

Sefton Support Group
Unaudited Financial Statements
31 December 2024

MATTOCKS GRINDLEY

Chartered accountants
18 Mulberry Avenue
Turnstone Business Park
Widnes
Cheshire
WA8 0WN

Sefton Support Group

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2024

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Sefton Support Group

Trustees' Annual Report

Year ended 31 December 2024

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name Sefton Support Group

Charity registration number 1058183

Principal office 1 Duke Street
Formby
Liverpool
L37 4AL

The trustees

J McEvoy
P Dunning
G McEvoy
L Lewis
KST McIntosh
LJ McDowall

Independent examiner Mr G Mattocks
18 Mulberry Avenue
Turnstone Business Park
Widnes
Cheshire
WA8 0WN

Structure, governance and management

Sefton Support Group is a registered charity governed by a board of trustees, all of whom bring diverse expertise in areas such as health, education, finance, and digital communications. The charity is independently managed and operates in accordance with its constitution. Trustees meet regularly to review performance, approve strategic decisions, and ensure the charity complies with its legal and regulatory obligations.

In December 2023, a dedicated Steering Group was formed to drive forward the charity's strategic direction and growth. This group has met bi-monthly and has been instrumental in shaping future planning, including vision-setting and the formulation of income-generating strategies.

Sefton Support Group

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2024

Objectives and activities

Sefton Support Group exists to support individuals in Sefton and across Merseyside who are affected by serious illness, mental health challenges, and social isolation. Our services are inclusive, person-centred, and focused on emotional, physical, and mental wellbeing.

Key activities during 2024 included:

- Provision of **counselling, holistic therapies, and peer support groups**.
- Monthly **community wellbeing events** with guest speakers, now funded by The National Lottery.
- Development of a new **digital volunteer portal** to streamline communication, therapy bookings, and access to resources.
- A **Referral & Care Coordination service**, which ensures members are connected with specialist support beyond our own remit.
- Ongoing development of marketing and communications strategies to increase awareness and reach.

Reserves Policy

The charity maintains a reserves policy to ensure sufficient funds are available to manage day-to-day operations and unforeseen emergencies. Our current policy aims to hold at least **12 months of core running costs** in unrestricted reserves.

Risk Management Policy

The trustees review risks on a regular basis and have implemented systems to mitigate potential threats. Key risks identified include reliance on short-term funding, volunteer capacity, and maintaining service quality during periods of growth.

Risk is managed through:

- Diversification of income sources.
- Strategic planning via the Steering Group.
- Robust policies for safeguarding, data protection, and health & safety.
- A digital transformation strategy reducing dependency on manual systems.
- A comprehensive **risk assessment** has also been completed and forms part of the charity's annual governance review.

Sefton Support Group

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2024

Achievements and performance

2024 was a transformative year for the charity. Building on the foundation of the previous three years, we delivered meaningful growth in service delivery, infrastructure, and public awareness.

Key achievements include:

- **500+ members supported** (32.75% growth).
- **140+ monthly regular attendees** (40% increase).
- **72% increase in drop-in visits**; consistent weekly usage.
- **70% improved health management, 65% increased confidence, 80% formed friendships** outside group settings.
- A well-attended **annual volunteer meeting** and enhanced volunteer support systems.
- Development of a **volunteer portal**, funded through the UKSPF initiative, improving internal efficiency.
- Creation of a **new marketing strategy**, with a redeveloped website, social platform utilisation & mailing list.
- Continuation of a **Steering Group**, developing a clear three-year vision.
- Development of plans for future-facing initiatives including a **Therapy Academy** and plans for a **charitable retail outlet**.

These successes would not have been possible without the generous support of our funders and the unwavering commitment of our volunteers.

Financial review

At the start of the year, the charity's reserves stood at **£8,967**. During the year, we received **£52,432** in total income from a combination of grants, revenue generating initiatives, community fundraising, and donations. Major funders included:

- National Lottery - £19,150 (Restricted Project Funding)
- PH Holt Foundation - £8,000
- Pilkington Charitable Trust - £5,000
- Yapp Charitable Trust - £3,000
- Eleanor Rathbone Trust - £3,000
- Elizabeth Rathbone Trust - £1,500
- Chrimes Family Charitable Trust - £700

Expenditure for the year totalled **£23,752**, covering rent, utilities, therapy and support materials, volunteer expenses, and administrative costs.

This leaves the charity with closing reserves of **£37,647**, of which **£16,125** is restricted (allocated to equipment purchase and ongoing projects, i.e. our Lottery-funded wellbeing work). This financial position allows us to begin 2025 in a stronger position than ever before, with improved capacity for forward planning and strategic growth.

Sefton Support Group

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2024

Plans for future periods

Looking ahead, our key priorities include:

- **Recruitment of a full-time Centre Manager**, to enhance our operational capacity and sustainability.
- **Launching a Therapy Academy**, offering placements and reduced-cost therapies for the community.
- **Establishing a charity retail outlet** to support financial self-sufficiency.
- **Expanding our volunteer base** to meet increasing demand.
- **Securing larger, multi-year grants** to support long-term growth.
- **Continuing to deliver and evaluate our National Lottery Wellbeing Project.**
- **Building on our digital transformation** to further reduce admin burden and improve service delivery.

2025 is set to be another pivotal year as we continue to build a resilient, forward-thinking charity that provides vital support to those who need it most.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 11/4/25..... and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



J McEvoy
Trustee



P Dunning
Trustee

Sefton Support Group

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Sefton Support Group

Year ended 31 December 2024

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Sefton Support Group ('the charity') for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material 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 130 of the Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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 accounts to be reached.



Mr G Mattocks
Independent Examiner

18 Mulberry Avenue
Turnstone Business Park
Widnes
Cheshire
WA8 0WN

11/4/25

Sefton Support Group

Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 December 2024

		Unrestricted funds £	2024 Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
	Note				
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	4	32,582	19,850	52,432	14,515
Total income		<u>32,582</u>	<u>19,850</u>	<u>52,432</u>	<u>14,515</u>
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities	5,6	20,087	3,665	23,752	19,125
Total expenditure		<u>20,087</u>	<u>3,665</u>	<u>23,752</u>	<u>19,125</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		<u>12,495</u>	<u>16,185</u>	<u>28,680</u>	<u>(4,610)</u>
Transfers between funds		60	(60)	—	—
Net movement in funds		<u>12,555</u>	<u>16,125</u>	<u>28,680</u>	<u>(4,610)</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		8,967	—	8,967	13,577
Total funds carried forward		<u>21,522</u>	<u>16,125</u>	<u>37,647</u>	<u>8,967</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 8 to 15 form part of these financial statements.

Sefton Support Group

Statement of Financial Position

31 December 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	10	848	—
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		37,819	8,967
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	1,020	—
Net current assets		<u>36,799</u>	<u>8,967</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>37,647</u>	<u>8,967</u>
Net assets		<u><u>37,647</u></u>	<u><u>8,967</u></u>
Funds of the charity			
Restricted funds		16,125	—
Unrestricted funds		21,522	8,967
Total charity funds	12	<u><u>37,647</u></u>	<u><u>8,967</u></u>

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 11/4/25....., and are signed on behalf of the board by:



J McEvoy
Trustee



P Dunning
Trustee

The notes on pages 8 to 15 form part of these financial statements.

Sefton Support Group

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2024

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a registered charity in England and Wales and is unincorporated. The address of the principal office is 1 Duke Street, Formby, Liverpool, L37 4AL.

2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the 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) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Charities Act 2011.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

Sefton Support Group

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2024

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Sefton Support Group

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2024

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Tangible assets *(continued)*

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, except to which it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Equipment - Straight line over 5 years

Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

For impairment testing of goodwill, the goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquisition date, allocated to each of the cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the charity are assigned to those units.

Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Sefton Support Group

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2024

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Financial instruments *(continued)*

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

4. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Donations			
Donations	11,582	—	11,582
Grants			
National Lottery	—	19,150	19,150
Chrimes Family Charitable Trust	—	700	700
YAPP Charitable Trust	3,000	—	3,000
PH Holt Foundation	8,000	—	8,000
Eleanor Rathbone Trust	3,000	—	3,000
Elizabeth Rathbone Trust	1,500	—	1,500
John Moores Foundation	—	—	—
Albert Hunt Trust	—	—	—
Pilkington Charitable Trust	5,000	—	5,000
The Camelia Trust	500	—	500
	<u>32,582</u>	<u>19,850</u>	<u>52,432</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Donations			
Donations	7,515	—	7,515

Sefton Support Group

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2024

4. Donations and legacies *(continued)*

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Grants			
National Lottery	—	—	—
Chrimes Family Charitable Trust	—	—	—
YAPP Charitable Trust	—	—	—
PH Holt Foundation	—	—	—
Eleanor Rathbone Trust	—	—	—
Elizabeth Rathbone Trust	—	—	—
John Moores Foundation	5,000	—	5,000
Albert Hunt Trust	2,000	—	2,000
Pilkington Charitable Trust	—	—	—
The Camelia Trust	—	—	—
	<u>14,515</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>14,515</u>

5. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Direct charitable costs	19,067	3,665	22,732
Support costs	1,020	—	1,020
	<u>20,087</u>	<u>3,665</u>	<u>23,752</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Direct charitable costs	19,125	—	19,125
Support costs	—	—	—
	<u>19,125</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>19,125</u>

6. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	Total funds 2024 £	Total fund 2023 £
Direct charitable costs	22,732	—	22,732	19,125
Governance costs	—	1,020	1,020	—
	<u>22,732</u>	<u>1,020</u>	<u>23,752</u>	<u>19,125</u>

Sefton Support Group

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2024

7. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2024 £	2023 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	212	—

8. Independent examination fees

	2024 £	2023 £
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	1,020	—

9. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees.

10. Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment £
Cost	
At 1 January 2024	—
Additions	1,060
At 31 December 2024	1,060
Depreciation	
At 1 January 2024	—
Charge for the year	212
At 31 December 2024	212
Carrying amount	
At 31 December 2024	848
At 31 December 2023	—

11. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Accruals and deferred income	1,020	—

Sefton Support Group

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2024

12. Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 January 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2024 £
General funds	<u>8,967</u>	<u>32,582</u>	<u>(20,087)</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>21,522</u>

	At 1 January 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2023 £
General funds	<u>13,577</u>	<u>14,515</u>	<u>(19,125)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>8,967</u>

Restricted funds

	At 1 January 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2024 £
Restricted Funds	<u>—</u>	<u>19,850</u>	<u>(3,665)</u>	<u>(60)</u>	<u>16,125</u>

	At 1 January 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2023 £
Restricted Funds	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>

Restricted funds were given towards the core costs and project expenditure of Sefton Support Group.

	At 1 January 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2024 £
National Lottery		19,150	(3,965)	(60)	16,125
Chrimes Family Charitable Trust		700	(700)		—
	<u>—</u>	<u>19,850</u>	<u>(4,665)</u>	<u>(60)</u>	<u>16,125</u>

Sefton Support Group

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2024

13. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	336	512	848
Current assets	22,206	15,613	37,819
Creditors less than 1 year	(1,020)	—	(1,020)
Net assets	<u>21,522</u>	<u>16,125</u>	<u>37,647</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	—	—	—
Current assets	8,967	—	8,967
Creditors less than 1 year	—	—	—
Net assets	<u>8,967</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>8,967</u>

14. Financial instruments

The charity currently holds no financial instruments.

Sefton Support Group

Management Information

Year ended 31 December 2024

The following pages do not form part of the financial statements.

Sefton Support Group

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 December 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
Income and endowments		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	11,582	7,515
National Lottery	19,150	—
Chrimes Family Charitable Trust	700	—
YAPP Charitable Trust	3,000	—
PH Holt Foundation	8,000	—
Eleanor Rathbone Trust	3,000	—
Elizabeth Rathbone Trust	1,500	—
John Moores Foundation	—	5,000
Albert Hunt Trust	—	2,000
Pilkington Charitable Trust	5,000	—
The Camelia Trust	500	—
	<u>52,432</u>	<u>14,515</u>
Total income	<u>52,432</u>	<u>14,515</u>
Expenditure		
Expenditure on charitable activities		
Purchases	1,049	221
Rent	7,799	6,807
Rates and water	189	—
Light and heat	2,380	2,429
Repairs and maintenance	339	—
Insurance	298	298
Other motor/travel costs	107	16
Legal and professional fees	2,016	82
Telephone	525	216
Other office costs	102	44
Depreciation	212	—
Advertising and marketing	3,697	2,105
Volunteers expenses	480	430
Therapy products	344	—
Project expenditure	2,837	6,220
General expenses	1,378	257
	<u>23,752</u>	<u>19,125</u>
Total expenditure	<u>23,752</u>	<u>19,125</u>
Net income/(expenditure)	<u>28,680</u>	<u>(4,610)</u>

Sefton Support Group

Notes to the Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 December 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
Expenditure on charitable activities		
Direct charitable costs		
<i>Activities undertaken directly</i>		
Purchases	1,049	221
Rent	7,799	6,807
Rates & water	189	—
Light & heat	2,380	2,429
Repairs and maintenance	339	—
Insurance	298	298
Other motor/travel costs	107	16
Professional fees	996	82
Telephone	525	216
Other office costs	102	44
Depreciation	212	—
Advertising and marketing	3,697	2,105
Volunteers expenses	480	430
Therapy products	344	—
Project expenditure	2,837	6,220
General expenses	1,378	257
	<u>22,732</u>	<u>19,125</u>
Governance costs		
Governance costs - accountancy fees	1,020	—
	<u>1,020</u>	<u>—</u>
Expenditure on charitable activities	<u>23,752</u>	<u>19,125</u>
