to create a culture of inclusion, recognising our own perceptions and actions, and then how to take further action; and one specifically for trustees around decision making, and the impact of power imbalances can have on a charity achieving its aims. Over 500 people from across our network, and members of our members, signed up to these events.

"Excellent session 'How to create a culture of inclusion and become an Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Ally' this morning. Thanks to @NAVCA & @gamielyafai"

- VODA

People:

We promote a supportive, learning culture in the organisation, where people feel motivated to do well; and support flexible working for our staff.

In 2021, we saw the need to restructure of the organisation to make sure we operate in a way that has the most benefit for our members. The process took place throughout the second half of 2021 and the changes were in place by January 2022. The NAVCA team has found this to be a positive shift in our culture and people, which has helped improve engagement with members and focus on our strategy.

The final quarter of the year found us coming together as a new team to identify what we do, how to do it, and the culture we want to develop to have greatest impact.

We would like to thank all staff and volunteers for their hard work in 2021/22:

- Marcus Bowen
- Alex Boys
- Helen Carter
- Maddy Desforges OBE
- Kat Heaton
- Cheng Ee Kok
- Emily Lewis
- Lydia Lowther
- Clare Mills
- Anne-Marie Morrison
- Anna Pashley
- Karen Spark
- Lucy Straker
- JuliAnne Tidy
- Rebecca Vickers
- Lydia Warden

- Clive Clarke
- Brian Coghlan
- Stephen Craker
- Julie Farrow
- Kerrie Fletcher
- Richard Jackson
- Judy Robinson
- Alison Semmence
- Michelle Warburton
- Angela White (Carter) OBE



Finance:

Due to Covid grant awards revaluations of investments and pension funds and an extension to the VCSEP grant distribution, both income and costs increased during the course of the year with the bottom line improving from an initial budgeted small deficit to favourable position. The budget was not revised but a revised forecast was presented to Board on a quarterly basis to ensure they were informed.

Looking ahead - 2022/23

In 2021/22, we worked on developing our systems and processes, alongside an organisation restructure, in order to focus sharply on our mission and provide a better service for our members. We adapted to the impact of the pandemic on our membership and their networks, continuing to respond to policy developments and provide our members with valuable information. Through our role as a facilitator and collaborator, we brought members together to work on projects with us and other stakeholders. We focussed on health and wellbeing as a topic, supporting members to engage with system transformation through the new Integrated Care Systems. We recognised and celebrated the impact and influence of our network, and we aim to strengthen this throughout 2022/23.

Looking ahead, we will work towards our strategic objectives, aligned with the four functions of local infrastructure:

Leadership and advocacy: Nurture ambition and be a catalyst so local communities are actively influencing local and national systems, and their assets are used to influence decisions and actions.

Practical support and community development: Create spaces and strengthen opportunities for people to come together, driving aspirations and sharing best practice to strengthen the network.

Partnerships: Bring together and lead partnerships to meet need, have greater impact or lever in funding.

Volunteering: Lead, facilitate and influence the VCS and other partners to create a culture and develop systems where volunteering thrives, with ready connections to volunteer opportunities.

These four themes are integral to the work we do to support our members and influence policy that impacts the voluntary and community sector. The outcomes we are working towards in 2022/23 are:

Membership: we will develop a clear, effective and efficient membership offer which the majority of members – and a diverse range of staff within members' organisations – are regularly and actively engaged in. Members report they are receiving the support they need from their membership body and can easily access and navigate the services they want to engage with.

Health and wellbeing: we will impact key strategies and plans, creating an environment for our members to engage in, and foster better understanding between the Statutory Health and Voluntary Sectors. We will influence ways of working and be seen as a key strategic partner for supporting, directing and developing the work between the health and care sector and VCSE sector. We will continue to focus on demonstrating the value of community-based approaches on the wider determinants of health.

Policy and Communications: we will ensure NAVCA has a clear and compelling message and position on key issues, and communicates these and relevant issues clearly and concisely with members and stakeholders.

Resources: we will ensure NAVCA is well run, with systems and structures developed and implemented to make best use of all resources and ensure effective and timely decision making.

Our Trustee Board

NAVCA is managed by a Trustee Board comprising up to 13 trustees. Nine must be elected by NAVCA members, and a further four can be appointed/co-opted by the trustees. Trustees are appointed for a three-year term, and can serve no more than six consecutive years as a trustee. The chair is appointed by trustees, and again must serve no more than six consecutive years.

The Board is served by a small number of working groups, each chaired by a trustee, which meet between three and five times per year. These are responsible for scrutinising specific areas of work, undertaking tasks delegated to them by the Board, and advising the Board on policy and strategy. The Board is also served by a small group of officers who take a lead role to support the executive team. In 2020/21, the officers were Judy Robinson (Chair), Richard Jackson and Julie Farrow (Vice Chairs), and Brian Coghlan (Treasurer). The HR Committee, chaired by Julie Farrow, was heavily involved in improvements to our HR policies and procedures. The Finance Committee, chaired by Brian Coghlan, ensures appropriate scrutiny of NAVCA's financial reporting and decision making, on behalf of the Board and in line with the NAVCA Scheme of Delegation.

New trustees are provided with induction, ongoing support and development to help them fulfil their role. Details of trustees who have served during the year are set out on page four.

All trustees give their time freely and no trustee was paid during the year. Details of trustee expenses and related party transactions are disclosed in note 10 of the accounts.
Trustees are required to disclose all relevant interests and register them with the company secretary and, in accordance with the organisation's Memorandum and Articles, withdraw from decisions where a conflict of interest arises.

Internal control and risk management

The trustees examine the major risks faced by the charity, in relation to external factors and relationships, its governance and management, its internal operations and its business. The management of risk is reviewed by the senior management team and the Trustee Board.

The principal risks and their mitigations are:
• Governance – sufficient breadth and depth of experience among trustees to ensure the capacity and insight is brought to bear to successfully oversee and steer the organisation. The Board has reviewed its trustees, and co-opted Clive Clarke to bring a different perspective to the Board. Further work is underway to recruit trustees as a number come to the end of their term in the year 2022-23
• Ensuring the quality of local infrastructure, to enable NAVCA and its members to make the case for its impact effectively. Work is underway to review our approach to quality and standards, and to embed this fully with our work with members. We will use the opportunity to think about how we support development, and engage widely with stakeholders.
•A funding environment dominated by short-term opportunities for NAVCA and our members means a lack of long-term financial stability and core funding which can mean that staff capacity to deliver is very stretched. We will continue to make the case for the importance of infrastructure, including commissioning research, collating and disseminating information about the network's impact.

The trustees keep the systems of internal financial control under review. Systems have been designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance against material mis-statement or loss. They include:

• a 5 year strategic and one year business plan supported by an annual budget approved by the trustees;
• regular consideration by the trustees of financial results, variance from budgets and performance against the non-financial annual plan;
• clear delegation of authority and separation of duties.

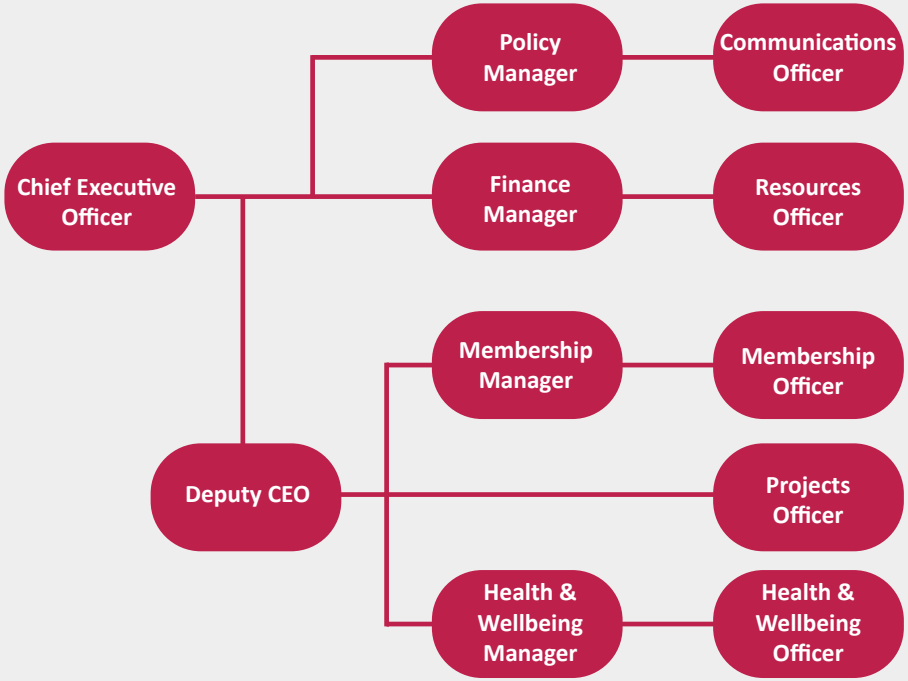
The internal financial controls conform to guidelines issued by the Charity Commission.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel:

The setting of pay and remuneration for SMT members of staff is reserved to the Board in NAVCA's scheme of delegation, with salaries approved annually as part of the budget setting process. No member of staff is paid more than £60,000 per annum.



Staff structure 21/22



Fundraising standards information

NAVCA does not carry out significant fundraising activities from the public. The vast majority of funds come from grants, contracts and commercial income including membership fees.

Reserves policy

NAVCA's reserves policy is to retaining sufficient funds to cover closure liabilities, should the organisation be faced with closure, including 3 months to cover operating costs enabling orderly closure. In addition we retain funds for specific business development. The amount set aside for this is £265, 000.

The calculated level of free reserves at 31 March 2022 was £267,563 comprising total unrestricted funds of £534,563 (Note 18).

Investment powers and policy

Under its Memorandum and Articles of Association, the charity has the power to make any investment that the trustees see fit. At the end of 2021/22 the amount the charity had invested stood at a market value of £247,615. Pleasingly, as seen in the main accounts, we benefitted from a revaluation increase on the prior year due to recovery in the overall financial markets.

The remainder of the organisation's funds are held in deposit accounts, with funds being moved, when appropriate, between accounts to maximise the interest earned. Bank interest receivable during the year amounted to £47.00.

Surplus 2021/22

The surplus for the year is £130,027 after carrying forward a total of £60,552 into 2022/23. This carried forward fund covers income received in 2021/22 to be spent against delivery in 2022/23: £10,000 funds from NHS England for delivery of the Integrated Care Toolkit, £20,551 from NHS Cambridgeshire and Peterborough CCG for ICS Strategy and £30,000 grant from Paul Hamlyn Fund for core spend on levelling up work.

£95,200 from NHS England for Embedding VCSE and development of the Integrated Care Toolkit, £10,525 from Spirit of 2012 and National Academy for Social Prescribing work have been designated to be spent in 2022-23.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.



Trustees' responsibilities statement

The trustees (who are also directors of NAVCA for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the annual Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and UK Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company, the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for the period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

As far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

On behalf of the Board



JA Robinson
20 October 2022

navca
local focus national voice

"I'm really appreciating the connection with others working in a similar role, it's really helpful to swap ideas and tools. I've picked up lots of tips already!"

- A NAVCA member, about our Barking Owl network

Independent Auditors' Report to the members and trustees of National Association for Voluntary and Community Action

Opinion:

We have audited the financial statements of National Association for Voluntary and Community Action for the year ended 31 March 2022 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the company balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:
• give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2022 and of the entity's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
• have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
• have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion:

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern:

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue. Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.



Matters on which we are required to report by exception:

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the directors' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees:

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements:

We have been appointed auditor under the Companies Act 2006 and section 151 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with those Acts.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or 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 these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The specific procedures for this engagement and the extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

1. We gained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework applicable to the entity and the sector in which it operates, and considered the risk of such regulations, including fraud. We designed audit procedures to respond to the risk.

2. We focused on laws and regulations relevant to the entity which could give rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements. Our testing included discussions with management, trustees, and those staff with direct responsivity for the compliance of laws and regulations. We also reviewed legal expenses.

3. We addressed the risk of management override of internal controls, including the testing of journals and review of the nominal ledger. We evaluated whether there was evidence of bias by management or the trustees that represented a risk of material misstatement due to fraud.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulations. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report:

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006, and to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members and its trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and its members, as a body, and the charitable company's trustees as a body for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Philip Allsop FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
24 October 2022
For and on behalf of BHP LLP

2 Rutland Park
Sheffield
S10 2PD

BHP LLP is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006



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Statement of Financial Activities (Including Income and Expenditure Account)

Name:	Note	2022 Unrestricted Funds £	2022 Restricted Funds £	2022 Endowment Funds £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Income and endowments from:						
Charitable activities	3	363,453	986,566	-	1,350,019	1,534,674
Investments	4	5,959	-	-	5,959	5,825
Total income and endowments		369,412	986,566	-	1,355,978	1,540,499
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	5	(1,593)	-	-	(1,593)	(1,118)
Charitable activities	6	(347,860)	(887,513)	-	(1,235,373)	(1,365,547)
Total expenditure		(349,453)	(887,513)	-	(1,236,966)	(1,366,665)
Net gains/(losses) on investments	13	11,015	-	-	11,015	32,870
Net income (expenditure)		30,974	99,053	-	130,027	206,704
Transfer between funds	18	-	-	-	-	-
Other recognised gains/losses						
Re-measurement (loss)/ (gain on defined benefit pension plan	24	10	-	-	10	(2,180)
Net movement in funds		30,984	99,053	-	130,037	204,524
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		503,579	80,973	4,588	589,140	384,616
Total funds carried forward		534,563	180,026	4,588	719,177	589,140

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.
The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised during the year.

Balance Sheet

Name:	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	12	-	-
Investments	13	247,615	235,624
		247,615	235,624
Current assets			
Debtors		47,806	34,519
Cash at bank and in hand	14	584,642	653,398
		632,448	687,917
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(151,454)	(298,555)
Net current assets		480,994	389,362
Total assets less current liabilities		728,609	624,986
Net assets excluding pension liability		728,609	624,986
Defined benefit pension liability	24	(9,432)	(35,846)
Net assets		719,177	589,140
Charity Funds			
Endowment funds	19	4,588	4,588
Restricted funds	18	180,026	80,973
Unrestricted funds			
Designated funds	18	267,000	197,400
General Reserve (including revaluation reserve of £35,147 (2021: £27,701)	18	267,563	306,179
Total unrestricted funds		534,563	503,579
Total charity funds	20	719,177	589,140

The trustees acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of the financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board on

Signed on behalf of the board of trustees.

JA. Robinson

JA Robinson
20 October 2022

The notes on pages 29 to 53 form part of these financial statements.
Company registration number: 02575206

Statement of Cash Flows

Name:	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Cash flows for operating activities			
		-	-
Net cash (utilised)/provided by operating activities	21	(73,739)	470,995
Cash flow from investing activities			
Bank interest		47	132
Dividends received		5,912	5,693
Sale proceeds of sale of investments		14,093	55,141
Purchase of investments		(15,069)	(50,863)
Net cash used in investing activities		4,983	10,103
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(68,756)	481,098
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		653,398	172,300
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	22 23	584,642	653,398

Notes to Financial Statements

Summary of significant accounting policies:

(a) General information and basis of preparation

National Association for Voluntary and Community Action (NAVCA) is a charitable company in the United Kingdom. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £5 per member of the charity. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 1 of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities is being the national voice for local charity infrastructure concerned with voluntary and community action.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Second Edition, October 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Practice.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The charity makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates and assumptions will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. There are no estimates and assumptions that have significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities withing the next financial year.

(b) Funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds represent those assets, which must be held permanently by the charity, principally cash at bank and in hand. Income arising on the endowment funds can be used as instructed, to assist the staff of CVS to take part in community work seminars, conferences and other training opportunities in the UK or in Europe. Any capital gains or losses arising on the investments form part of the fund. Investment management charges and legal advice relating to the fund are charged against the fund.

(c) Income recognition

All income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity is legally entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably, and it is probable that the income will be received.

For donations to be recognised the charity will have been notified of the amounts and the settlement date in writing. If there are conditions attached to the donation and this requires a level of performance before entitlement can be obtained, then income is deferred until those conditions are fully met or the fulfilment of those conditions is within the control of the charity and it is probable that they will be fulfilled.

Income from trading activities includes income earned from fundraising events and trading activities to raise funds for the charity. Income is received in exchange for supplying goods and services in order to raise funds and is recognised when entitlement has occurred.

The charity receives government grants in respect of restricted funding for delivery of services. Income from government and other grants are recognised at fair value when the charity has entitlement after any performance conditions have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably. If entitlement is not met, then these amounts are deferred.

Investment income is earned through holding assets for investment purposes such as shares and property. It includes dividends, interest and rent. Where it is not practicable to identify investment management costs incurred within a scheme with reasonable accuracy the investment income is reported net of these costs. It is included when the amount can be measured reliably. Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method and dividend and rent income is recognised as the charity's right to receive payment is established.

(d) Expenditure recognition

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. It is categorised under the following headings:

- Costs of raising funds includes investment management fees;
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes costs of activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity; and
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into the categories above.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as an expense against the activity for which expenditure arose. Grants payable to third parties are within the charitable objectives. Where unconditional grants are offered, this is accrued as soon as the recipient is notified of the grant, as this gives rise to a reasonable expectation that the recipient will receive the grants. Where grants are conditional relating to performance then the grant is only accrued when any unfulfilled conditions are outside of the control of the charity.

(e) Support costs allocation

Support costs are those that assist the work of the charity but do not directly represent charitable activities and include office costs, governance costs, administrative and payroll costs. They are incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity and include project management carried out at Headquarters. Where support costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they have been allocated to cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources. Other overheads have been allocated on a time allocation basis.

Fund-raising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities. The analysis of these costs is included in note 7.

(f) Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets costing more than £1,000 are capitalised and included at cost less accumulated depreciation. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended. Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset on a systematic basis over its expected useful life as follows:

IT equipment	3 years straight line
Office furniture and fittings	5 years straight line

(g) Investments

Investments are recognised initially at fair value which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs. Subsequently, they are measured at fair value with changes recognised in 'net gains / (losses) on investments' in the SoFA if the shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably. Other investments are measured at cost less impairment.

(h) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the charity has an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount can be reliably estimated.

(i) Employee benefits

When employees have rendered service to the charity, short-term employee benefits to which the employees are entitled are recognised at the undiscounted amount expected to be paid in exchange for that service. The charity operates a defined benefit pension scheme for the benefit of its employees. A liability for the charity's obligations under the plan is recognised net of plan assets. The net change in the net defined benefit liability is recognised as the cost of the defined benefit plan during the period. Pension plan assets are measured at fair value and the defined benefit obligation is measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method. Actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date.

(j) Tax

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

(k) Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.



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Statement of Financial Activities 2021

	2021			
Name:	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total £
Income and endowments from:				
Charitable activities	253,944	1,280,730	-	1,534,674
Investments	5,825	-	-	5,825
Total income and endowments	259,769	1,280,730	-	1,540,499
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	(1,118)	-	-	(1,118)
Charitable activities	(148,125)	(1,217,422)	-	(1,365,665)
Total expenditure	(149,243)	(1,217,422)	-	(1,366,665)
Net gains on investments	32,870	-	-	32,870
Net income (expenditure)	143,396	63,308	-	206,704
Transfer between funds	-	-	-	-
Other recognised gains/losses				
Re-measurement (loss)/ (gain on defined benefit pension plan	(2,180)	-	-	(2,180)
Net movement in funds	141,216	63,308	-	206,524
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward	362,363	17,665	4,588	384,616
Total funds carried forward	**503,579**	**80,973**	4,588	**589,140**

3

Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 £	2021 £
Membership income	47,939	-	**47,939**	48,876
Grant and Project income	249,000	986,566	**1,235,566**	1,413,730
Contract income	66,514	-	**66,514**	72,068
	363,453	986,566	**1,350,019**	1,534,674

Grant and project income		
Restricted		
HWA (Health and Wellbeing Alliance)	20,500	60,000
NHSE – Embedding VCSE	45,400	-
NHSE – Integrated Care Toolkit	49,800	-
DCMS -VCS Emergencies Partnership Secretariat	80,100	123,500
DCMS- VCS Emergencies Partnership grant distribution	616,266	1,056,017
DCMS- VCS Emergencies Partnership Phase III	100,000	-
VCSE - Data and Intelligence sharing	-	5,420
Spirit of 2012 re Social Prescribing	13,000	-
The National Academy for Social Prescribing re social prescribing	19,000	-
VCSE –'Levelling Up'	-	1,500
DCMS – Safeguarding	42,500	33,343
Social Investment Support (Barrow Cadbury Grant)	-	950
	986,566	1,280,730
Unrestricted		
The National Lotteries Communities Fund – emergency Covid-19 funding	167,000	133,000
Tudor Trust	32,000	-
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	30,000	-
Sheffield City Council	10,000	-
Lloyds Foundation	10,000	-
	249,000	133,000
Total grants and project income	1,235,566	1,413,730
Membership fees and charitable purpose contracts	114,453	120,944
Total resources from charitable activities	1,350,019	1,534,674

4 | Income from charitable activities

	2022 £	2021 £
Dividends	5,912	5,693
Interest	47	132
	5,959	5,825

5 | Raising Funds

	2022 £	2021 £
Investment manager fees	1,593	1,118
	1,593	1,118

6 | Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Activities undertaken directly £	Activities undertaken by members £	Support costs	2022 £	2021 £
Member Support	185,869	-	57,005	242,874	158,521
Grant and Project Expenses	185,922	-	8,099	194,021	222,064
Grants distributed	-	669,097	-	669,097	971,158
Contract Expenses	102,384	-	26,997	129,381	13,804
	474,175	669,097	92,101	**1,235,373**	1,365,547

7 | Support Costs

Support costs totalling £92,101 (2021: £61,587) have been allocated across the activities of the charity on the following basis:

	Basis of allocation £	2022 £	2021 £
Governance (note 8)	Time spent & expenditure	**23,982**	22,749
Strategic	Expenditure	**16,816**	6,314
Premises	Expenditure	**7,702**	8,548
Operations	Expenditure	**16,047**	6,441
Information technology	Expenditure	**16,819**	12,880
Finance	Expenditure	**1,597**	937
Professional	Expenditure	**9,138**	3,718
		92,101	61,587

8 | Governance Costs

	2022 £	2021 £
Preparation of financial statements and	**1,275**	1,650
Audit fee	**7,500**	6,500
Trustee board expenses	**1,047**	935
Support costs	**14,160**	13,664
	23,982	22,749

9 | Net income for the year

Net income is stated after charging:

	2022 £	2021 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	-	-
Operating lease rentals – land and buildings	2,896	-
Operating lease rentals- other	89	355

10 | Trustees' and key management personnel remuneration and expenses

The trustees neither received nor waived any remuneration during the year (2021: £nil).
The reimbursement of trustees' expenses was as follows:

	2022 Number	2021 Number	2022 £	2021 £
Travel and subsistence	2	2	1,047	935

11| Staff cost & employees benefits

The average monthly number of employees and full time equivalent (FTE) during the year was as follows:

	2022 Number	2022 FTE	2021 Number	2021 FTE
Charitable activities	10	9	8	7

The total staff costs and employees' benefits was as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	337,030	280,719
Social security	30,027	24,647
Other pension costs	9,511	22,493
Recruitment costs	2,518	9,837
Redundancy payments	5,904	-
	384,990	337,696

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

The trustees consider that the key management personnel comprised the Chief Executive Officer. The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel is £59,400 (2021: £39,548).

12

Tangible fixed assets

	IT equipment £	Office furniture and fittings £	Total £
Cost or valuation:			
At 1 April 2021	101,996	106,818	208,814
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 March 2022	101,996	106,818	208,814
Depreciation:			
At 1 April 2021	101,996	106,818	208,814
Charge for the year	-	-	-
At 31 March 2022	101,996	106,818	208,814
Net book value:			
At 31 March 2022	-	-	-
At 31 March 2021	-	-	-



13

Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £	Total £
Cost or valuation		
At 1 April 2021	235,624	235,624
Additions	15,069	15,069
Disposals - proceeds	(14,093)	(14,093)
Gain on disposals	3,570	3,570
Revaluation	7,445	7,445
At 31 March 2022	247,615	247,615
Carrying amount:		
At 31 March 2022	247,615	247,615
At 31 March 2021	235,624	235,624

The historic cost of investments at 31 March 2022 was £212,468 (2021: £207,923).
Investments at fair value compromise:

	2022 £
UK fixed interest	30,536
Overseas fixed interest	48,359
UK Equities	34,326
European Equities	9,642
North American Equities	31,565
Japanese Equities	3,634
Far East & Australian Equities	9,169
International Equities	11,762
Emerging Economies	4,302
International Property	6,525
Property	13,335
Alternate assets	44,460
	247,615

The fair value of listed investments is determined by reference to the quoted price for identical assets in an active market at the balance sheet date.

14 | Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade debtors	35,906	32,788
Prepayments and accrued income	11,900	1,731
	47,806	34,519

15 | Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors	37,365	21,884
Other tax and social security	39,379	11,904
Accruals and deferred income	74,710	264,767
	151,454	298,555

16 | Leases

a) Operating leases - lessee

Total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Not later than one year	89	89
Later than one and not later than five years	-	-
Later than five years	-	-
	89	-

17 | Deferred Income

	£
At 1 April 2021	247,000
Additions during the year	60,552
Amounts released to income	(247,000)
At 31 March 2022	60,552

Unrestricted funds	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains / (losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Unrestricted	306, 179	369,412	(349,453)	(69,600)	11,025	267,563
Designated Funds:						
Underwriting fund	150,000	-	-	(150, 000)	-	-
Development and redundancy	47,400	-	-	(47,400)	-	-
Closure and development provision	-	-	-	267, 000	-	267,000
	503,579	369,412	(349,453)	-	11,025	534,563

Unrestricted funds - prior year	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains / (losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
Unrestricted	164,963	259,769	(149,243)	-	30,690	306,179
Designated Funds:						
Underwriting fund	150,000	-	-	-	-	150,000
Development and redundancy	35,500	-	-	11,900	-	47,400
Emergency funding – Covid 19	11,900	-	-	(11,900)	-	-
	362,363	259,769	(149,243)	-	30,690	503,579

Designated funds
The unrestricted funds of the charity include the following designated funds, which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the Trustee Board for specific purposes.

Underwriting fund
Designation to support future budgets with predicted deficits.

Development and redundancy funds and Closure and development provision
Redundancy and associated costs and for development from reserves. This has been reviewed and updated as part of our annual process to reflect our latest analysis of costs and redundancy liabilities in the event of closure and expanded to include development.

18

Fund Reconciliation

Restricted funds	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Movement in resources Incoming £	Outgoing £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
HWA – (Health and Wellbeing Alliance)	-	20,500	(20,500)	-	-
NHSE Embedding VCSE	-	45,400	-	-	45,400
NHSE Integrated Care Toolkit	-	49,800	-	-	49,800
DCMS VCS Emergencies Partnership Secretariat	-	80,100	(80,100)	-	-
DCMS- VCS Emergencies Partnership grant distribution	29,965	616,266	(594,266)	-	51,965
DCMS VCS Emergencies Partnership Phase III	-	100,000	(95,329)	-	4,671
Social Prescribing	-	32,000	(21,475)	-	10,525
Tender Support Project	4,049	-	-	-	4,049
Public Law Project	13,616	-	-	-	13,616
DCMS – Safeguarding	33,343	42,500	(75,843)	-	-
	80,973	986,566	(887,513)	-	180,026

Restricted funds - prior year	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Movement in resources Incoming £	Outgoing £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
HWA – (Health and Wellbeing Alliance)	-	60,000	(60,000)	-	-
DCMS VCS Emergencies Partnership Secretariat	-	123,500	(123,500)	-	-
DCMS- VCS Emergencies Partnership grant distribution	-	1,056,017	(1,026,052)	-	29,965
VCSE- Data and Intelligence sharing VCSE –'levelling up'	-	5,420	(5,420)	-	-
Tender Support Project	-	1,500	(1,500)	-	-
Public Law Project	4,049	-	-	-	4,049
Social Investment Support	13,616	-	-	-	13,616
DCMS – Safeguarding	-	950	(950)	-	-
	-	33,343	-	-	33,343
	17,665	1,280,730	(1,217,422)	-	80,973

18

Fund Reconciliation Continued

Fund reconciliation (continued)

Health & Wellbeing Alliance (HWA)
NAVCA is a member of the VCSE Health & Wellbeing Alliance. The HWA is a partnership between the voluntary sector and the health and care system (as represented by NHS England, Department of Health & Social Care, and Public Health England) to provide a voice and improve health and wellbeing for all communities.

Tender Support Project
This was a project to provide support to increase organisations' ability to win contracts to deliver public services.

Public Law Project
NCVO was the lead partner on this Big Lottery funded project. This was to work with NCVO on development of a legacy for the project.

Social Investment Support
This is a project funded by Big Society Capital and the Connect Fund to raise awareness and expertise in social investment among NAVCA members and, through them, the local voluntary sector in England.

DCMS – safeguarding
NAVCA is a member of the Safer Social Partnership (along with NCVO, Acre, Children England and others) which won funding from the National Lottery Community Fund to develop safeguarding resources for the voluntary sector in England under phase 1 of the Safeguarding Training Fund.

Social Prescribing
The charity has undertaken a partnership with The National Academy for Social Prescribing to support increased co-design/production of social prescribing infrastructure through greater engagement with local VCSE infrastructure organisation at a local, regional and national level. Funds towards this project are also being provided by Spirit of 2012, a registered charity.

DCMS - VCS Emergencies Partnership grant distribution
NAVCA worked with the British Red Cross to deliver the programme 'VCS Emergencies Partnership co-ordination of the voluntary sector's Covid-19 response' which is funded by the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). NAVCA co-ordinated the delivery of the emergency response to Covid-19 with a goal of improving well-being and reducing vulnerabilities of people affected by the pandemic. This involved the distribution of grants to relevant organisations for this purpose.

DCMS – VCS Emergencies Partnership Secretariat
NAVCA worked with the British Red Cross on the delivery of the above programme and received this grant to facilitate the programme by bringing in additional staff to manage the project.

DCMS – VCS Emergencies Partnership Phase III
As detailed above NAVCA worked with the British Red Cross to deliver the programme 'VCS Emergencies Partnership co-ordination of the voluntary sector's Covid-19 response' which is funded by the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). This grant was an extension of that programme to provide ongoing support in the next phase of Covid-19 and to enable the transition of VCSEP from a covid-model to a future preparedness model.

“It has been a great pleasure and enormously beneficial to be part of COIN and thank you to everyone who has contributed to the consistently helpful posts on the network.”

Kate Morrison
CEO of Warwickshire CAVA

19 | Endowment fund

The Sir John Wrigley Bequest was made in 1978 to the National Council for Social Services and subsequently devolved to NAVCA. The income from the bequest is being used as instructed, to assist the staff of CVS to take part in community work seminars, conferences and other training opportunities in the UK or in Europe.

20 | Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £
Investments	247,615	-	-	247,615
Cash and current investments	400,028	180,026	4,588	584,642
Other current assets / liabilities	(103,648)	-	-	(103,648)
Pensions provision	(9,432)	-	-	(9,432)
	534,563	180,026	4,588	719,177

Analysis of net assets between funds – prior year

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £
Investments	235,624	-	-	235,624
Cash and current investments	599,712	80,973	4,588	685,273
Other current assets / liabilities	(295,911)	-	-	(295,911)
Pensions provision	(35,846)	-	-	(35,846)
	503,579	80,973	4,588	589,140

21 | Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2022 £	2021 £
Net income for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	**34,837**	204,524
Adjustment for:		
Bank interest	**(47)**	(132)
Dividends received	**(5,912)**	(5,693)
Gain in disposal of investments	**(3,570)**	(5,688)
Remeasurement (gain/loss) on defined benefit plan	**(10)**	2,180
Revaluation of investments	**(7,445)**	(27,182)
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	**(13,287)**	64,436
(Decrease)/Increase in creditors	**(51,901)**	247,357
Decrease in benefit pension liability	**(26,404)**	(8,807)
Net cash provided by operating activities	**(73,739)**	470,995

22 | Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2022 £	2021 £
Cash in hand	584,642	653,398

23 | Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 April 2021 £	Cash Flows £	At 31 March 2022 £
Cash in hand	653,398	(68,756)	584,642

24 | Pensions and other post-retirement benefits

The company participates in a multi-employer scheme, which provides benefits to some 638 non-associated participating employers. The scheme is a defined benefit scheme in the UK. It is not possible for the company to obtain sufficient information to enable it to account for the scheme as a defined benefit scheme. Therefore, it accounts for the scheme as a defined contribution scheme.

The scheme is subject to the funding legislation outlined in the Pensions Act 2004, which came into force on 30 December 2005. This, together with documents issued by the Pensions Regulator and Technical Actuarial Standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council, set out the framework for funding defined benefit occupational pension schemes in the UK.

The scheme is classified as a 'last-man standing arrangement'. Therefore, the company is potentially liable for other participating employers' obligations if those employers are unable to meet their share of the scheme deficit following withdrawal from the scheme. Participating employers are legally required to meet their share of the scheme deficit on an annuity purchase basis on withdrawal from the scheme.

A full actuarial valuation for the scheme was carried out at 30 September 2020. This valuation showed assets of £800.3m, liabilities of £831.9m and a deficit of £31.6m. To eliminate this funding shortfall, the Trustee has asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme as follows:

Deficit contributions

From 1 April 2022 to 31 January 2025:	£3,312,000 per annum (payable monthly)

24 | Pensions and other post-retirement benefits

Unless a concession has been agreed with the Trustee, the term to 31 January 2025 applies.

Note that the scheme's previous valuation was carried out with an effective date of 30 September 2017. This valuation showed assets of £794.9m, liabilities of £926.4m and a deficit of £131.5m. To eliminate this funding shortfall, the Trustee has asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme as follows:

Deficit contributions

From 1 April 2019 to 30 September 2025:	£11,243,000 per annum (payable monthly and increasing by 3% each on 1st April)

The recovery plan contributions are allocated to each participating employer in line with their estimated share of the Series 1 and Series 2 Scheme liabilities.

Where the scheme is in deficit and where the company has agreed to a deficit funding arrangement, the company recognises a liability for this obligation. The amount recognised is the net present value of the deficit reduction contributions payable under the agreement that relates to the deficit. The present value is calculated using the discount rate detailed in these disclosures. The unwinding of the discount rate is recognised as a finance cost.

Present value of provision	31 March 2022 £	31 March 2021 £
Present value of provision	9432	35,846



Reconciliation of opening and closing provisions	Period Ending 31 March 2022 £	Period Ending 31 March 2021 £
Provision at start of period	35,846	42,473
Unwinding of the discount factor (interest expense)	207	954
Deficit contribution paid	(9,071)	(8,807)
Remeasurements - impact of any change in assumptions	(217)	1,226
Remeasurements - amendments to the contribution schedule	(17,333)	-
Provision at end of period	9,432	35,846

Assumptions

	31 March 2022 % per annum	31 March 2021 % per annum	31 March 2020 % per annum
Rate of discount	**2.35**	**0.66**	**2.53**

The discount rates shown above are the equivalent single discount rates which, when used to discount the future recovery plan contributions due, would give the same results as using a full AA corporate bond yield curve to discount the same recovery plan contributions.

Income and expenditure Impact	Period Ending 31 March 2022 £	Period Ending 31 March 2021 £
Interest expense	207	954
Remeasurements – impact of any change in assumptions	(217)	1,226
Remeasurements – amendments to the contribution schedule	(17,333)	-
Contributions paid in respect of future service*	-	-
Costs recognised in income and expenditure account	-	-

*includes defined contribution schemes and future service contributions (ie excluding any deficit reduction payments) to defined benefit schemes which are treated as defined contribution schemes.

24

Pensions and other post-retirement benefits continued

25

Related Party Transactions

A majority of NAVCA trustees are employees of NAVCA members. NAVCA sells services to and buys services from its members on the same terms as any other party.

During the year services were sold to members that were connected to trustees as follows. These figures excluded membership fees:

Melanie Mills	Related organisation	2022 £	2021 £	Description of goods
	Big Society Capital	4,167	8,040	Contract services

During the year the following monies (due to services rendered or grants) were paid to the following members that were connected to trustees as follows. The grants given were part of the DCMS VCS Emergencies Partnership grant distribution programme:

	Related organisation	2022 £	2021 £	Description of goods
Steven Craker	Communities 1st (St Albans – Hertsmere)	12,750	-	Grant given
Alison Semmence	CEO York CVS	1,500	3,000	Grant given
Angela Carter	CEO Sefton CVS	4,750	9,500	Grant given
Richard Jackson	CEO VA Leeds	2,375	-	Safeguarding training
Richard Jackson	CEO VA Leeds	1,500	3,000	Grant given
Kerrie Fletcher	CEO S Derbys CVS	1,500	-	Grant given
Kerrie Fletcher	CEO Community Action Derby	4,750	9,500	Grant given
Mike Wild	CEO MACC	1,700	3,000	Grant given
Julie Farrow	CEO Hunts Forum	1,700	3,000	Grant given
Michelle Warburton	Manager Salford CVS	1,500	3,000	Grant given

26 | Financial instruments

The carrying amounts of the charity's financial instruments are as follows:

Financial assets	2022 £	2021 £
Measured at fair value through net expenditure: - Fixed asset listed investments (note 13)	247,615	235,624
	247,615	235,624
Debt instruments measured at amortised cost: - Trade debtors (note 14) - Other debtors (note 14)	 35,906 11,900	 32,788 1,731
	47,806	34,519
Measured at amortised cost - Trade creditors (note 15) - Other creditors (note 15)	 37,365 209,289	 21,884 276,671
	246,654	298,555

The income, expenses, net gains and net losses attributable the charity's financial instruments are summarised as follows:

Income and expense	2021 £	2021 £
Financial assets measured at fair value through net expenditure		
Dividends received (note 4)	5,693	5,693
Gain on disposal of investments (note 13)	5,688	5,688
Net gains/(losses) on revaluation of investments (note 13)	27,182	27,182

“I just wanted to say a big thank you to you and everyone at NAVCA, your patience and clarity throughout the whole process made everything so easy and a very enjoyable experience. If you ever need any more design work I would be more than happy to help.”

Scott Greenway on the LIQA and VCQA design process. March/April 2022

100+

users on our Barking Owl Slack workspace

> **Yes you are my favourite newsletter!**
>
> - Cathy Miles | South Derbyshire CVS

458

registrations for events on EDI in 21/22

In 2021/22 we had

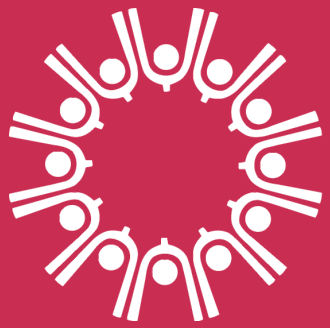
247

registrations for Safeguarding events

> **"Thanks to @NAVCA for this morning's #AreTheySafe webinar. Essential learning for all of us!"**
>
> - Cheshire West VA | On Twitter

100+

registrations for our Thinking Space conference in Nov 2021



navca

local focus national voice

National Association for Voluntary and Community Action

Annual review & financial statements
Year ended 31 March 2022

Company Number: 2575206
Charity Number: 1001635

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY ACTION

England & Wales - Charity number 1001635

Accounts

navca

local focus national voice

Annual Report

2020/21




Our incredible network...
I'm volunteering
Welcome to Whitefield School
One Walsall
RASIP
navca
local focus national voice

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NAVCA has shown its ability to respond quickly and flexibly to support our members, who were meeting urgent Covid-19 needs in their local areas. NAVCA has listened, learned and acted for the benefit of communities and our members: as a leader and advocate for local VCS infrastructure; uniting and supporting our network of members; and in championing the voice of 'local' as co-chair of the VCS Emergencies Partnership. This report shows the impact we have had in 2020-21, with a promise of more to come.

- **Judy Robinson** | NAVCA Chair

Legal and administrative details:

Legal status:

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY ACTION is a charity (No. 1001635) and a company limited by guarentee (No. 2575206)

Directors and trustees:

The directors of the charitable company ('the charity') are its trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout the report they are collectively referred to as 'the trustees'.

The trustees of the charity during the year can be seen in the table to the right.

National Association for Voluntary and Community Action (NAVCA) is a company limited by guarantee. It does not have any paid-up share capital.

In January 2020, the Board appointed Judy Robinson as Chair, with Julie Farrow and Richard Jackson as Vice Chairs. They continued to hold these positions during 2020/21.

Name:	Roles/committee membership:	Date elected/ re-elected/ appointed:	Date stepped down:
Judy Robinson	Chair Officers' group Recruitment sub-group	18 Oct 2018	
Julie Farrow	Vice-chair Officers' group Chair HR committee Recruitment sub-group	6 Dec 2019	
Richard Jackson	Vice-chair Officers' group Recruitment sub-group	4 Dec 2020	
Brian Coghlan	Treasurer Officers' group Chair Finance committee Recruitment sub-group	18 Dec 2018	
Stephen Craker		6 Dec 2018	
Kerrie Fletcher	Finance committee Recruitment sub-group	6 Dec 2019	
Melanie Mills	HR committee	14 Jul 2016	4 Dec 2020
Alison Semmence	HR committee	4 Dec 2020	
Michelle Warburton		4 Dec 2020	
Angela White (Carter) OBE	HR committee Recruitment sub-group	6 Dec 2019	

Legal and administrative details:

Chief Executive:

Jane Ide – left 10 November 2020
Maddy Desforges – from 16 March 2021

Company Secretary:

Jane Ide – left 10 November 2020
Brian Coghlan – from 30 December 2020

Principal and Registered Office:

The Workstation
15 Paternoster Row
Sheffield
S1 2BX

Auditors:

BHP LLP
2 Rutland Park
Sheffield
S10 2PD

Investment Managers:

Investec Wealth and
Investment
Beech House
61 Napier Street
Sheffield
S11 8HA

Bankers:

Unity Trust Bank plc
Nine Brindley Place
Birmingham
B1 2HB



Chair's Foreword:

My foreword to the annual report last year had Covid-19 as a feature; this year it is the dominant theme.

During the last year NAVCA has shown its ability to respond quickly and flexibly to support members who themselves were meeting urgent COVID needs. The frequent NAVCA bulletins gave critical information such as new arrangements for organising volunteers; our work with the Voluntary and Community Sector Emergencies Partnership brought the local into the core of emergency planning and the setting up of the Local Infrastructure Network, often led by a NAVCA member, created connections and intelligence channels to the Government and others.

Most important, of course, was the extraordinary effort of voluntary and community organisations to help vulnerable people and communities, from food parcels to vaccine rollout. It was organised compassion at work and NAVCA is proud to have played its part.

Three particular lessons emerge from the year, noted in this report, and I want to draw them out briefly.

First, voluntary sector infrastructure really is essential - not a 'nice to have' but a 'vital to have' in a democratic society. Governments, locally and nationally, have seen this directly. A local infrastructure organisation, knowing what's what and who's who locally, with a functioning network and communication system and which is trusted to be disinterested, puts the organised into organised compassion.

Second, place/the local/the neighbourhood is where volunteering and support to people actually happen. And not everywhere is the same. NAVCA's network of *local* members is at the heart of our movement and national work precisely because place is so significant. Of course, national frameworks are necessary and having mechanisms for collaboration between national and local infrastructure is one of NAVCA's key roles. This year progress was made and common understanding has grown.

Third, Covid-19 has underlined health and wider inequality. Covid-19 has disproportionately affected people from Black, Asian and minority Ethnic communities, disabled people and especially those with learning disabilities and older people in care homes. Tackling inequality has always been central to NAVCA's thinking and we will be re-doubling our efforts to keep it at the front of our priorities.

Leadership is always essential and I want to thank our former Chief Executive Officer, Jane Ide, for all she did during the pandemic. We were fortunate to recruit an experienced and skilled successor in Maddy Desforges.

Thanks to NAVCA's staff and trustees who all worked together so hard during the year. I want to pay tribute to this year's retiring trustee, Melanie Mills, and thank her for her service. We have been pleased to work with a range of funders, partners and collaborators during the year.

This report shows that NAVCA has listened, learned and acted for the benefit of communities and its members. Staff and trustees are clear that these attributes are the right ones for the years to come when Covid-19 is a distant memory.

J A. Robinson

Judy Robinson
Chair of Trustees



Our Funders:

In 2020/21, NAVCA was grateful to receive funding from the following organisations, which enabled us to contribute to the Covid-19 response and pursue our strategic objectives:

Big Society Capital	Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport	Lloyds Bank Foundation
NHS England and NHS Improvements	Paul Hamlyn Foundation	Power to Change Trust
Sheffield City Council	The National Lottery Community Fund	The Tudor Trust

Acknowledgments:

Thank you to all of NAVCA's members for allowing us to use their photographs both in the annual report and impact report.

Thank you to Charlotte Ware at Basingstoke Voluntary Action for supporting with the design of both our annual report and impact report.

Trustees' Report:

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, are pleased to present their report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The legal and administrative information set out on pages 5 and 6 forms part of this report.

The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements and the trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities FRS 102 (second edition, October 2019)" in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity..

Governing Document:

NAVCA is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 21 January 1991 and registered as a charity on 24 January 1991. The company is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association that were last amended on 6 December 2019. In the event of the company being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £5.

Vision, mission and aims:

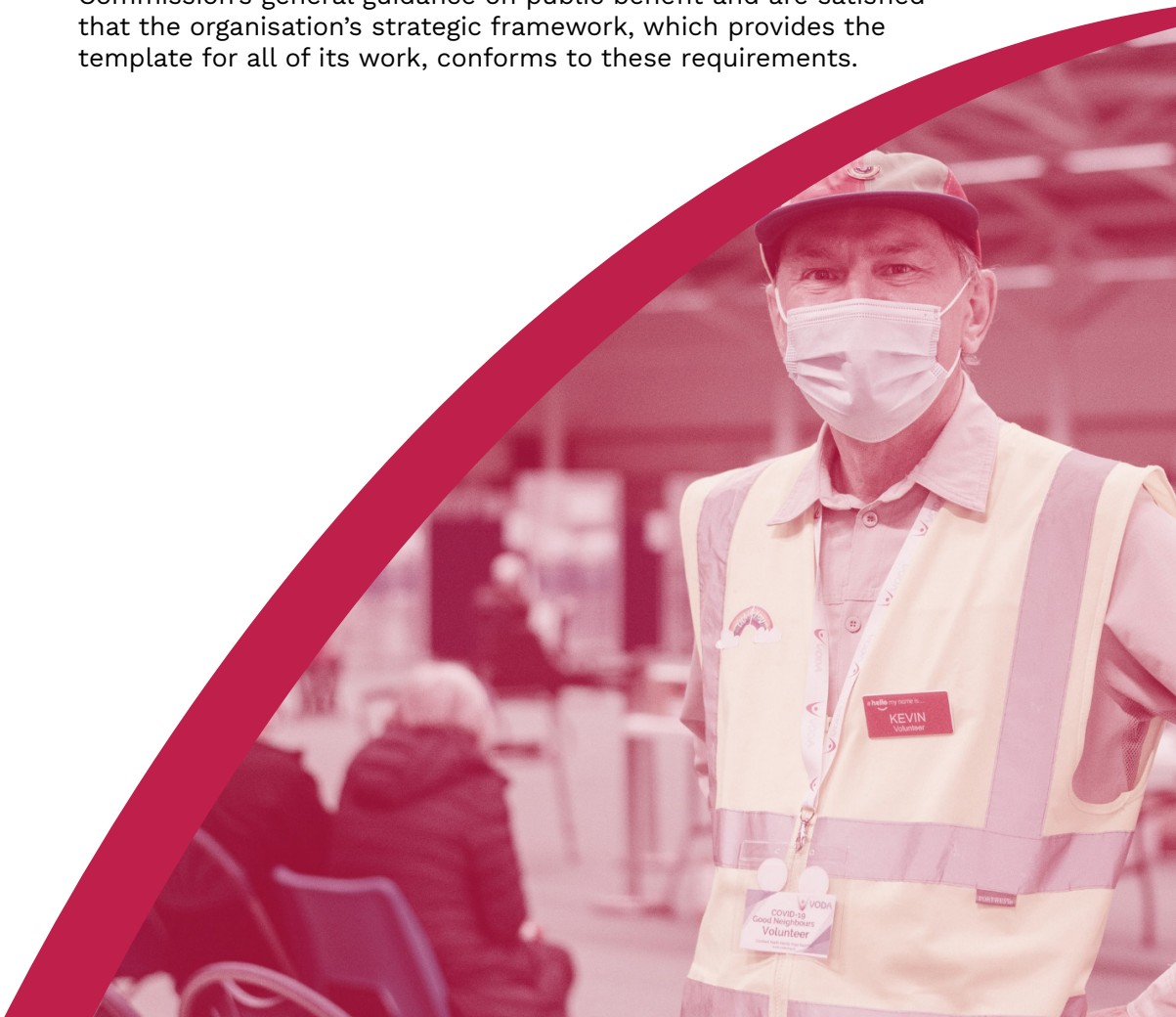
NAVCA's vision is for a society based on equality, fairness, active citizenship, strong communities and social action. We are the voice for local place at national level, providing leadership and support to our members. We exist to support a vibrant network of local infrastructure organisations across England, to help them grow in strength, confidence and impact and to increase their influence nationally.

Our mission is to strengthen and champion social action through effective local voluntary and community sector infrastructure.
Our aims are that:
- every community in England benefits from a thriving local voluntary sector, strengthened through excellent local support and development;
- any person in England who wants to volunteer, start a charity or social enterprise or create a voluntary organisation has a place to go for good, local advice and support; and
- our members have clear, effective influence and engaged support amongst key stakeholders, locally and nationally.

Objectives and activities for public benefit:

The principal objects of the charity are "to promote any charitable purposes for the benefit of the public, in England, and, in particular, build the capacity of local support and development organisations and provide them with the necessary support, information and services to enable them to pursue or contribute to any charitable purpose."

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and are satisfied that the organisation's strategic framework, which provides the template for all of its work, conforms to these requirements.



Strategy and Organisational Delivery:

In December 2019, we launched our new five-year strategy, **Excellence, Everywhere.** Our three strategic objectives are:

• Assure the quality: We can demonstrate and champion the quality of local sector support and development as delivered by every member of NAVCA.

• Make the case and fill the gaps: The local VCSE in every part of England has access to the quality support and development services it needs, either through a NAVCA member, a non-member local infrastructure body or an effective alternative model of provision.

• Act as innovative infrastructure organisation: We have credibility and influence as the voice of local sector support and development, and provide the best possible support for our members, by being the best national infrastructure body we can be.

Our work in 2020/21 was planned around these strategic objectives. However, like other organisations, in spring 2020 we had to reassess our activities as the Covid-19 emergency unfolded. Our existing plans were put on hold, for the most part, as we concentrated on the emergency response. Over the course of the year, we reconfigured and re-wrote our plans several times in response to the pandemic. While our vision, mission and aims remain true, and have guided our response, the activities we have delivered to achieve our objectives have developed significantly over the course of the year.

Covid-19 Response:

From the outset it was clear that the response to Covid-19 across the country would involve the voluntary and community sector (VCS). By the start of April 2020, our members were already fully involved in the local response. They supported their local VCS and connected to public sector systems and structures, as well as providing direct operations, including recruiting and coordinating volunteers, delivering food parcels, collecting prescriptions and actions to combat isolation. They worked strategically with local authorities and local resilience forums (LRF) as well as with other public services, particularly as a key part of the local health structures.

Alongside our members, we adjusted our work to be a part of the Covid-19 response, operationally and strategically. Our response included: sector leadership and advocacy; member communications, support and co-ordination; and our role as Co-Chair of the VCS Emergencies Partnership.

Sector leadership and advocacy:

The Covid-19 response centred on communities and local place. The first place that people turned to for support was local; the local VCS was the 'early warning system', often being first to understand the type and level of needs as they emerged and then changed through the course of the pandemic. NAVCA's role as the leader of a national network of local infrastructure organisations was to make sure the voice of local communities was heard and had influence nationally, as well as to build confidence and resilience in local leaders as they responded to the emergency. We gathered intelligence from members, and shared information in a clear form. We sought to underpin community response which was so important, rooted in trust and strong relationships. We know that strong local infrastructure was key to enabling local, often small, organisations to adapt their approach and absorb emerging demands arising directly from the pandemic.[1]

We led the collaboration between national VCS infrastructure bodies[2], making sure the wider VCS response took account of local communities' experiences and needs. By bringing together the local and national experience we highlighted the importance of work throughout the VCS more powerfully, gathering information about the level of demand and how it was changing, supporting the #EveryDayCounts campaign to highlight the role the sector was playing. The Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and the Cabinet Office recognised the critical nature of the VCS response, as well as the intense pressure created by the collapse of fundraising and income generation, with a £750m package of support.

> ***"Crucial to have voices speaking in places we can't reach or saying the things we need amplified at national level. Thank you all @NAVCA"***
>
> NAVCA member CEO, 12 May 2020, Twitter

As the pandemic developed and the Government's guidance changed, NAVCA connected members' intelligence directly with the Government, seeking clarification on restrictions, and highlighting issues which arose. One issue we identified early on was that advice and guidance for communities and community organisations seemed to lag behind advice for other sectors such as hospitality. NAVCA used its insight and influence to work with the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) to secure further guidance on Covid-19 safe community facilities.

The restrictions on what volunteers could and couldn't do were complex, so we provided information and insight to DCMS which was subsequently included in Government guidance on volunteering. We were involved in discussions with the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) around food vulnerability and the role of local infrastructure and the wider VCS in food supply. This contributed to DEFRA's building of a dedicated online platform to enable local authorities and a number of charities to directly refer individuals for access to emergency food parcels and prioritised food/supermarket delivery slots. We worked with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) on proposals for the Kickstart scheme to provide paid six-month work placements for young people, ensuring that officials had a deeper understanding of the VCS as a significant employer, and broadening the range of roles which could be eligible for Kickstart.

As well as distilling key messages for our members, NAVCA provided dedicated resource for a wider national campaign highlighting the breadth and importance of the VCS response: #NeverMoreNeeded. This was used by local and national infrastructure bodies and numerous charities, voluntary and community groups to highlight the impact the sector was having in our communities. The campaign was highlighted in Parliament, including Prime Minister's Questions. We helped shape and deliver a later iteration for #RightNow, which led to a day of action across the VCS ahead of the Budget in February 2021.

Member communications, support and co-ordination:
Our members were facing significant demands to support and coordinate the VCS locally, as well as facing multiple demands to contribute to and influence the public sector response, working with local authorities and health services. NAVCA was a key source of information, advice and guidance which our members could pass on in turn – such as our well-received decision tree on volunteering activity. As the shape of volunteering changed so quickly, this helped members be confident they were giving good advice and keeping people safe, while also facilitating a wider approach to volunteer activity.

Our breakfast bulletins for members brought together relevant information and resources from Government and specialist sector bodies early each weekday morning as a go-to place for information. We distilled and summarised complex and frequently changing advice and guidance from the Government and shared this regularly with our members – on a daily basis at the height of the pandemic. This increased our members' confidence in the approach they were taking and the advice they were giving.

"Thanks for the daily Breakfast Bulletins, they're incredibly useful and informative and a very pleasant start to another hectic day. I know I've said it before but as one of the newer members of the NAVCA family I've been blown away by everything you're doing to support the sector and fight its corner at this incredibly difficult time - you've been truly amazing!"

NAVCA member CEO, 30 April 2020

We established regular briefing sessions to create space for us to come together with our members' CEOs to share experiences, disseminate information, make connections and gather intelligence. This provided support and reassurance, and created the space for leaders to feel connected, and able in turn to support their local VCS.

[1] see Daysun et al, The role of the Leeds Neighbourhood Networks during the COVID-19 pandemic (Centre for Aging Better, 2020); Capacity through crisis: The Role and Contribution of the VCSE Sector in Sheffield During the COVID-19 Pandemic (PDF 435.63 KB) | Centre for Regional Economic and Social Research | Research | Sheffield Hallam University (shu.ac.uk)

[2] NAVCA led alongside the Association for Chief Executives of Voluntary Organisations (ACEVO), the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO), Directory of Social Change (DSC), Charity Comms, the Association of Charitable Foundations (ACF), the Charity Finance Group (CFG), the Chartered Institute of Fundraising (CIoF), Charity Retail and UK Youth. This collaboration formed the heart of the collaboration which expanded to include over 40 national infrastructure bodies.

Thinking about volunteering activity during the November 2020 lockdown

Is the activity clearly permitted under the Government's guidelines

NOT SURE

YES

For face to face or in person volunteering activity, will the volunteering activity save life eg through the provision of essential food, medicines etc

NO

YES

Will the volunteering prevent serious decline in health and well-being or safety eg mental health support

NO

YES

Will measures be in place to protect both the safety of the volunteer and the person being supported eg social distancing, hygiene, PPE

NO

YES

Volunteering activity can take place

Consider/ identify other ways in which support can be provided

Also consider safeguarding referral

Can the volunteering activity be carried out by other means eg on the phone or online

NO

Consider putting this activity on hold while the current restrictions are in place

YES

Consider doing this, rather than face to face or in person volunteering activity

NAVCA Members and their networks made use of this decision-making chart - it was even used in Australia!

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Please always refer to Government guidelines in the first instance

www.navca.org.uk

Voluntary and Community Sector Emergencies Partnership:
The VCS Emergencies Partnership played a key role to coordinate the emergency response; escalate needs which were unmet; harness collective skills and insight; and create solutions - its impact report sets out that story. NAVCA is Co-Chair of the Emergencies Partnership, alongside the British Red Cross, leading since its inception. Through the partnership during Covid-19 we connected local and national partners, sharing learning very quickly and putting in place systems and structures to support connections and partnerships. This enabled organisations to develop reliable routes to engage with each other and government locally and nationally. Working within the Emergencies Partnership, NAVCA brought together the skills, capacity and expertise of the local VCS and connected that with national players, something often missing historically.

To fund the capacity needed for local organisations to engage, we secured and distributed over £1m from the Government for the Local Infrastructure Network (LIN) involving 201 organisations.

"All of us are aware of how much you have been banging the drum for infrastructure and this is the first bit of high-level financial recognition of that and it's a great achievement; thanks from me too."

NAVCA member CEO, 25 June 2020

The LIN provided vital 'eyes and ears' on the ground to bring intelligence to the Emergencies Partnership and the Government. One early role was to match need that could not be met locally with spare capacity elsewhere in the system, be that around food, access to medicines, health, social isolation or digital connectivity. For example, there was a need for additional volunteers to deliver food parcels to front-line organisations in Bristol over six weeks during summer 2020. This was reported through the LIN. Volunteers were found through the Emergencies Partnership, helping maintain emergency food supplies for charities and projects working with vulnerable people.

NAVCA set up monthly calls with the LIN where organisations connected with each other, shared learning and information on issues including mass testing, equality and diversity, the impact of Covid-19 on specific communities such as LGBT+ and West Yorkshire. This increased overall understanding of the needs and responses across the country, and ways to work effectively.

NAVCA co-ordinated weekly meetings of the Emergencies Partnership's multi-agency cells, each with representatives from local infrastructure as well regional and national leads, centred on place. We also created a space to establish new relationships and understanding: between small, local and big, national voluntary sector partners, opening up new opportunities for collaborative response through engagement with LRFs, local authorities and health services. Through the Emergencies Partnership we commissioned local infrastructure organisations to research how they and the local VCS work in specific areas to support communities and produce a suite of recommendations on: equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI); food distribution; digital inclusivity; and volunteering. As we move out of emergency response and in to the 'new normal', these newfound or reinvigorated relationships will be essential to understanding the new landscape of need, and how we respond to it.

Moving from pandemic to endemic:
As the vaccination programme rolls out, Covid-19 is moving from a pandemic crisis to an endemic part of everyday life. We used NAVCA's skills, knowledge, insight, connections and resources to support and work with our members and for our country in crisis. We need to move now to embed those ways of working, and create long lasting partnerships between local and national organisations, to be ready for, respond better to, and learn from, future emergencies.



Our outcomes, against our strategic objectives:

Assure the quality:

We demonstrate and champion the quality of local sector support and development as delivered by every member of NAVCA.

Outcomes during 2020/21:

Our members delivered high-quality support, development and representation to the VCS in the communities they serve, and in turn we provided general and one-to-one support for our members. Alongside our communications and online briefing sessions, available to all members, NAVCA provided specific advice and support to individual organisations.

At times our members' CEOs turn to us for support and the pandemic exacerbated the pressures they were facing. We provided one-to-one support on issues including dealing with bullying, improving governance, and needing a confidential sounding board. In one instance, we provided a space for clarifying thinking on organisational direction: should the organisation make use of the furlough scheme, cease all activity and secure its existence for the longer term, or carry on delivering its services (and more) in Covid-19 response, but put itself at risk of closure within six months?

We used this and insight gathered from members more widely as evidence for DCMS about the risks facing local infrastructure and the wider sector. Our role to bring organisations together, share best practice and learning, respond to queries, share information and support mattered more than ever during the pandemic. It helped our members continue to provide trusted, high-quality support to the VCS in their local areas in turn.

"Thank you for taking the fight to the top. Thank you for keeping us informed. Thank you for bringing us together."

NAVCA member CEO, 12 May 2020, Twitter

NAVCA member CEOs use our Chief Officers' Information Network (COIN), a private space created to discuss live issues, as a source of mutual support and sharing of views, information and resources. This was an invaluable source of connection, with over 2500 messages posted during 2020/21. During the first lockdown we also provided a daily 'COIN Compressed' summary of issues raised, to help our member CEOs absorb and access the information available and make the most of the peer support.

Part of our work to assure the quality is to celebrate excellence, and the NAVCA Awards, held in December 2020, showcased the high quality, high impact work of our members. The theme of the awards was #HeartOfOurCommunity, following on from our successful campaign earlier in 2020 which publicised the role of local infrastructure in the pandemic response.

Support Staffs received the #HeartOfTheCommunity 2020 award. They responded to the pandemic by putting their communities front and centre. Like other infrastructure their operating principle was "not to cut across our communities and step in and do the work that they were best placed to do, but to support them, to wrap our support around them." Slough CVS won the Partnership Award for their work coordinating cross sector in Slough, bringing together the local VCS, Slough Borough Council and the business sector under the #OneSlough banner. They provided a well-coordinated response with excellent use of communications, including through the #OneSlough app.

We continue to work with emerging and at-risk organisations, to support them to develop, secure funding, or merge. We also worked with one London borough, advising on their work to commission high quality local infrastructure support for the borough.

Securing diverse funding streams continues to be key to a quality offer. In partnership with Big Society Capital and our members, NAVCA coproduced a self-assessment tool to enable local infrastructure bodies to evaluate their (and their local sector's) level of engagement and knowledge in social investment. We also worked in partnership with Power to Change Trust, delivered a report outlining our member's current level of knowledge and engagement in cooperative community business models and community share offers. This helped us understand our members better, and will also inform PTC's future strategy.

Make the case and fill the gaps:

The local VCSE in every part of England has access to the quality support and development services it needs, either through a NAVCA member, a non-member infrastructure body, or an effective alternative model of provision.

Outcomes during 2020/21:

We welcomed 15 new organisations into NAVCA during 2020/21. We now have members in Blackpool, Glossop, West Lancashire, Worcester and other areas previously not covered by the NAVCA membership. Voluntary Action Doncaster, a newly-established local infrastructure organisation in a metropolitan area with no existing local infrastructure provision, has also joined our membership. We have strengthened our relationships with other national infrastructure bodies including ACRE and Locality, and this has helped amplify our voice in the remaining areas where we do not currently have any member organisations. As new members came into NAVCA membership, we continued to assess their activities as part of our work on assuring the quality of local infrastructure provision.

As the health and social system goes through a period of significant re-organisation, we have been a strong voice for local VCS infrastructure, making sure that the intelligence and expertise of local communities has influence. We are members of the National Health Service England (NHSE) VCS Health & Wellbeing Alliance, and other key forums including the NHS Volunteer Responder Advisory Board and the Public Health Steering Group. We have taken opportunities to highlight the crucial role local infrastructure plays, supported local infrastructure organisations to connect to health and social care systems, and the health and social care system to connect with local VCS more easily.

Working with members we produced research and policy documents, including on health inclusion in rural and coastal communities, social prescribing and community-centred approaches to public health. We delivered a series of engagement events in partnership with NHSE's Transformation Team to enable NAVCA members to directly influence proposals for the future development of integrated health architecture. We reported on the prevalence and experience of local infrastructure in integrated care leadership, to influence future planning of NHSE's VCSE Leadership Programme.

We share the work of our members through our weekly e-newsletter, LINX, which reaches over 1700 subscribers. On social media our Twitter following has grown by 10% over 2020/21, to over 17000.

We secured national media coverage for our members' role in the Covid-19 response. With our input, sector media also covered the work of our members around their role in enabling mass volunteering and in the response more generally.[4]

Act as an innovative national infrastructure organisation:

We have credibility and influence as the national voice of local infrastructure.

Outcomes during 2020/21:

Through our Covid-19 response we found ways to innovate during the year. One success was moving member events online, meaning more people could take part. We live-streamed the NAVCA Awards, making it possible for many more people to attend and celebrate the impact of local infrastructure.

We developed new virtual networks for our members, bringing people from local infrastructure together to learn from each other, share good practice and provide support during a time of high pressure across the VCS. The Barking Owl is our virtual network for people from our member organisations who work in communications. Through the Barking Owl, we have shared learning on a range of issues including video, animation and working with your local media. We helped around 20 members secure free access to a graphic design platform, saving them £100 pa each.

[3] https://www.theguardian.com/society/2020/apr/13/a-million-volunteer-to-help-nhs-and-others-during-covid-19-lockdown, 13 April 2020; https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/04/10/volunteers-itching-give-time-told-care-service-needs-ever/, 11 April 2020.

[4] https://www.thirdsector.co.uk/250000-volunteered-help-community-organisations-says-navca/volunteering/article/1680286, 15 April 2020; https://www.thirdsector.co.uk/front-line-local-charities-dealing-regional-lockdowns/management/article/1693835, 9 September 2020.

We were subject to a cyberattack in December 2020 which tested our response plans. In line with those plans we reported a potential data breach to the Information Commissioner's Office and a serious incident to the Charity Commission. We also acted swiftly to contact everyone whose data has been potentially exposed. Working with our insurers we tested our security and implemented additional measures, as well as delivering refresher training on cybersecurity and data protection to every member of our staff. The ICO and Charity Commission confirmed they were content with our response and that trustees had dealt with the matter appropriately and responsibly.

We are committed to becoming an anti-racist organisation, and know we need to build more trust and support with Black, Asian and other Ethnic communities. We are addressing this within our own organisation, to be confident our own actions and operations are demonstrably anti-racist; and work closely with our members to be actively anti-racist. We committed to the Eight Principles to Address the Diversity Deficit in Charity Leadership in June 2020. In December 2020, our annual conference focused on inclusion, diversity and equality, specifically around steps to take to be actively anti-racist. Our speakers challenged us as leaders to make more progress:

- Ranjana Bell MBE, D&E Consultant - How leaders can create safe spaces for courageous conversations

- Rachel Cooling, Diversity Lead, VCS Emergencies Partnership – Working with diverse communities during the pandemic

- Steph Edusei, CEO of St Oswald's Hospice - Why I'm fed up with people being polite about diversity

- Kunle Olulode MBE, Director of Voice4Change - The Home Truths report and delivering real diversity

This work continues in 2021-22, through an anti-racist group, bringing together staff, trustees and members to identify and take action.

People:
In what has been a difficult year, we have supported our members of staff and worked with them to protect their wellbeing. We have been acutely conscious of the impact of the pandemic on mental and physical health, family and caring responsibilities, and workload, and have continued to support flexible working.

Our CEO Jane Ide moved on to a new role on 10 November 2020 and our new CEO Maddy Desforges joined us on 16 March 2021.

Our work as an organisation relies on our Trustee Board. Our trustees have invested their time and energy to NAVCA during the pandemic, especially during the period between CEOs.

Finance:
As a result of the pandemic and the shift in our focus, we needed to revise our budget several times during 2020/21. Income and expenditure both shifted significantly from our initial plans for the year.



Looking ahead - 2021/22:

If 2020/21 was the "pandemic year", 2021/22 feels like it will be a transition year, for the country as a whole, for our members and particularly for NAVCA. We and our members are continuing to understand the impact of Covid-19 on day-to-day living and community action, as we adapt to living with Covid-19 as an endemic virus. With a new CEO in post, we are re-shaping how we respond to and shape that new environment. We are putting our values into action and working to become an anti-racist organisation and an anti-racist network. We are undertaking a number of projects and picking up on previous plans which had been put in abeyance. We continue to work towards our three strategic objectives as set out below.

Assure the quality:

• We will develop our member offer, to show the value that NAVCA brings to our members.

• We will work with and learn from our members as our network of organisations strengthens its anti-racist behaviours and activities.

• We will review and improve our approach to quality through a new suite of quality marks our members can use to assure funders, strategic partners and other stakeholders about their work.

• Internally, we will procure and implement a CRM system, giving us ready access to current and accurate information about our members from which to develop effective services and support, speak with credibility and influence policymakers.

• We will continue to work on a project around safeguarding which will increase understanding of how to keep people safe across our membership and the wider VCS.

Make the case and fill the gaps:

• By organising our thinking around key themes (including poverty, health, local government, volunteering) we will develop our credibility as a thoughtful, informed and influential local infrastructure network.

• We will demonstrate what 'good' local infrastructure looks like, & the positive impact on community health and wealth, resilience & readiness.

• We will work to identify areas where there is little or no effective local infrastructure provision and work with members, the local VCS, system partners and the wider community to understand how sector support and development needs can be met.

• Our research will provide us with rich quantitative and qualitative data to support our engagement with policy-makers and decision-takers.

Act as an innovative national infrastructure organisation:

• We will develop NAVCA as an actively anti-racist organisation.

• We will continue to work with a range of partners and take opportunities to collaborate when this aligns with our strategic objectives and the needs of our members – or where, as in our work against racism, it is simply 'the right thing to do.'

People:

• We will ensure our members of staff are engaged and supported, providing good quality HR systems and providing dedicated time for every member of staff to use for their continued professional development.

• We will actively work with all our members of staff to ensure they understand and remain alert to live issues such as data security and the risks of cyberattack.

• We will regularly review our policies and procedures to ensure they are inclusive and promote diversity.

• We will hold a space where our members of staff can discuss and challenge racism and other forms of exclusion, and we will enable our members of staff to be their authentic selves.

• We will ensure our trustees are diverse and bring a breadth of perspectives.

Finances:

• We will develop our business model to improve our long-term financial sustainability.

• We will regularly review our policies and procedures, and our team's understanding of these, to minimise our risk of being affected by fraud or human error.

Our Trustee Board:

NAVCA is managed by a Trustee Board comprising up to 13 trustees. Nine must be elected by NAVCA members, and a further four are appointed by the trustees themselves. Trustees are appointed for a three-year term, and can serve no more than six consecutive years as a trustee. The chair is appointed by trustees, and again must serve no more than six consecutive years.

The Board is served by a small number of working groups, each chaired by a trustee, which meet between three and five times per year. These are responsible for scrutinising specific areas of work, undertaking tasks delegated to them by the Board, and advising the Board on policy and strategy. The Board is also served by a small group of officers who take a lead role to support the executive team. In 2020/21, the officers were Judy Robinson (chair), Richard Jackson and Julie Farrow (vice chairs), and Brian Coghlan (treasurer). The HR Committee, chaired by Julie Farrow, was heavily involved in improvements to our HR policies and procedures.

The Finance Committee, chaired by Brian Coghlan, ensures appropriate scrutiny of NAVCA's financial reporting and decision making, on behalf of the Board and in line with the NAVCA Scheme of Delegation. In addition, a recruitment sub-group led by the chair oversaw the recruitment of the new CEO.

New trustees are provided with induction, ongoing support and development to help them fulfil their role. NAVCA holds regular strategy/away sessions to provide trustees and members of staff with opportunities to meet and develop the organisation's direction. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate training courses and conferences.

Details of trustees who have served during the year are set out on page 5.

All trustees give their time freely and no trustee was paid during the year. Details of trustee expenses and related party transactions are disclosed in note 10 of the accounts.

Trustees are required to disclose all relevant interests and register them with the company secretary and, in accordance with the organisation's Memorandum and Articles, withdraw from decisions where a conflict of interest arises.

Internal control and risk management:
The trustees examine the major risks faced by the charity, in relation to external factors and relationships, its governance and management, its internal operations and its business. The management of risk is reviewed by the senior management team and the Trustee Board.

The principal risks and their mitigations are:

• Governance –sufficient breadth and depth of experience among trustees to ensure the capacity and insight is brought to bear to successfully oversee and steer the organisation. The Board has reviewed its trustees, and is taking action to identify and address gaps in its composition. It will continue to review how it functions to make sure it brings in a breadth of perspectives.

• Ensuring the quality of local infrastructure, to enable NAVCA and its members to make the case for its impact effectively. Work is underway to review our approach to quality and standards, and to embed this fully with our work with members. We will use the opportunity to think about how we support development, and engage widely with stakeholders.

• A funding environment dominated by short-term opportunities for NAVCA and our members means a lack of long-term financial stability. We will continue to make the case for the importance of infrastructure, including commissioning research, collating and disseminating information about the network's impact during Covid-19.

The trustees keep the systems of internal financial control under review. Systems have been designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance against material mis-statement or loss. They include:

- a strategic plan and an annual budget approved by the trustees;

- regular consideration by the trustees of financial results, variance from budgets and performance against the non-financial annual plan;

- clear delegation of authority and separation of duties.

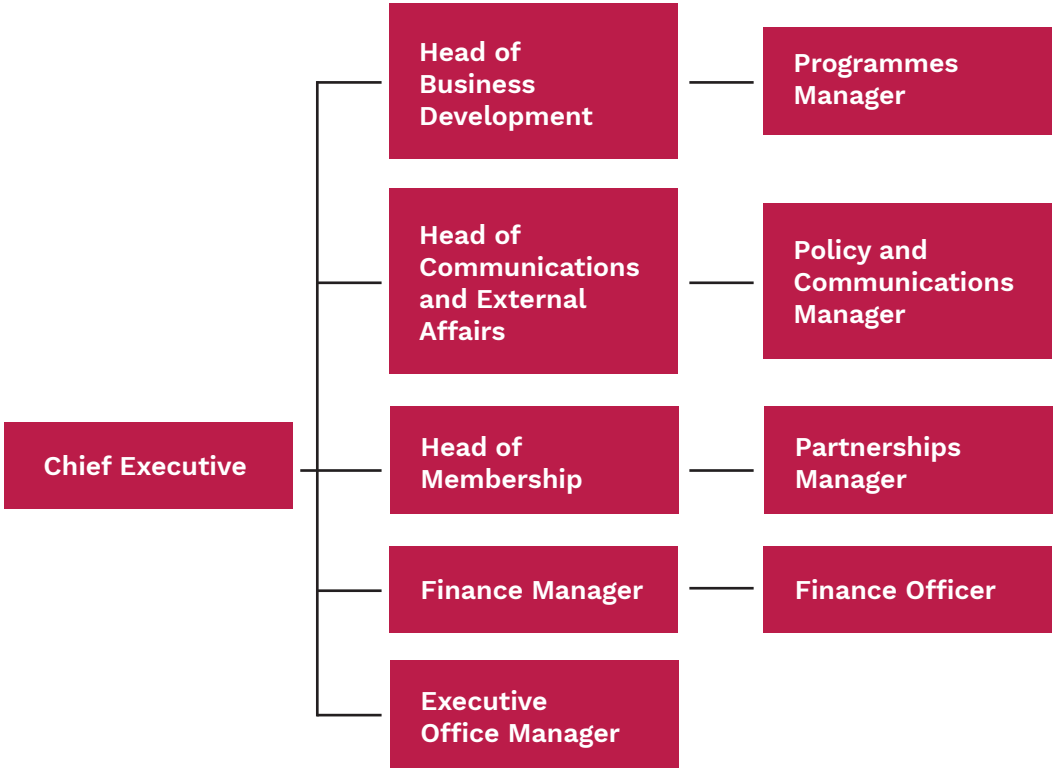
The internal financial controls conform to guidelines issued by the Charity Commission.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel:
The setting of pay and remuneration for SMT members of staff is reserved to the Board in NAVCA's scheme of delegation, with salaries approved annually as part of the budget setting process. No member of staff is paid more than £60,000 per annum.

Our staffing structure:
As at 31 March 2021, our organisation structure is as demonstrated on the diagram to the right.

Fundraising standard information:
NAVCA does not carry out significant fundraising activities from the public. The vast majority of funds come from grants, contracts and commercial income including membership fees.

Reserves policy:
NAVCA's reserves policy remains based upon retaining sufficient funds to fully meet all our liabilities, should the organisation be faced with closure, and also providing for three months operating costs. The reserve level for 2020/21 was again set at around £250k, in keeping with our organisational objectives and development aspirations. This included the securing of appropriate new additional revenue streams to support our ongoing working capital requirements.



These plans were, as in line with many organisations, established ahead of the onset of the operational and financial insecurities that Covid-19 would bring. Consequently, both the amount and nature of our reserves were kept under active review whilst we secured new Covid-19 related grant support.

The calculated level of free reserves at 31 March 2021 was £353,719 comprising total unrestricted funds of £503,579 (Note 18) adjusted for total pension deficit cost of £121,025, adding back the pension provision of £35,846, redundancy costs of £11,445, closure costs of £29,675 and provision for fall in value of investment portfolio of £23,562.

Investment powers and policy

Under its Memorandum and Articles of Association, the charity has the power to make any investment that the trustees see fit. At the end of 2020/21 the amount the charity had invested stood at a market value of £235,000. Pleasingly, as seen in the main accounts, we benefitted from a revaluation increase on the prior year due to recovery in the overall financial markets.

The remainder of the organisation's funds are held in deposit accounts, with funds being moved, when appropriate, between accounts to maximise the interest earned. Bank interest receivable during the year amounted to £132.22.

Surplus 2020/21

The surplus for the year is £206,704 after deferring a total of £247,000 into 2021/22. The deferral comprises £167,000 grant from The National Lottery Community Funds which covers April 2020- October 2021, and £80,000 of smaller funds which are to be spent on specific work to deliver strategic core objectives during 2021/22.[5]

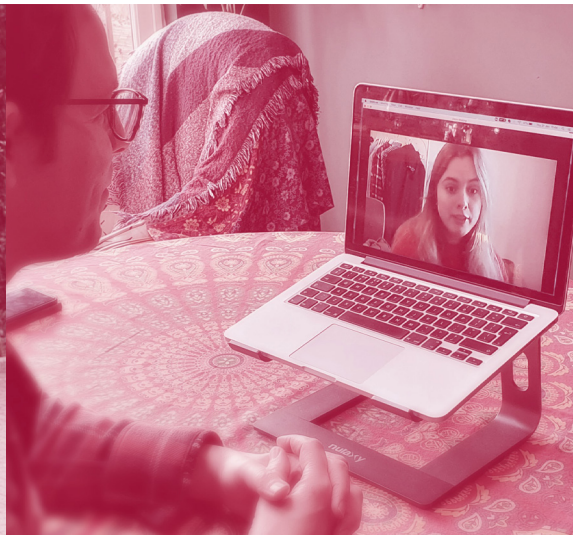
We were fortunate to secure a number of unrestricted grants from funders to support our work in response to the pandemic, recognising the value of local infrastructure, the support we provide to our members across the country, and the work we have been doing at national level. Spend against these grants did not fall neatly into one financial year, and the funds were most needed in 2021/22, as the impact of the pandemic lasted longer than anyone anticipated. We are pleased that funders have supported us to carry forward funds across the financial year to enable funds to be used when they are most needed. As a result, we have ended 2020/21 with a positive outturn and our balance sheet surplus at 31 March 2021 includes these designated funds.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

The Covid-19 pandemic has had, and will continue to have, a significant impact on the charity's finances. In part this is mitigated, as grants received during 2020/21 have been carried forward to the time they were needed. We are reviewing measures taken to combat the impact of Covid-19, and are developing our strategy and approach to income generation. In the context of an uncertain environment trustees consider that the activity, income and reserves held ensure the charity continues to operate as a going concern.





[5] The sum of £80k comprises £30k Tudor Trust, £10k Lloyds Bank, £30k Paul Hamlyn, £10k Sheffield City Council.

Trustees' responsibilities statement

The trustees (who are also directors of NAVCA for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the annual Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and UK Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company, the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for the period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

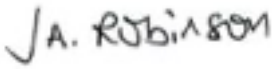
- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

As far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

On behalf of the Board



Judy Robinson
Chair of Trustees

Independent Auditors' Report to the members and trustees of National Association for Voluntary and Community Action

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY ACTION for the year ended 31 March 2021 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the company balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

• give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31st March 2021 and of the entity's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended;

• have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and

• have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

•the information given in the trustees' report (incorporating the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and

• the directors' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

• the parent charitable company has not kept adequate and sufficient accounting records, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or

• the parent charitable company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or

• certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or

• we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or

• the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the directors' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors of the parent charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed auditor under the Companies Act 2006 and section 151 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with those Acts.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or 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 these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The specific procedures for this engagement and the extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

1. We gained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework applicable to the entity and the sector in which it operates, and considered the risk of such regulations, including fraud. We designed audit procedures to respond to the risk.

2. We focused on laws and regulations relevant to the entity which could give rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements. Our testing included discussions with management, trustees, and those staff with direct responsivity for the compliance of laws and regulations. We also reviewed legal expenses.

3. We addressed the risk of management override of internal controls, including the testing of journals and review of the nominal ledger. We evaluated whether there was evidence of bias by management or the trustees that represented a risk of material misstatement due to fraud.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulations. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006, and to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members and its trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and its members, as a body, and the charitable company's trustees as a body for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Philip Allsop FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of BHP LLP

2 Rutland Park
Sheffield
S10 2PD
15th November 2021
BHP LLP is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

Statement of Financial Activities (Including Income and Expenditure Account)

Name:	Note:	2021 Unrestricted Funds £	2021 Restricted Funds £	2021 Endowment Funds £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Income and endowments from:						
Charitable activities	3	253,944	1,280,730	-	1,534,674	397,778
Investments	4	5,825	-	-	5,825	7,625
Total income and endowments		259,769	1,280,730	-	1,540,499	405,403
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	5	(1,118)	-	-	(1,118)	(1,746)
Charitable activities	6	(148,125)	(1,217,422)	-	(1,365,547)	(377,431)
Total expenditure		(149,243)	(1,217,422)	-	(1,366,665)	(379,177)
Net gains/(losses) on investments	13	32,870	-	-	32,870	(14,256)
Net income/(expenditure)		143,396	63,308	-	206,704	11,970
Transfer between funds	18	-	-	-	-	-
Other recognised gains/ losses						
Re-measurement (loss)/ (gain on defined benefit pension plan	24	(2,180)	-	-	(2,180)	500
Net movement in funds		141,216	63,308	-	204,524	12,470
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		362,363	17,665	4,588	384,616	372,146
Total funds carried forward		503,579	80,973	4,588	589,140	384,616

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised during the year.

Balance Sheet

	Note:	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	12	-	-
Investments	13	235,624	207,032
		235,624	207,032
Current assets	14		
Debtors		34,519	98,955
Cash at bank and in hand		653,398	172,300
		687,917	271,255
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(298,555)	(51,198)
Net current assets		389,362	220,057
Total assets less current liabilities		624,986	427,089
Net assets excluding pension liability		624,986	427,089
Defined benefit pension liability	24	(35,846)	(42,473)
Net assets		589,140	384,616
Charity Funds			
Endowment funds	19	4,588	4,588
Restricted funds	18	80,973	17,665
Unrestricted funds			
Designated funds	18	197,400	197,400
General Reserve	18	306,179	164,963
Total unrestricted funds		503,579	362,363
Total charity funds	20	589,140	384,616

The trustees acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of the financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board on 22nd July 2021

Signed on behalf of the board of trustees.

J. Robinson

Judy Robinson
Chair

The notes on pages 25 to 43 form part of these financial statements.
Company registration number: 02575206

Statement of Cash Flows

	Note:	2021 £	2020 £
Cash flow for operating activities			
Net cash provided by operating activities	21	470,995	(70,851)
Cash flow from investing activities			
Bank interest		132	680
Dividends received		5,693	6,945
Sale proceeds of sale of investments		55,141	107,299
Purchase of investments		(50,863)	(22,440)
Net cash used in investing activities		10,103	92,484
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		481,098	21,633
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		172,300	150,667
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	22,23	653,398	172,300



1 | Summary of significant accounting policies:

(a) General information and basis of preparation

National Association for Voluntary and Community Action (NAVCA) is a charitable company in the United Kingdom. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £5 per member of the charity. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 1 of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities is being the national voice for local charity infrastructure concerned with voluntary and community action.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Second Edition, October 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Practice.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

(b) Funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds represent those assets, which must be held permanently by the charity, principally cash at bank and in hand. Income arising on the endowment funds can be used as instructed, to assist the staff of CVS to take part in community work seminars, conferences and other training opportunities in the UK or in Europe. Any capital gains or losses arising on the investments form part of the fund. Investment management charges and legal advice relating to the fund are charged against the fund.

(c) Income recognition

All income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity is legally entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably, and it is probable that the income will be received.

For donations to be recognised the charity will have been notified of the amounts and the settlement date in writing. If there are conditions attached to the donation and this requires a level of performance before entitlement can be obtained, then income is deferred until those conditions are fully met or the fulfilment of those conditions is within the control of the charity and it is probable that they will be fulfilled.

Income from trading activities includes income earned from fundraising events and trading activities to raise funds for the charity. Income is received in exchange for supplying goods and services in order to raise funds and is recognised when entitlement has occurred.

The charity receives government grants in respect of restricted

funding for delivery of services. Income from government and other grants are recognised at fair value when the charity has entitlement after any performance conditions have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably. If entitlement is not met, then these amounts are deferred.

Investment income is earned through holding assets for investment purposes such as shares and property. It includes dividends, interest and rent. Where it is not practicable to identify investment management costs incurred within a scheme with reasonable accuracy the investment income is reported net of these costs. It is included when the amount can be measured reliably. Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method and dividend and rent income is recognised as the charity's right to receive payment is established.

(d) Expenditure recognition

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. It is categorised under the following headings:

- Costs of raising funds includes investment management fees;

- Expenditure on charitable activities includes costs of activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity; and

- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into the categories above.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as an expense against the activity for which expenditure arose.

Grants payable to third parties are within the charitable objectives. Where unconditional grants are offered, this is accrued as soon as the recipient is notified of the grant, as this gives rise to a reasonable expectation that the recipient will receive the grants. Where grants are conditional relating to performance then the grant is only accrued when any unfulfilled conditions are outside of the control of the charity.

(e) Support costs allocation

Support costs are those that assist the work of the charity but do not directly represent charitable activities and include office costs, governance costs, administrative and payroll costs. They are incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity and include project management carried out at Headquarters. Where support costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they have been allocated to cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources. Other overheads have been allocated on a time allocation basis.

Fund-raising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities. The analysis of these costs is included in note 7.

(f) Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets costing more than £1,000 are capitalised and included at cost less accumulated depreciation. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended. Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset on a systematic basis over its expected useful life as follows:

IT equipment	3 years straight line
Office furniture and fittings	5 years straight line

(g) Investments

Investments are recognised initially at fair value which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs.

Subsequently, they are measured at fair value with changes recognised in 'net gains / (losses) on investments' in the SoFA if the shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably. Other investments are measured at cost less impairment.

(h) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the charity has an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount can be reliably estimated.

(i) Employee benefits

When employees have rendered service to the charity, short-term employee benefits to which the employees are entitled are recognised at the undiscounted amount expected to be paid in exchange for that service. The charity operated a defined benefit pension scheme for the benefit of its employees. A liability for the charity's obligations under the plan is recognised net of plan assets. The net change in the net defined benefit liability is recognised as the cost of the defined benefit plan during the period. Pension plan assets are measured at fair value and the defined benefit obligation is measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method. Actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date.

(j) Tax

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

(k) Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.



2 | Statement of financial activities 2020

Name:	2020 Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total £
Income and endowments from:				
Charitable activities	191,053	206,725	-	397,778
Investments	7,625	-	-	7,625
Total income and endowments	198,678	206,725	-	405,403
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	(1,746)	-	-	(1,746)
Charitable activities	(170,706)	(206,725)	-	(377,431)
Total expenditure	(172,452)	(206,725)	-	(379,177)
Net gains/(losses) on investments	(14,256)	-	-	(14,256)
Net expenditure	11,970	-	-	11,970
Transfer between funds	20,995	20,995	-	-
Other recognised gains/ losses				
Re-measurement (loss)/ (gain on defined benefit pension plan	500	-	-	500
Net movement in funds	33,465	(20,995)	-	12,470
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward	328,898	38,660	4,588	372,146
Total funds carried forward	362,363	17,665	4,588	384,616

3 | Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2021 £	2020 £
Membership income	48,876	-	**48,876**	43,735
Grant and Project income	133,000	1,280,730	**1,413,730**	261,725
Contract income	72,068	-	**72,068**	92,318
	253,944	1,280,730	**1,534,674**	397,778

Grant and project income

Restricted		
HWA – Additional Projects	-	70,000
HWA (Health and Wellbeing Alliance)	60,000	60,000
DCMS -VCS Emergencies Partnership Secretariat	123,500	-
DCMS- VCS Emergencies Partnership grant distribution	1,056,017	-
VCSE - Data and Intelligence sharing	5,420	-
VCSE –'Levelling Up'	1,500	-
DCMS – Safeguarding	33,343	38,125
Social Investment Support (Barrow Cadbury Grant)	950	38,600
	1,280,730	**206,725**
Unrestricted		
Lloyds Bank Foundation for England and Wales – grant for core expenditure	-	25,000
Barrow Cadbury Grant – grant for core expenditure	-	30,000
The National Lotteries Communities Fund – emergency Covid-19 funding	133,000	-
	133,000	**55,000**
Total grants and project income	**1,413,730**	**261,725**
Membership fees and charitable purpose contracts	120,944	136,053
Total resources from charitable activities	**1,534,674**	**397,778**

4 | Income from investments

	2021 £	2020 £
Dividends	5,693	6,945
Interest	132	680
	5,825	7,625

5 | Raising Funds

	2021 £	2020 £
Investment manager fees	1,118	1,746
	1,118	1,746

6 | Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Activities undertaken directly £	Activities undertaken by members £	Support costs	2021 £	2020 £
Member Support	103,506	-	55,015	158,521	188,581
Grant and Project Expenses	216,658	-	5,406	222,064	112,343
Grants distributed	-	971,158		971,158	-
Contract Expenses	12,637	-	1,166	13,804	76,507
	332,802	971,158	61,587	1,365,547	377,431

Grants distributed are made up of grants of £3,000 to Local Infrastructure Organisations and £9,500 to Local Liaison Leads plus one payment of £21,658 to the National Liaison Lead.

4 | Income from investments

5 | Raising funds

6 | Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

7 | Support costs

Support costs totalling £61,586 (2020: £93,091) have been allocated across the activities of the charity on the following basis:

	Basis of allocation £	2021 £	2020 £
Governance (note 8)	Time spent & expenditure	22,749	31,222
Strategic	Expenditure	6,314	16,864
Premises	Expenditure	8,548	7,989
Operations	Expenditure	6,441	14,398
Information technology	Expenditure	12,880	11,147
Finance	Expenditure	937	4,564
Professional	Expenditure	3,718	6,907
		61,587	93,091

8 | Governance costs

	2021 £	2020 £
Preparation of financial statements and independent examiner's fee	1,650	3,850
Audit fee	6,500	-
Trustee board expenses	935	7,072
Support costs	13,664	20,300
	22,749	31,222

9 | Net income for the year

Net income is stated after charging:

	2021 £	2020 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	-	-
Operating lease rentals	355	355

7 | Support costs

8 | Governance costs

9 | Net income for the year

10 | Trustees' and key management personnel remuneration and expenses

The trustees neither received nor waived any remuneration during the year (2020: £nil).
The reimbursement of trustees' expenses was as follows:

	2021 Number	2020 Number	2021 £	2020 £
Travel and subsistence	2	11	935	4,870

11 | Staff costs and employee benefits

The average monthly number of employees and full time equivalent (FTE) during the year was as follows:

	2021 Number	2021 FTE	2020 Number	2020 FTE
Charitable activities	8	7	6	5

The total staff costs and employees' benefits was as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	280,719	204,972
Social security	24,647	7,478
Other pension costs	22,493	18,125
Recruitment costs	9,837	3,501
	337,696	234,076

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

The trustees consider that the key management personnel comprised of the Chief Executive Officers. The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel is £39,548 (2020: £58,716).

10 | Trustees' and key management personnel remuneration and expenses

11 | Staff costs and employee benefits

12 | Tangible fixed assets

	IT equipment £	Office furniture and fittings £	Total £
Cost or valuation:			
At 1 April 2020	101,996	106,818	208,814
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 March 2021	101,996	106,818	208,814
Depreciation:			
At 1 April 2020	101,996	106,818	208,814
Charge for the year	-	-	-
At 31 March 2021	101,996	106,818	208,814
Net book value:			
At 31 March 2021	-	-	-
At 31 March 2020	-	-	-

12 | Tangible fixed assets



13 | Fixed asset investments

13 | Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £	Total £
Cost or valuation		
At 1 April 2020	207,032	207,032
Additions	50,863	50,863
Disposals - proceeds	(55,141)	(55,141)
Gain on disposals	5,688	5,688
Revaluation	27,182	27,182
At 31 March 2021	235,624	235,624
Carrying amount:		
At 31 March 2021	235,624	235,624
At 31 March 2020	207,032	207,032

The historic cost of investments at 31 March 2021 was £207,923 (2020: £206,513).
Investments at fair value compromise:

	2021 £
UK fixed interest	32,367
Overseas fixed interest	48,800
UK Equities	36,896
European Equities	9,269
North American Equities	27,668
Japanese Equities	4,011
Far East & Australian Equities	9,187
International Equities	5,515
Emerging Economies	4,950
Property	16,926
Alternate assets	40,035
	235,624

The fair value of listed investments is determined by reference to the quoted price for identical assets in an active market at the balance sheet date.

No individual security held accounts for more than 5% of the portfolio by market value.

14 | Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors	32,788	66,690
Prepayments and accrued income	1,731	32,265
	34,519	98,955

15 | Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade creditors	21,884	10,399
Other tax and social security	11,904	9,502
Accruals and deferred income	264,767	31,297
	298,555	51,198

16 | Leases

a) Operating leases - lessee

Total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Not later than one year	89	355
Later than one and not later than five years	-	443
Later than five years	-	-
	89	798

14 | Debtors

15 | Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

16 | Leases

17 | Deferred income

	£
At 1 April 2020	18,157
Additions during the year	369,161
Amounts released to income	(140,318)
At 31 March 2021*	247,000

*Breakdown of Deferred income (where conditions set by the donor have not been met by March 2021).

The National Lottery Community Fund	167,000
Tudor Trust COVID Grant	30,000
Paul Hamlyn Foundation COVID Grant	30,000
Sheffield City Council Business Support Relief	10,000
Lloyds Bank Foundation for England and Wales	10,000

17 | Deferred income



18 | Fund reconciliation

18 | Fund reconciliation

Unrestricted funds

	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains / (losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
Unrestricted	164,963	259,769	(149,243)	-	30,690	306,179
Designated Funds:						
Underwriting fund	150,000	-	-	-	-	150,000
Development and redundancy	35,500	-	-	11,900	-	47,400
Emergency funding – Covid 19	11,900	-	-	(11,900)	-	0
	362,363	259,769	(149,243)	-	30,690	503,579

Unrestricted funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains / (losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2020 £
Unrestricted	156,612	198,678	(172,452)	(4,119)	(13,756)	164,963
Designated Funds:						
Underwriting fund	150,000	-	-	-	-	150,000
Development and redundancy	22,286	-	-	13,214	-	35,500
Emergency funding-Covid-19	-	-	-	11,900	-	11,900
	328,898	198,678	(172,452)	20,995	(13,756)	362,363

Designated funds
The unrestricted funds of the charity include the following designated funds, which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the Trustee Board for specific purposes

Underwriting fund
Designation to support future budgets with predicted deficits.

Development and Redundancy
Funds for redundancy and associated costs and for development from reserves. This has been reviewed and updated as part of our annual process to reflect our latest analysis of costs and redundancy liabilities in the event of closure.

Emergency funding - Covid-19
Funds from the emergency grant funding received in 2019/20 from Lloyds Bank Foundation and Barrow Cadbury. It was decided to transfer these funds to the Development and Redundancy fund to allow for possible redundancies due to the uncertainty of the economic recovery following the Covid pandemic.



18 | Fund reconciliation

18 | Fund reconciliation - Continued

Restricted funds

	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Movement in resources Incoming £	Outgoing £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
HWA – (Health and Wellbeing Alliance)	-	60,000	(60,000)	-	-
DCMS VCS Emergencies Partnership Secretariat	-	123,500	(123,500)	-	-
DCMS- VCS Emergencies Partnership grant distribution	-	1,056,017	(1,026,052)	-	29,965
VCSE- Data and Intelligence sharing	-	5,420	(5,420)	-	-
VCSE –'levelling up'	-	1,500	(1,500)	-	-
Tender Support Project	4,049	-	-	-	4,049
Public Law Project	13,616	-	-	-	13,616
Social Investment Support	-	950	(950)	-	-
DCMS – Safeguarding	-	33,343	-	-	33,343
	17,665	1,280,730	(1,217,422)	-	80,973

Restricted funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2019 £	Movement in resources Incoming £	Outgoing £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2020 £
HWA – Additional Projects	-	70,000	(70,000)	-	-
HWA – (Health and Wellbeing Alliance)	-	60,000	(60,000)	-	-
Member support and development fund	13,052	-	-	(13,052)	-
SFC Campaigning and advocacy	5,480	-	-	(5,480)	-
Tender Support Project	2,463	-	-	(2,463)	-
Public Law Project	4,049	-	-	-	4,049
Social Investment Support	13,616	-	-	-	13,616
DCMS- Safeguarding	-	38,600	(38,600)	-	-
	-	38,125	(38,125)	-	-
	38,660	206,725	(206,725)	(20,995)	17,665

Health & Wellbeing Alliance (HWA)
NAVCA is a member of the VCSE Health & Wellbeing Alliance. The HWA is a partnership between the voluntary sector and the health and care system (as represented by NHS England, Department of Health & Social Care, and Public Health England) to provide a voice and improve health and wellbeing for all communities.

Tender Support Project
This was a project to provide support to increase organisations' ability to win contracts to deliver public services.

Public Law Project
NCVO was the lead partner on this Big Lottery funded project. This was to work with NCVO on development of a legacy for the project.

Social Investment Support
This is a project funded by Big Society Capital and the Connect Fund to raise awareness and expertise in social investment among NAVCA members and, through them, the local voluntary sector in England.

DCMS - Safeguarding
NAVCA is a member of the Safer Social Partnership (along with NCVO, Acre, Children England and others) which won funding from the National Lottery Community Fund to develop safeguarding resources for the voluntary sector in England under phase 1 of the Safeguarding Training Fund.

HWA Priority Project 'VCSE data and intelligence sharing'
NAVCA received a grant to work collaboratively with other partners in a project which aims to increase the use of data and intelligence held by the voluntary sector to enable better service planning and therefore better services to citizens, which seeks to redress inequalities in public sector delivery.

HWA Priority Project 'Exploring the role of the VCSE sector and communities in 'levelling up'
NAVCA received this grant to work collaboratively with other partners in a project which aims to explore the role of communities and the VCSE sector in levelling up with a focus on employment at place level, to influence future policy and practice.

DCMS - VCS Emergencies Partnership grant distribution
NAVCA worked with the British Red Cross to deliver the programme 'VCS Emergencies Partnership co-ordination of the voluntary sector's Covid-19 response' which is funded by the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). NAVCA co-ordinated the delivery of the emergency response to Covid-19 with a goal of improving well-being and reducing vulnerabilities of people affected by the pandemic. This involved the distribution of grants to relevant organisations for this purpose.

DCMS - VCS Emergencies Partnership Secretariat
NAVCA worked with the British Red Cross on the delivery of the above programme and received this grant to facilitate the programme by bringing in additional staff to manage the project.

19 Endowment fund

19 | Endowment fund

The Sir John Wrigley Bequest was made in 1978 to the National Council for Social Services and subsequently devolved to NAVCA. The income from the bequest is being used as instructed, to assist the staff of CVS to take part in community work seminars, conferences and other training opportunities in the UK or in Europe.

20 | Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £
Investments	235,624	-	-	235,624
Cash and current investments	599,712	80,973	4,588	685,273
Other current assets / liabilities	(295,911)	-	-	(295,911)
Pensions provision	(35,846)	-	-	(35,846)
	503,579	80,973	4,588	589,140

Analysis of net assets between funds – prior year

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £
Investments	207,032	-	-	207,032
Cash and current investments	150,047	17,665	4,588	172,300
Other current assets / liabilities	47,757	-	-	47,757
Pensions provision	(42,473)	-	-	(42,473)
	362,363	17,665	4,588	384,616

21 | Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2021 £	2020 £
Net income for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	204,524	12,470
Adjustment for:		
Bank interest	(132)	(680)
Dividends received	(5,693)	(6,945)
Gain in disposal of investments	(5,688)	(14,020)
Remeasurement loss/(gain) on defined benefit plan	2,180	(500)
Revaluation of investments	(27,182)	28,276
Decrease/(Increase) in debtors	64,436	(74,766)
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors	247,357	(6,135)
Decrease in benefit pension liability	(8,807)	(8,551)
Net cash provided by operating activities	470,995	(70,851)

20 | Analysis of net assets between funds

21 | Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

22 | Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2021 £	2020 £
Cash in hand	653,398	172,300
Total cash and cash equivalents	653,398	172,300

23 | Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 April 2020 £	Cash flows	At 31 March 2021 £
Cash in hand	172,300	481,098	653,398

22 | Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

23 | Analysis of changes in net debt

24 | Pensions and other post-retirement benefits

24 | Pensions and other post-retirement benefits

The company participates in a multi-employer scheme, which provides benefits to some 950 non-associated participating employers. The scheme is a defined benefit scheme in the UK. It is not possible for the company to obtain sufficient information to enable it to account for the scheme as a defined benefit scheme. Therefore, it accounts for the scheme as a defined contribution scheme.

The scheme is subject to the funding legislation outlined in the Pensions Act 2004, which came into force on 30 December 2005. This, together with documents issued by the Pensions Regulator and Technical Actuarial Standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council, set out the framework for funding defined benefit occupational pension schemes in the UK.

The scheme is classified as a 'last-man standing arrangement'. Therefore, the company is potentially liable for other participating employers' obligations if those employers are unable to meet their share of the scheme deficit following withdrawal from the scheme. Participating employers are legally required to meet their share of the scheme deficit on an annuity purchase basis on withdrawal from the scheme.

A full actuarial valuation for the scheme was carried out at 30 September 2020. This valuation showed a deficit of £31.6m (2017 £131.5m). To eliminate this funding shortfall, the Trustee has asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme as follows:

Deficit contributions
From 1 April 2019 to 31 January 2025: £11,243,000 per annum
(payable monthly and increasing by 3% each on 1st April)

Unless a concession has been agreed with the Trustee, the term to 31 January 2025 applies.
Note that the scheme's previous valuation was carried out with an effective date of 30 September 2014. This valuation showed assets of £793.4m, liabilities of £969.9m and a deficit of £176.5m. To eliminate this funding shortfall, the Trustee has asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme as follows:

Deficit contributions
From 1 April 2017 to 30 September 2025: £12,945,440 per annum
(payable monthly and increasing by 3% each on 1st April)

From 1 April 2017 to 30 September 2028: £54,560 per annum
(payable monthly and increasing by 3% each on 1st April)

24 | Pensions and other post-retirement benefits

24 | Pensions and other post-retirement benefits

The recovery plan contributions are allocated to each participating employer in line with their estimated share of the Series 1 and Series 2 Scheme liabilities.

Where the scheme is in deficit and where the company has agreed to a deficit funding arrangement, the company recognises a liability for this obligation. The amount recognised is the net present value of the deficit reduction contributions payable under the agreement that relates to the deficit. The present value is calculated using the discount rate detailed in these disclosures. The unwinding of the discount rate is recognised as a finance cost.

Present value of provision

	31 March 2021 £	31 March 2020 £	31 March 2019 £
Present value of provision	35,846	42,473	51,524

Reconciliation of opening and closing provisions

	Period Ending 31 March 2021 £	Period Ending 31 March 2020 £
Provision at start of period	42,473	51,524
Unwinding of the discount factor (interest expense)	954	652
Deficit contribution paid	(8,807)	(8,551)
Remeasurements - impact of any change in assumptions	1,226	(1,152)
Remeasurements - amendments to the contribution schedule	-	-
Provision at end of period	35,846	42,473

24 | Pensions and other post-retirement benefits

24 | Pensions and other post-retirement benefits

Income and expenditure Impact

	Period Ending 31 March 2021 £	Period Ending 31 March 2020 £
Interest expense	954	652
Remeasurements – impact of any change in assumptions	1,226	(1,152)
Remeasurements – amendments to the contribution schedule	-	-

Assumptions

	31 March 2021 % per annum	31 March 2020 % per annum	31 March 2019 % per annum
Rate of discount	0.66	2.53	1.39

The discount rates shown above are the equivalent single discount rates which, when used to discount the future recovery plan contributions due, would give the same results as using a full AA corporate bond yield curve to discount the same recovery plan contributions.

25 | Related party transactions

25 | Related party transactions

A majority of NAVCA trustees are employees of NAVCA members. NAVCA sells services to and buys services from its members on the same terms as any other party.

During the year services were sold to members that were connected to trustees as follows. These figures excluded membership fees:

Trustee	Related organisation	2021 £	2020 £	Description of goods
Melanie Mills	Big Society Capital	8040	-	Contract services

During the year the following monies (due to services rendered or grants) were paid to the following members that were connected to trustees as follows. The grants given were part of the DCMS VCS Emergencies Partnership grant distribution programme:

Trustee	Related organisation	2021 £	2020 £	Description of goods
Steven Craker	Communities 1st (St Albans – Hertsmere)	-	1,200	Training services
Carole Phillips	CEO VA North Lincs	-	285	Training services
Alison Semmence	CEO York CVS	-	1,111	Room hire etc
Alison Semmence	CEO York CVS	3,000	-	Grant given
Angela Carter	CEO Sefton CVS	-	727	Training services
Angela Carter	CEO Sefton CVS	9,500	-	Grant given
Richard Jackson	CEO VA Leeds	-	144	Catering costs
Richard Jaction	CEO VA Leeds	3,000	-	Grant given
Kerrie Fletcher	CEO S Derbys CVS	-	173	Training services
Kerrie Fletcher	CEO Community Action Derby	9,500		Grant given
Mike Wild	CEO MACC	-	149	Catering costs
Mike Wild	CEO MACC	3,000	-	Grant given
Julie Farrow	CEO Hunts Forum	-	47	Training services
Julie Farrow	CEO Hunts Forum	3,000	-	Grant given
Michelle Warburton	Manager Salford CVS	3,000	-	Grant given

26 | Financial instruments

26 | Financial instruments

The carrying amounts of the charity's financial instruments are as follows:

Financial assets

	2021 £	2020 £
Measured at fair value through net expenditure: - Fixed asset listed investments (note 13)	235,624	207,032
	235,624	207,032
	235,624	207,032
Debt instruments measured at amortised cost:		
- Trade debtors (note 14)	32,788	66,690
- Other debtors (note 14)	1,731	32,265
	34,519	98,955
Measured at amortised cost		
- Trade creditors (note 15)	21,884	10,399
- Other creditors (note 15)	308,546	40,799
	330,430	51,198

The income, expenses, net gains and net losses attributable the charity's financial instruments are summarised as follows:

Income and expense

	2021 £	2020 £
Financial assets measured at fair value through net expenditure		
Dividends received (note 4)	5,693	6,945
Gain on disposal of investments (note 13)	5,688	14,020
Net gains/(losses) on revaluation of investments (note 13)	27,182	(28,276)

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Thank you to everyone who was a part of NAVCA's team of staff during 2020/21.

Marcus Bowen
Alex Boys
Maddy Desforges
Daniel Haslam
Kat Heaton
Jane Ide OBE
Cheng Ee Kok
Pauline Lee
Clare Mills
Anna Pashley
Karen Spark
Lucy Straker
JuliAnne Tidy

National Association for Voluntary and Community Action

Annual review & financial statements
Year ended 31 March 2021

Company Number: 2575206
Charity Number: 1001635