

Company Registration No. 3320011 (England and Wales)
Charity No. 1060910



**Dorset
Community
Action**

(COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

Report of the Trustees

for the year ended
31st MARCH 2024

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CHARITY ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Directors and Trustees

The directors of the charitable company ("the charity") are its Trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees.

Steve Penson (Co-opted 2 nd Sept 2024)	Interim Chair
Christopher Spackman	Vice Chair
Phil Longdin	Treasurer
Simon Wraw (resigned 15 th November 2024)	(Chair Feb 2020 – Sept 2024)
John Morley (resigned 15 th November 2024)	
Aimie Cole	
Jeff Hart	
Rob Watt (Co-opted 2 nd Sept 2024)	
Rebecca Savory Fuller (Co-opted 2 nd Sept 2024)	

Chief Executive

Alex Picot

Senior Managers

Paula Bennetts	Operations Manager
Camilla Payne	Finance Manager
Paul Seaman	Programme Manager

CHARITY ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

Charity Registration Number:	1060910
Company Registration Number:	3320011
VAT Registration Number:	936 6666 78
Company Secretary:	Alex Picot
Principal Address and Registered Office:	The Little Keep Barrack Road Dorchester Dorset DT1 1SQ
Telephone Number:	01305 250921
Website:	www.dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk

Professional Advisors

Independent Examiner:	Miss J A Richardson FCA FCCA DChA 32 Award Road Wimborne Dorset BH21 7NT
Bankers:	National Westminster Bank plc 49 South Street Dorchester Dorset DT1 1DW CCLA Investment Management Ltd COIF Charities Funds 80 Cheapside London EC2V 6DZ

Report of the Trustees for Year Ended 31st March 2024

The Trustees are pleased to present their report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2024. This report is also the Directors' Report, required by Section 415 of the Companies Act 2006. The legal and administrative information set out on pages 1 and 2 forms part of this report.

Trustees acknowledge the considerable endeavours of the senior management team and all members of staff in achieving the good progress reflected in this report, in the face of a particularly challenging environment for the sector.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and 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), effective 1st January 2015.

In considering its future strategy, aims and objectives the Trustees have given due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on Public Benefit.

Our purposes and activities

It is the mission of Dorset Community Action to encourage and support communities in Dorset into taking action that improves people's lives, particularly of those most disadvantaged. Our organisation is independent and committed to providing high quality information, advice, networking and support services to community and voluntary organisations of all shapes and sizes. It is our long-term goal to play a significant part in creating strong and sustainable communities across Dorset.

Charitable Objects

The objects of Dorset Community Action, as stated in its Memorandum and Articles of Association, are as follows:

1. To promote any charitable purposes for the benefit of the public, principally but not exclusively in the local government area of Dorset and its environs (hereinafter called the "area of benefit") and, in particular, build the capacity of third sector organisations and communities and provide them with the necessary support, information and services to enable them to pursue or contribute to any charitable purpose.
2. To promote, organise and facilitate co-operation and partnership working between third sector, statutory and other relevant bodies in the achievement of the above purposes within the area of benefit.

Our Principles

Work delivered by Dorset Community Action is based on these fundamental principles that are at the heart of the organisation's ethos:

- **Local need at the heart of Community Action** – services are provided where a local need is clearly identified.
- **Inclusion of those most disadvantaged** – services will always be delivered in a way that actively involves those people and groups who are most often excluded.
- **Empowerment of local people and groups** – services will always be delivered in a way that empowers local people and groups to develop their own solutions.
- **Independence to challenge for good** – services will be independent of the public sector enabling advocacy on behalf of local people and groups.
- **Partnership as a positive way forward** – services will always be developed in partnership with local people and groups, and alongside other providers where this best meets the needs identified.

Our Activities

- **Community and Voluntary Action** – supporting communities and voluntary organisations to deliver better projects and services through advice, training and development work.
- **Strategic Action** – working with partners and front-line organisations to ensure people and communities in Dorset have access to the services they need by supporting whole system change.
- **Sustainable Communities** – supporting our communities to live more sustainably and improve resilience to environmental and economic challenges.

What we achieved in 2023/24

During the year, we formally closed the BBO (Building Better Opportunities) / Inspire Dorset programme (financial completion) after a long and successful 6 years, during which we supported 360 adult participants, all of whom were long term unemployed, and many with disabilities.

We successfully retained these support skills in the organisation through delivery of new work in supporting young people through the National Citizenship Service (NCS) programme, and work supported by Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council for the provision of a NEETs (Not in Education, Employment or Training) prevention programme of learning and support for Year 10 and 11 students.

VCSE support

Despite ongoing funding challenges, our team continued to provide valuable support services for our communities, actively supporting 456 people from VCSE organisations with direct information, advice and guidance. We also continued our role as Local Trusted Organisation (LTO) for Big 4 Littlemoor (Big4L), one of several national projects funded by the Big Lottery Fund through the Big Local Trust, funding communities in areas of need to deliver ten year community regeneration plans.

Finally, at a time of much change in the public sector, we would like to thank our funding partners for their ongoing support, without which we could not support Dorset's communities as effectively as we do. Further details of activity in each of these areas is provided in this report.

Achievements through our Activities

1. Community and Voluntary Action – supporting communities and voluntary organisations through advice, training and development work

Dorset Community Action helps community groups, and people running community buildings and facilities, to better run their organisations, manage their liabilities, and secure the funding and resources they need.

1.1 Core Services

Dorset Community Action actively supported 456 people (through phone call support, factsheets, direct signposting, email support, and online surgeries).

- **456 VCSE staff/trustees/volunteers** directly supported with advice and organisational health checks, covering:
 - Project Management (e.g. evidence of need)
 - Recruiting Trustees (e.g. skills auditing)
 - Getting & Managing Money (e.g. bid writing advice)
 - Managing Communications (e.g. using social media)
 - Governance & Trustee Skills (e.g. legal structures, roles and responsibilities)

We ran **30 Online & in-person training sessions**, network events, and information webinars run on a variety of topics including:

Cost of Living Crisis Support	Fundraising
Safeguarding P&P Support	Project Management
Village Hall & Community Buildings Support	Trustee Support
Low Carbon Support	Health Inequalities

The DCA Training Academy continues to grow, with over 200 training resources currently available, and over 500 learners signed up on the Academy platform.

Other outcomes achieved during 2023-24:

- ✓ **409 Volunteers/Staff Trained.** As a result groups stated they felt better informed and able to move their organisation forward.
- ✓ **300 Frontline Workers Trained,** Big Energy Saving Network training delivered across the South West.
- ✓ **DCA e-news shared with over 2,974 subscribers and members.**
- ✓ **90 People booked to attend our first blended Funding Festival** – delivering advice, support and guest speakers. The event was hosted both in-person and virtually. The event raised over £200 which was donated on the day to the group who made the best funding pitch.
- ✓ **Our Website has had over 10,649 web sessions and been visited by 8,337 users**

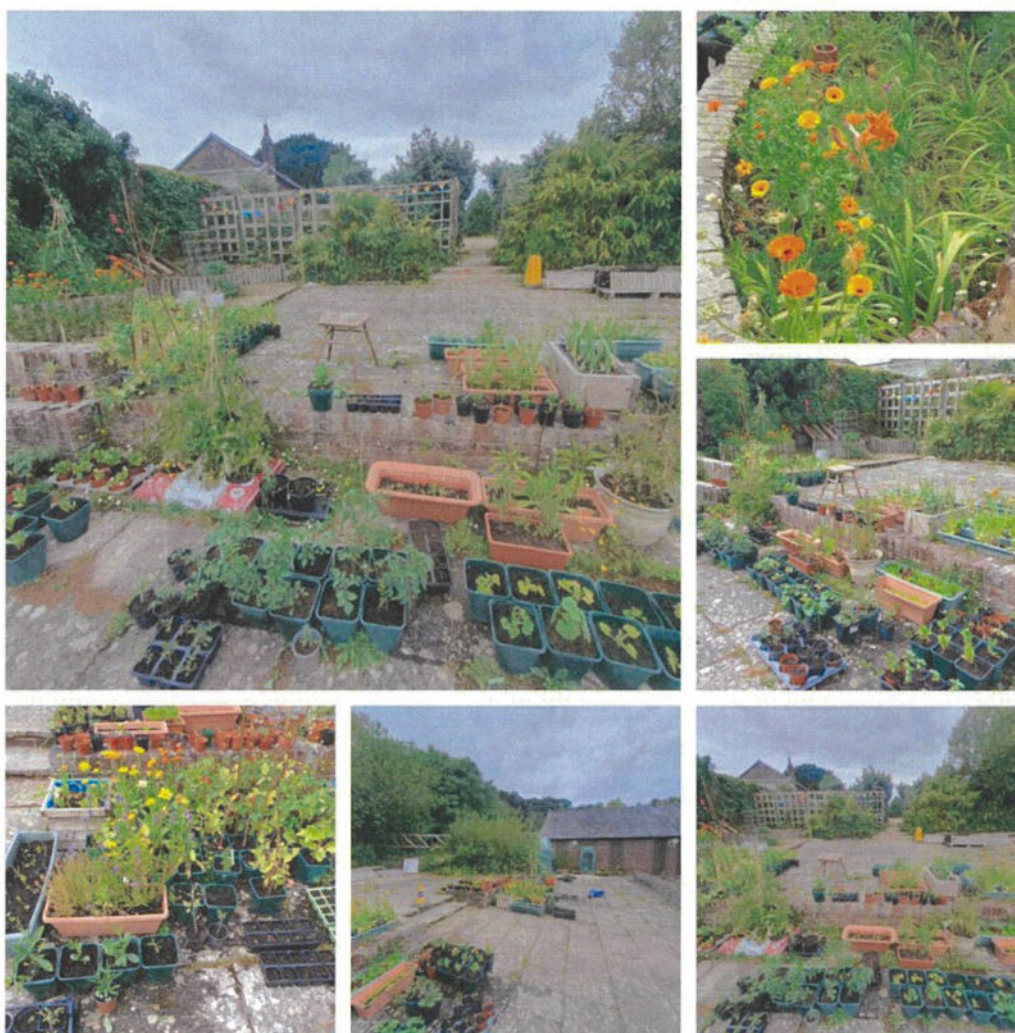


1.2 National Citizenship Service (NCS)

Using the Inspire Dorset delivery model, we secured two grant agreements with the National Citizenship Service (NCS), enabling us to deliver a two day a week programme of work for two years (covering Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole and Dorset). The programme is providing coaching support for groups of young people aged 16-17 and SEND (Special Educational Needs & Disabilities) young people, to develop their own social action projects.

Working with SWRAC (South West Regional Assessment Centre Ltd) in Boscombe, two groups of young people chose fundraising for charities for their social action project. One group arranged a Wii gaming tournament to raise funds, the other held a cupcake sale outside a local community café to raise money for Dorset Children's Foundation and Margaret Green Animal Rescue. The third cohort used their challenge to show peers how to use the internet safely and how to use Canva design software. All 18 participants are now using the skills they learnt to help organise events for their college.

10 participants from Employ My Ability worked together to create a courtyard kitchen garden for the college/hospitality students to use, with plans to create chutneys and other pickles to sell to the public to raise funds. Produce has been used in the kitchen by the hospitality students and the courtyard garden is flourishing.



1.3 Trusted Voices

DCA has been working with Community Action Network and Public Health Dorset to develop a Trusted Voices programme. This programme links marginalised groups in Dorset to effective and appropriate vaccination / health prevention advice. This project has been extended until March 2025 due to the effectiveness of the communication channels created. The project extended its remit to include all public health messaging to all health inequality groups.

We have just concluded a review of our project with the Nigerian Community in Dorset (NCD), which saw us host 3 sessions to improve health messaging to minority ethnic groups (from statutory services). Trusted Voices has worked with Dorset Blind Association to co-produce a blind-specific relaxation, mindfulness and self-advocacy session. We are also supporting the setting up of a peer-support group with a local GP for people with Complex PTSD (this will be the first of its kind in Dorset). As a result of this work, new Public Health documents have been created based on the feedback of participants. We have 100 people signed up to be Trusted Voices Champions. Our work in partnership with NCD was celebrated as part of Black History Month at a National Public Health Conference in Birmingham. Three meetings were held with the Dorset Blind Association to co-produce health information sessions for people with sight loss in Dorset, resulting in 2 workshops being delivered with over 40 participants. The

project has helped ensure that underserved communities and those more likely to face health inequalities are better informed of health prevention services, to improve health outcomes.

1.4 Hallmark Village Hall Project

A new Hallmark project has been started in partnership with the Dorset Village Hall Association. Funding was secured from Talbot Village Trust to support the initiative which will continue until October 2024. As a result of this project, 3 Village Halls have so far completed the Hallmark accreditation process and received certification. A Hallmark newsletter has been created and sent out to 202 Village Hall representatives across Dorset with an average open rate of 61%.

1.5 Digital communication

We sent out E-news or Funding Alerts to an audience of over **3,201** subscribers and members every week. This resource provides funding news, grant updates, ACRE support documents, Government updates, HSE advice and NHS Dorset support resources. DCA's new Enews and What's On newsletters have an average open rate of 50.9%. Our members-only funding alert had an average open rate of 54%, bettering an industry average of 25%. Our website page views totalled **29,238** during this time with **9,987** web sessions recorded.

2. Strategic Action – DCA working with partners to ensure people and communities in Dorset have access to the services they need.

Dorset Community Action works with public sector organisations, communities and businesses on a range of community and research projects that support development of community & place. DCA has been involved in several key strategic initiatives this year, including:

2.1 VCSE Research

Using our reach into local communities and our networks, enables us to quickly access community data and insights, to inform our policy research, analysis and evaluations, supporting social, economic and environmental development across rural and coastal areas.

National Institute for Health and Care research

We secured a £10,000 Grant from the National Institute for Health and Care Research to deliver a research project aiming to examine the barriers people with sensory impairment face in accessing health services and information. We worked directly with VCSE organisations that specialise in sensory impairment to canvas the experiences of their members.

Serious violence research

We secured £11,900 of work through Dorset Council (HM Govt funding) to undertake research work on the causes and impacts of serious violence, with both perpetrators and victims of violence. While this is new area of work for us, it links to previous work undertaken through programmes such as Inspire Dorset supporting ex-offenders, people with mental health challenges etc. This work contributed evidence towards the development of Dorset's new Crime Prevention Strategy.

2.2 Place Based

Dorset Community Action works with public sector organisations, communities and businesses, on a range of projects, to support community & place. Much of this work in 2023/24 was through us making improvements to local green spaces, as part of the Seed2Plate project including:

- Bridport – weekly Seed2Plate sessions working with 6 participants, and Borough Harmony Bridport (mental help support) to grow fresh vegetables to donate to the local community kitchen. Funding provided by Wessex Water.
- Somerford – funded by SNG to build a community growing garden at the Somerford Family Hub / Somerford Primary School, planted with help from the reception class children and harvested by the school.
- Littlemoor – funded by Abri to create and build a community food garden behind St Francis of Assisi Church to grow vegetables to donate to the Church foodbank. Six volunteers enjoyed giving back to the community and came up with recipe ideas to give away with the produce at the foodbank.
- Ferndown Family hub - After two years of fund raising, we secured a funding package to build a community garden at Ferndown Family Hub, with funding from Ferndown Family Hub, CLA Charitable Trust, and Tesco Bags of Help fund. We completed work on site in November 2023.



The project engaged with volunteers to repurpose an unused plot of land to construct accessible raised beds and when planted, grow fresh fruit and vegetables for this local low-income community. A DCA trainer coordinated the garden design & build with the community, will train local volunteers and families in growing & harvesting their own food, and learn about the natural environment through a series of educational workshops.

3. Sustainable Communities – supporting our communities to live more sustainably and be more able to cope with environmental and economic challenges and change

DCA develops integrated solutions to neighbourhood and sustainable communities through our expertise in community, employment, and environment. Increasingly our work has been in supporting people affected by cost-of-living increases and economic challenges.

3.1 BCP (Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole) Food & Warmth Support Fund.

Through the BCP Food & Warmth Support Fund, we delivered a series of cost-of-living related skills workshops working through Somerford Primary School, Somerford Family Hub, and Christchurch Community Partnership affiliated groups:

- Providing a range of cooking / food skills and household energy advice workshops.
- Providing training in indoor food growing

Our Somerford partners work with local families and residents who are most affected by the cost-of-living crisis. The local school has the highest percentage of free school meal eligible pupils in the area and regularly distribute shoe and food vouchers to help support families. Through this partnership, we intend this project to be an incubator to share knowledge of how to grow and prepare fresh produce.



A mix of older people, young parents and Ukrainians enjoyed the sessions learning to reduce energy use at home, eat healthier, and saving money, with a very positive response to the slow cooker workshops. Quotes:

"I will be looking at life in a different way. Saving more energy and eating healthy foods"

"It will save money for my family eating healthy meals and lovely to talk to other people"

"It's given me new ideas to use in the future. Also good to hear other people's ideas. The time went really quickly learning new things"

3.2 Low carbon

With the cost-of-living crisis very much impacting our communities, much of our low carbon work this year has been supporting people with managing their energy use.

Energy Outreach Project

We secured another year's funding to deliver the Energy Outreach Project, as a Champion directly supporting consumers in areas of deprivation, and wider work as a Regional Lead, training front line staff in how best to support their customers in managing household energy use.



Bournemouth foodbanks / SGN (Southern Gas Network) Safe and Warm Fund

We started work this year with Bournemouth foodbank, funded by the SGN Safe and Warm Fund, for delivery of energy saving workshops to users of the foodbanks.

3.3 Supporting local food

NOCN (National Open College Network) Level 1 Award Horticulture

With support of the RHS (Royal Horticultural Society) Flourish Fund, we are starting to produce significant results with our accredited training offer.

- A group of six learners from People First Forum worked at our Wimborne Community Centre kitchen garden to help care for the garden while learning and achieving their level 1 NOCN Horticulture qualification.
- Two volunteers worked at the Wimborne garden and our Kingston Lacy allotment to help with the plots whilst learning and achieving their level 1 qualification. One participant now works for Stewarts Garden Centre thanks to the confidence and skills learnt during the course; the other participant uses his skills in the social care service where he works.
- Seven learners from South West Regional Assessment Centre (SWRAC) and Employ My Ability (EMA) worked together to achieve their Level 1 qualifications. Working on the site

at SWRAC Dorchester, students learned how to plan, plant, propagate, and harvesting fresh produce for the centre

To date, we have put 37 people through the NOCN Level 1 Horticulture award. Of these learners, two have gone onto horticulture jobs, two are now studying Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) level 2, two are using the qualification in their current workplace (care homes), and eight now volunteer in a horticulture / gardening setting. NOCN have confirmed that our extended Direct Claims Status (DCS) has been approved following the recommendation from the External Quality Assurance (EQA).



A big thank you to the Hayes Recruitment Team in Bournemouth

A group of 10 volunteers on a corporate volunteer afternoon from Hayes Recruitment, supported the clearing of our Kingston Lacy allotment site and planting of vegetables. Four volunteers have looked after the plot and grown produce to support our Wimborne Community Café, based at Wimborne Community Centre.



3.4 Protecting Rural Services



DCA is a member of the Action with Communities in Rural England (ACRE) network, England's largest grouping of rural community support charities. ACRE and its 38 county-based member organisations, work together to advocate on behalf of rural communities, and support a wide range of community-led initiatives using nationally established good practice. During the year, DCA continued to collect evidence on the challenges our rural communities face, reporting quarterly to ACRE/ DEFRA to advocate on their behalf, and to influence national policy.

Rural Housing Enabling (RHE)

During the year we were successful with our bid to the Rural Housing Enabling (RHE) programme. The purpose of the RHE programme is "To boost the supply of new rural affordable housing by providing access to a service that supports landowners and communities identify sites, work with housing associations and local authorities to deliver high quality homes that meet local housing need through small scale schemes." This will be delivered in villages and smaller rural communities (less than 3000 population) through:

- bringing forward rural exception sites, and first homes exception sites.
- supporting 100% affordable housing schemes.
- small S106 market led schemes

3.5 Supporting Social Enterprises

With the ending of the European Union funded Inspire Dorset programme, we were pleased to secure new work, using our coaches' skills and expertise supporting young people back into education, training, and employment.

BCP NEETs

We started work funded by Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council for the provision of a NEETs prevention programme of learning and support for years 10 and 11 students. We are supporting a cohort of students referred by BCP staff to prevent them from being NEET at the end of year 11, and to provide transition support for those same students across the summer holidays and into autumn term to settle them into their post 16 provision.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Dorset Community Action is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 18th February 1997. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission. Anyone over the age of 18 can become a member of the charity and there are currently 203 members (245 in 2023), each of whom agrees to contribute £1 in the event of the charity winding up.

Organisation

Dorset Community Action is a Rural Community Council (RCC) and a member of the Action with Communities in Rural England (ACRE) network. It has a Board of Trustees of up to fifteen members. Trustees may co-opt up to five persons who are willing to be Trustees, including one non-voting member nominated by Dorset Council.

Dorset Community Action aims to recruit a diverse range of Trustees in order to retain a balanced Board, representative of the community. New procedures introduced in 2012 ensure that all candidates for Trusteeship offer relevant skills and knowledge to the Board. In the case of elected Trustees, all nominees are requested to attend an informal meeting with the Chair of the Trustees, observe a Board meeting and can meet with senior staff before making a decision on whether to join. All Trustees are required to sign a declaration of eligibility and a conflict of interest form. Dorset Community Action maintains a register, which lists, for each Board member, any business or personal interests, which could conflict with Dorset Community Action's interests. Entries are reviewed annually, and the register is available for inspection. On appointment, Trustees are provided with documents including a copy of the Governing Document of the Charity and copies of the last audited accounts and Board minutes.

Trustees of Dorset Community Action:

- Decide the overall policy and direction of Dorset Community Action work;
- Ensure that the organisation is run in compliance with its Governing Document, Charity Law and Company Law;
- Ensure that funds received by Dorset Community Action are properly managed and accounted for;
- Act as the formal employer of the staff, and approve all HR policies;
- Support and guide Senior Managers as appropriate;
- Understand, promote and safeguard the good name and ethos of Dorset Community Action;
- Monitor the performance of the organisation in meeting its objectives;
- Represent Dorset Community Action at external meetings.

The Board of Trustees meet every quarter, though the Board can arrange additional meetings to ensure that their duties are fulfilled. A Finance and General Purpose Committee was established by the Board in September 2016, renamed as Finance and Operations Committee in 2020, to maintain an overview of, and to provide advice to it, regarding the financial and administrative affairs for the charity. This Committee also meets on a quarterly basis with additional meetings held when necessary. A Chief Executive is appointed by the Trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the charity, and

implement the strategies agreed by the Board. The Chair and Chief Executive meet and communicate regularly.

All Trustees give their time freely and none of the Trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work with the charity. See note 12 for travel expenses paid to Trustees in 2023/24. In the current year no related party transactions were reported.

The charity is a founder member of ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England), which is the national network of RCCs, and a full member of the National Association for Voluntary and Community Action (NAVCA). Through these networks, Dorset Community Action influences the development of national policy and practice.

Across Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole, Dorset Community Action participates in many partnerships within the voluntary and statutory sectors, wherever that benefits communities or voluntary organisations.

Staff and Premises

Dorset Community Actions registered office is at the Little Keep in Dorchester. DCA also runs and manages Wimborne Community Centre in Wimborne town centre, where we have a small office. The total number of paid employees as at 31st March 2024 was 5 full-time and 9 part-time.

Pay scales for all staff are set on a similar level to other RCCs across the country and benchmarked against the NJC pay scales.

Investment Policy

There are no restrictions on the charity's power to invest. The investment strategy is set by the Trustees to take account of the demands for funds. The current policy is to invest surplus cash funds for short periods as cash deposits with major banking institutions.

Reserves Policy

The reserves of the charity are those that are freely available to be spent in pursuing the charity's objects. The free reserves of the charity at the year-end were:

	2024	2023
Total reserves	267,162	268,298
Less: Restricted funds	(70,654)	(12,281)
Free reserves	<u>196,508</u>	<u>256,017</u>

This represents 7 months of operating cost expenditure (2023: 9 months).

The Trustees consider that the charity needs to maintain free reserves at a minimum of 6 months of operating cost expenditure based on 100% of unrestricted fund expenditure plus 50% of restricted salary expenditure to provide the organisation with adequate financial stability and the means for it to

meet its charitable objectives and commitments, and as a contingency cushion against fluctuations of income. Trustees will continue to keep this under annual review.

Going Concern

The Trustees have prepared the accounts on a going concern basis and consider this basis is appropriate for twelve months from the date of signing the financial statements.

Risk Management

The Trustees have a risk management strategy in place which comprises:

- The trustees review the principal risks at each meeting of the Board and we review the organisation's risk register annually.
- the establishment of policies, systems, and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the annual review.
- the implementation of procedures designed to minimise or manage any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.

This work has identified that financial sustainability is the major risk for the charity. Key elements in the management of financial risk are regular monitoring of current funding contracts, early identification of any problems with delivery of outcomes, and regular communication with funders.

Attention has also been focussed on future funding and ensuring that DCA chooses the right direction and strategy to match a changing operating environment by the creation of a strategic plan which includes involvement from staff, trustees and stakeholders.

Grant Making

All the funds administered in grants by the charity are governed by procedures and limits laid down and agreed in advance between the charity and those partners funding the grant schemes.

Representatives of partners always play an active role in the decision-making. The charity will not pay any grants in advance of receipts of funds of partners without the funder's permission.

Financial Review

The results for the year and the financial position of the charity are shown in the attached financial statements.

In summary, the Charity's total income for the year was £561,167 (2023 - £580,777) of which £435,899 related to restricted project income (2023 - £460,032). Total expenditure for the year was £562,303 (2023 - £606,855) of which £377,525 related to restricted project expenditure (2023 - £414,042).

The net movement in unrestricted funds for the year was a deficit of £59,509 (2023 – deficit £6,787) resulting from a £59,638 deficit on general reserves and a surplus of £128 on the designated fund, Wimborne Community Centre. At the start of the financial year, Trustees agreed to allocate unrestricted reserves to fund new development work. This was to help us in the transition following the end of the European Social Funding programme and completion of the Building Better Opportunities (BBO) national programme. Trustees agreed to an investment from reserves of £30,000, giving an underlying deficit of £29,510. The carried forward balance on unrestricted funds of £196,508 (2023 - £256,017) forms the general reserves of the charity. Free reserves unrestricted reserves less fixed assets were £190,883 (2023 - £256,017).

The net movement in restricted funds was a surplus of £58,373 (2023 – deficit of £19,291). The carried forward balance on restricted funds was a surplus of £70,654 (2023 – surplus £12,281).

Plans for Future Periods

The risks that the organisation now faces are without doubt the most challenging in the last ten years, and remain unchanged:

- Increasingly constrained external funding environment
- Staffing recruitment and staff capacity / expertise being retained
- Stabilising the ship financially to allow enough time to reposition DCA into new markets e.g. the private sector, and to scale up trading activity.

Due to some of the significant changes in our operating and funding environment, in particular the ending of European Social Fund (ESF) funding in June 2023, without replacement by Shared Prosperity Funding, is leading us to continuously re-evaluate our future plans and the assumptions they are based on.

As a result, this year the DCA Board invested charity reserves into development time to support this wider strategy, with a focus on our employment and enterprise support programmes, for which we know there is an ever present need. Going forward we will be focussing on:

- Developing new partnerships with organisations sharing our values in how we support people, and where there are opportunities for expansion e.g. Garden Maintenance Team, and Seed2Plate.
- Diversify DCA's range of income streams, includes nationally, e.g. through the Cirican LLP, working with ACRE network members to develop our ability to bid for national community research contracts,
- Rebalancing of senior management time towards income generation work e.g. consultancy;

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The charity Trustees (who are also the directors of Dorset Community Action for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 ("FRS 102").

Company law requires the charity 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 and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements we are required to: -

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates;
- 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 charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are also responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. We are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence 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 in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Small Company Provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the Trustees on and signed on their behalf by



.....
C Spackman (Vice Chair)

14 November 2024

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Dorset Community Action

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Dorset Community Action ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company 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 your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, 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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts 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 accounts 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 accounts to be reached.


Miss JA Richardson FCA FCCA DChA

Date 4th December 2024

**Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an Income & Expenditure Account)
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

				2024	2023
	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
		£	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	3	901	-	901	312
Charitable activities					
Charitable activities	6	100,025	435,899	535,924	556,374
Other trading activities	4	18,538	-	18,538	22,651
Investment income	5	5,804	-	5,804	1,441
TOTAL		<u>125,268</u>	<u>435,899</u>	<u>561,167</u>	<u>580,778</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	7	625	-	625	470
Charitable activities					
Charitable activities	8	<u>255,376</u>	<u>306,302</u>	<u>561,678</u>	<u>606,386</u>
TOTAL		<u>256,001</u>	<u>306,302</u>	<u>562,303</u>	<u>606,856</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(130,733)	129,597	(1,136)	(26,078)
Transfers between funds	18	71,224	(71,224)	-	-
Net movement in funds		(59,509)	58,373	(1,136)	(26,078)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		256,017	12,281	268,298	294,376
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>196,508</u></u>	<u><u>70,654</u></u>	<u><u>267,162</u></u>	<u><u>268,298</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Balance Sheet 31 March 2024
Registered Company Number 03320011

				2024	2023
	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	15	5,625	-	5,625	-
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	16	22,306	12,890	35,197	53,160
Cash at bank		207,614	57,764	265,378	271,587
		<u>229,921</u>	<u>70,654</u>	<u>300,575</u>	<u>324,747</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	17	<u>39,038</u>	-	<u>39,038</u>	<u>56,449</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>190,883</u>	<u>70,654</u>	<u>261,537</u>	<u>268,298</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		196,508	70,654	267,162	268,298
NET ASSETS		<u>196,508</u>	<u>70,654</u>	<u>267,162</u>	<u>268,298</u>
FUNDS	18				
Unrestricted funds				196,508	256,017
Restricted funds				70,654	12,281
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>267,162</u>	<u>268,298</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

(a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and

(b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 14th November 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

.....
C Spackman Vice Chair of Trustees

The notes form part of these financial statements

Cash Flow Statement For Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	(5,764)	(59,194)
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities		(5,764)	(59,194)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received		5,804	1,441
Purchase of fixed asset additions		(6,250)	-
Net cash provided by investing activities		(446)	1,441
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(6,209)	(57,753)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		271,587	329,340
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		265,378	271,587

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Cash Flow Statement
For Year Ended 31 March 2024

1 RECONCILIATION OF NET (EXPENDITURE)/INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM
OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Net (expenditure)/income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	(1,136)	(26,078)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	625	470
Interest received	(5,804)	(1,441)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	17,963	179
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(17,411)	(32,324)
Net cash (used in)/provided by operations	<u>(5,764)</u>	<u>(59,194)</u>

2 ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.4.23 £	Cash Flow £	At 31.3.24 £
Net Cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	271,587	(6,209)	265,378
Total	<u>271,587</u>	<u>(6,209)</u>	<u>265,378</u>

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

1 LEGAL FORM

The charity is a private company limited by guarantee and with no share capital and incorporated in England and Wales. The guarantors are the members whose liability in the event of a winding up is limited to 51 each. There were 203 members at the balance sheet date (2023: 245 members). The registered office can be found on page 2 of these financial statements.

2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Preparation of the account on a going concern basis

The charity reported incoming resources of £561,167 and net expenditure of £562,303 leading to net expenditure in the year of £1,136. The Trustees are of the view that the improvement to operational efficiencies and review of the business strategy for the organisation have secured the immediate future for the charity for the next 12 months and as such the financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis.

Incoming resources

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. Donated assets are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on a receivable basis based on the estimated value of the assets to the charity.

Funding received is included as income from activities in furtherance of the charity's objectives, but included in the restricted funds where the grant is specific to a particular project. Income is deferred only where the donor has specified that the right to consideration is dependent on performance in a future period.

Interest receivable

Interest of 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.

Debtors

Funding Receivable and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

Cash

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar

Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

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

2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Resources expended (continued)

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is conveyed to the recipient, except in cases where the offer is conditional and the condition remains in the control of the charity. Grants offered subject to such conditions which have not been met at the year-end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

Creditors

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has the present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Operating Leases

The charity classifies the lease of printing and copier equipment as operating leases: the title to the equipment remains with the lessor. Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

Governance costs

Governance costs are allocated to restricted fund projects in accordance with amounts agreed with funding providers. These costs are shown as reallocation of internal expenses.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Intangible fixed assets

All assets with a cost in excess of £2,000 are capitalised.

Tangible fixed assets

All assets with a cost in excess of £2,000 are capitalised with the exception as noted below.

Project specific equipment purchases are mostly funded directly by the fund provider at the start of the project and are not capitalised as the items may be returned to the fund provider or given to the project.

Fixed assets are depreciated to residual value over their estimated useful economic life in equal annual instalments at the following rates:

Motor Vehicles	20% straight line
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Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Fund accounting

Restricted funds

Restricted funds are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objectives of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. With the agreement of the fund provider, restricted funds can roll forward brought forward balances for use as income in the next financial year. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Designated funds

Designated funds are funds set aside by the trustees out of unrestricted general funds for specific future purposes or projects. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Unrestricted funds

These are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the charity to the fund in respect of the year.

The Charity no longer operates a defined benefits pension scheme.

Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provision are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

3 DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Donations	901	312
Legacies	-	-
	<u>901</u>	<u>312</u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

4 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Income from Wimborne Community Centre (WCC)	100,025	94,447
Grants	435,899	461,927
	<u>535,924</u>	<u>556,374</u>

5 INCOME FROM TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Consultancy and training	13,715	15,050
Other trading income	3,239	5,482
Membership and advertisement	1,584	2,119
	<u>18,538</u>	<u>22,651</u>

6 INVESTMENT INCOME

	2024	2023
	£	£
Interest receivable	5,804	1,441
	<u>5,804</u>	<u>1,441</u>

7 EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other trading activities		
Depreciation and amortisation	625	470
	<u>625</u>	<u>470</u>

8 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
Employee Costs:				
Salaries	172,277	182,960	355,237	440,831
Payroll charges	2,560	-	2,560	2,437
Recruitment	209	429	638	948
Training and conference costs	418	1,136	1,554	753
Premises related expenses	33,737	800	34,537	24,643
Transport related expenses	4,742	2,586	7,328	5,012
Supplies and services	10,768	118,391	129,159	98,081
VAT paid to HMRC	8,897	-	8,897	10,344
Governance costs:				
Salaries	17,318	-	17,318	17,571
Other costs	4,450	-	4,450	5,766
Total	<u>255,376</u>	<u>306,302</u>	<u>561,678</u>	<u>606,386</u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

9 GRANTS PAYABLE

	2024	2023
	£	£
Charitable Activities	40,861	18,230

The total grants paid to institutions during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
NEST Weymouth CIC	8,000	-
Redland Rebels	10,250	-
Littlemoor Community Youth Club	5,849	4,396
St Francis of Assisi Littlemoor PCC	1,374	-
Houseworks Dorset Ltd	10,550	10,300
Littlemoor Community Action Group	-	2,405
Yoga with Caroline	2,600	-
Other grants below £2000	2,238	1,129
	40,861	18,230

10 SUPPORT COSTS

	Finance	Governance costs	Totals
	£	£	£
Charitable Activities	2,750	1,700	4,450

11 NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	2024	2023
	£	£
Independent examiner fees	2,100	1,855
Accounts preparation fee	650	1,485
Depreciation and amortisation	625	470

12 TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There was no Trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year to 31 March 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2023

Trustees' expenses

During the year no Trustees received reimbursed travel and conference expenses (2023:£14). The charity has paid premiums of £399 (2023: £397) to provide £2 million of indemnity insurance for the Trustees.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

13 STAFF COSTS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	330,829	399,332
Social security costs	21,843	30,842
Other pension costs	19,884	28,229
	<u>372,556</u>	<u>458,403</u>

The average monthly headcount for staff was 15 (2023: 18) and the average monthly number of full time equivalent employees during the year is stated in the split given below.

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
Operational	10	12
Management and administering the charity	2	2
	<u>12</u>	<u>14</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

The key management personnel comprises of the Chief Executive and two Senior Managers. The total salary paid to key management personnel was £172,450 (2023: £141,544).

**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

14 COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2023 Total funds	2022 Total funds
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM		£	£	£	£
Donations and legacies	3	312	-	312	1,484
Charitable activities					
Charitable activities	6	96,342	460,032	556,374	688,945
Other trading activities	4	22,651	-	22,651	28,688
Investment income	5	1,441	-	1,441	92
TOTAL		<u>120,746</u>	<u>460,032</u>	<u>580,778</u>	<u>719,209</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	7	470	-	470	1,413
Charitable activities					
Charitable activities	8	<u>192,344</u>	<u>414,042</u>	<u>606,386</u>	<u>657,417</u>
TOTAL		<u>192,814</u>	<u>414,042</u>	<u>606,856</u>	<u>658,830</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(72,068)	45,990	(26,078)	60,379
Transfers between funds	18	<u>65,281</u>	<u>(65,281)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		(6,787)	(19,291)	(26,078)	60,379
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>262,804</u>	<u>31,572</u>	<u>294,376</u>	<u>233,997</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>256,017</u>	<u>12,281</u>	<u>268,298</u>	<u>294,376</u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

15 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and Fittings £	Motor Vehicles £	Total £
COST			
At 1 April 2023	17,476	-	17,476
Additions	-	6,250	6,250
31 March 2024	<u>17,476</u>	<u>6,250</u>	<u>23,726</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2023	17,476	-	17,476
Charge for year	-	625	625
At 31 March 2024	<u>17,476</u>	<u>625</u>	<u>18,101</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>5,625</u>	<u>5,625</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

16 DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
Funding receivable	15,952	23,832
Prepayments and accrued income	19,245	29,328
	<u>35,197</u>	<u>53,160</u>

17 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
Social security and other taxes	6,643	7,290
VAT	14,890	1,798
Other creditors	14,157	25,592
Accruals and deferred income	3,348	21,769
	<u>39,038</u>	<u>56,449</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

18 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	AT 1.4.23	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31.3.24
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	217,943	(141,357)	81,719	158,305
WCC	26,074	10,624	(10,495)	26,203
Dilapidation Fund	12,000	-	-	12,000
	<u>256,017</u>	<u>(130,733)</u>	<u>71,224</u>	<u>196,507</u>
Restricted funds				
Abri	4,920	381	(2,300)	3,000
ACRE	-	12,203	(12,203)	-
Anton Jergens	5,000	(3,521)	(1,479)	-
BCP Food Poverty	-	1,445	(1,445)	-
BCP NEET Prevention	-	2,608	(2,608)	-
BCP NEET Challenge	-	5,000	-	5,000
BCP Training	-	556	(556)	-
BESN	-	3,825	(3,825)	-
BESN Champion	-	776	(776)	-
Big4Littlemoor - Big Local	212	33,578	(18,479)	15,310
NHS Dorset Clinical				
Commissioning group	-	10,592	(10,592)	-
Building Better				
Opportunities	2,149	(11,949)	9,800	-
Digital Inclusion Capability	-	1,179	(1,008)	171
European Social Fund	-	-	-	-
National Garden Scheme	-	1,999	-	1,999
NCS Groundworks	-	284	(284)	-
NCS Training	-	5,450	(5,450)	-
Prison Project	-	6,972	(2,072)	4,900
Rural Housing Enabler	-	14,116	(5,901)	8,216
RHS Florish	-	4,129	(4,129)	-
Serious Violence Duty				
Consultation	-	4,439	(4,439)	-
Talbot Village Trust	-	(4,241)	4,241	-
Trusted Voices	-	5,759	(5,759)	-
Seed2Plate Combined Fund	-	34,018	(1,960)	32,058
	<u>12,281</u>	<u>129,598</u>	<u>(71,224)</u>	<u>70,654</u>
Total Funds	<u>268,297</u>	<u>(1,136)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>267,161</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

18 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS (CONTINUED)

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	25,243	166,601	(141,357)
WCC	100,025	89,401	10,624
Dilapidation Fund	-		
	<u>125,268</u>	<u>256,001</u>	<u>(130,733)</u>
Restricted funds			
Abri	5,769	5,388	381
ACRE	41,255	29,052	12,203
Anton Jergens	-	3,521	(3,521)
BCP Food Poverty	5,500	4,055	1,445
BCP NEET Prevention	8,222	5,614	2,608
BCP NEET Challenge	5,000	-	5,000
			556
BCP Training	1,943	1,387	
			3,825
BESN	12,976	9,151	
BESN Champion	2,625	1,849	776
Big4Littlemoor - Big Local	130,474	96,897	33,578
NHS Dorset Clinical Commissioning group	36,057	25,465	10,592
Building Better Opportunities	32,305	44,253	(11,949)
Digital Inclusion Capability	3,600	2,421	1,179
European Social Fund	-	-	-
National Garden Scheme	3,247	1,249	1,999
NCS Groundworks	4,947	4,662	284
NCS Training	12,797	7,347	5,450
Prison Project	11,900	4,928	6,972
Rural Housing Enabler	26,969	12,853	14,116
RHS Flourish	15,500	11,371	4,129
Serious Violence Duty Consultation	11,900	7,461	4,439
Talbot Village Trust	1,519	5,760	(4,241)
Trusted Voices	20,000	14,241	5,759
Seed2Plate Combined Fund	41,394	7,377	34,018
	<u>435,899</u>	<u>306,302</u>	<u>129,598</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>561,167</u>	<u>562,303</u>	<u>(1,136)</u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

18 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS (CONTINUED)

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.22	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31.3.23
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	236,093	(85,949)	67,799	217,943
WCC	17,711	13,881	(5,518)	26,074
Dilapidation Fund	9,000	-	3,000	12,000
	<u>262,804</u>	<u>(72,068)</u>	<u>65,281</u>	<u>256,017</u>
Restricted funds				
Action with Communities in Rural England	-	12,202	(12,202)	-
Building Better Opportunities	5,546	(3,397)	-	2,149
Big Energy Saving Network	-	3,516	(3,516)	-
NHS Dorset Clinical Commissioning	-	10,665	(10,665)	-
Big Local Funding - Big4Littlemoor	15,587	5,484	(20,859)	212
Trusted Voices	-	5,915	(5,915)	-
Community Oven	881	(881)	-	-
Summer in Dorset	20	(20)	-	-
Abri	5,134	(87)	(127)	4,920
JP Morgan - GoGreen	13	(13)	-	-
Arnold Clark	189	(189)	-	-
Health Inequalities	4,202	(2,723)	(1,479)	-
Anton Jergens	-	5,000	-	5,000
Seed2Plate Awards for All	-	2,840	(2,840)	-
European Social Fund	-	1,983	(1,983)	-
Low Carbon Community Spaces	-	2,743	(2,743)	-
Serious Mental Illness HEP	-	2,952	(2,952)	-
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>294,376</u>	<u>(26,078)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>268,298</u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

18 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS (CONTINUED)

Comparative net movement in funds (for the year ended 31 March 2023), included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	34,436	(120,385)	(85,949)
WCC	86,310	(72,429)	13,881
	120,746	(192,814)	(72,068)
Restricted funds			
Action with Communities in Rural England	41,255	(29,053)	12,202
Building Better Opportunities	194,155	(197,552)	(3,397)
Big Energy Saving Network	12,975	(9,459)	3,516
NHS Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group	43,268	(32,603)	10,665
Big Local Funding - Big4Littlemoor	85,081	(79,597)	5,484
Trusted Voices	20,000	(14,085)	5,915
Community Oven	-	(881)	(881)
Summer in Dorset	-	(20)	(20)
Abri	231	(318)	(87)
JP Morgan - GoGreen	-	(13)	(13)
Arnold Clark	-	(189)	(189)
Health Inequalities	5,000	(7,723)	(2,723)
Anton Jergens	5,000	-	5,000
B&Q	4,000	(4,000)	-
Co-op	2,063	(2,063)	-
Seed2Plate Awards for All	9,600	(6,760)	2,840
European Social Fund	17,486	(15,503)	1,983
Low Carbon Community Spaces	9,918	(7,175)	2,743
Serious Mental Illness HEP	10,000	(7,048)	2,952
TOTAL FUNDS	580,778	(606,856)	(26,078)

**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

18 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS (CONTINUED)

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.22	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31.3.24
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	236,093	(227,306)	149,518	158,305
WCC	17,711	24,505	(16,013)	26,203
Dilapidation Fund	9,000	-	3,000	12,000
	262,804	(202,801)	136,505	196,508
Restricted funds				
ACRE	-	24,405	(24,405)	-
Building Better Opportunities	5,546	(15,346)	9,800	-
Big Energy Saving Network	-	7,341	(7,341)	-
BESN Champion	-	3,825	(3,825)	-
NHS Dorset Clinical Commissioning	-	21,257	(21,257)	-
Big4Littlemoor - Big Local	15,587	39,062	(39,338)	15,310
Trusted Voices	-	11,674	(11,674)	-
Community Oven	881	(881)	-	-
Summer in Dorset	20	(20)	-	-
Abri	5,134	294	(2,427)	3,000
JP Morgan - GoGreen	13	(13)	-	-
Arnold Clark	189	(189)	-	-
Health Inequalities	4,202	(2,723)	(1,479)	-
Anton Jergens	-	1,479	(1,479)	-
Seed2Plate Combined Fund	-	36,858	(4,800)	32,058
European Social Fund	-	1,983	(1,983)	-
Low Carbon Community Spaces	-	2,743	(2,743)	-
Serious Mental Illness HEP	-	2,952	(2,952)	-
BCP Food Poverty	-	1,445	(1,445)	-
BCP NEET Prevention	-	2,608	(2,608)	-
BCP NEET Challenge	-	5,000	-	5,000
BCP Training	-	556	(556)	-
Digital Inclusion Capability	-	1,179	(1,008)	171
National Garden Scheme	-	1,999	-	1,999
NCS Groundworks	-	284	(284)	-
NCS Training	-	5,450	(5,450)	-
Prison Project	-	6,972	(2,072)	4,900
Rural Housing Enabler	-	14,116	(5,901)	8,216
RHS Florish	-	4,129	(4,129)	-
Serious Violence Duty Consultation	-	4,439	(4,439)	-
Talbot Village Trust	-	(4,241)	4,241	-
	31,572	178,636	(139,553)	70,654
TOTAL FUNDS	294,376	(24,165)	(3,048)	267,162

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

18 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS (CONTINUED)

PURPOSES OF DESIGNATED FUNDS

Wimborne Community Centre (WCC) Formerly Community Learning and Resource Centre (CLaRC)

Relates to a centre for adult and community learning in Wimborne and related income and expenditure. A transfer of £10,495 was made from the designated fund within the year.

Dilapidation Fund

Funds set aside to cover restoration of the leased office space to its original condition at the end of the lease term. The lease is due to end in 2028 with breaks granted every 5 years. A transfer of £3,000 was made from unrestricted reserves to increase the balance held in this fund at the end of the previous financial year.

PURPOSES OF RESTRICTED FUNDS

Action with Communities in Rural England (ACRE)

Grant received from ACRE resulting from DEFRA's Grant Aid Investment Programme, to deliver local strategic support to rural communities enabling them to take action, to share learning on sustainable funding models and to provide access to local intelligence.

Building Better Opportunities - Supporting Enterprise in Dorset

DCA was successful in securing the Stage 2 bid of the Building Better Opportunities — Supporting Enterprise in Dorset funded by the National Lottery Community Fund and European Social Fund. The grant was given to enable target participants to overcome barriers to employment through accessible, community based support as a stepping stone into enterprise, leading to increased confidence and long-term life changes.

Big Energy Saving Network (BESN)

To provide assisted action to vulnerable consumers, to help them save money on their energy costs through outreach sessions, and to deliver an energy saving training programme to front line workers who have regular contact with vulnerable customers.

BESN Champion

This project offered direct support to vulnerable consumers (local residents) to reduce their energy bills and save energy.

NHS Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group

Grant from CCG to provide advice, training and consultancy support for the benefit of community groups, charities and social enterprises in Dorset.

Big Local Funding - Big4Littlemoor

DCA is providing the role of a Locally Trusted Organisation to the Big4Littlemoor Partnership to support them with strategic leadership and implementation of their Big Local Plan. A grant was awarded to the partnership by the Lottery Fund which is administered by the Local Trust.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

18 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS (CONTINUED)

PURPOSES OF RESTRICTED FUNDS (continued)

Trusted Voices

To engage with Dorset's voluntary and community groups to support the COVID19 Trusted Voices contacts to best communicate the key messages as identified by the Dorset Health Protection Board and to report any issues identified by the community in relation to reducing COVID 19 community transmission.

Community Oven Grants

A grant received from Dorset Council to give to ten village and community halls to purchase an oven for community use.

Summer in Dorset

A grant from Dorset Council given to the Big4Littlemoor project to support the delivery of the holiday activities and food programme in Dorset over the 2021 summer holidays.

Abri

A grant received from Abri given to the Big4Littlemoor project to re-invigorate a disused garden, helping to unlock the potential of the Littlemoor community.

JP Morgan - GoGreen donation

A donation received for supplies towards the Seed2Plate project to create a growing space that can be developed with the aid of the participants from the Inspire Dorset programme, with the main aim being to produce nutritious food for those on low incomes

Arnold Clark

A donation received for supplies towards the Seed2Plate project to create a growing space that can be developed with the aid of the participants from the Inspire Dorset programme, with the main aim being to produce nutritious food for those on low incomes.

Health Inequalities

Project funded by CCG to provide insight relating to accelerating preventative programmes: support the gathering and analysis of local health inequalities insight and knowledge to further

Anton Jergens

A grant to employ a self employment and community enterprise coach to support long term unemployed people back into work, working mainly in urban deprived wards within Dorset, Bournemouth, Poole and Christchurch.

European Social Fund

A community training grant received from European Social Fund and supported by Education and Skills Funding agency for the Seed2Plate project to engage volunteers to repurpose plots of land to grow fresh fruit and vegetables, whilst gaining skills and qualifications through the National Open College Network (NOCN). The project is the only level 1 NOCN in Horticulture currently delivered in Dorset.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

18 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS (CONTINUED)

PURPOSES OF RESTRICTED FUNDS (continued)

Seed2Plate Combined Fund

This combined fund collates grants from numerous funders that contribute to our Seed to Plate programme. This includes funding from BCP Council for £15,000 to deliver Team Challenge workshops; £5,960 from the Dorset Community Foundation for work in Bridport; £2,000 from CLA Charitable Trust, £2,500 from Hopscotch preschool CIC and £1,000 from Tesco to deliver a project in Ferndown. There is also £3,500 from the D'Oyle Carte Foundation and £7,500 from the Oliver Ford Foundation. A project in Wimborne was funded by £3,358 from Sainsburys and a project in Somerford was funded by £993 from Sovereign Network Group.

Low Carbon Community Spaces

The project will support people and communities who are starting to think about taking climate action, but may not have the knowledge, or would like clearer guidance on what would make a difference and where to start. We will do this through linking with Community Spaces using a 10 step plan approach to improving low carbon awareness and action for community spaces. Through workshops, training using co-production to produce resources for use by further groups.

Serious Mental illness HEP

To revisit groups who support people with Serious Mental illness (SMI) as part of the Health Inequalities project to scope out training and peer support that groups could off to the SMI physical health project. To support the delivery and coordination of the Seed2Plate project over Dorset County and BCP area. Working to develop new growing plots and train volunteers in how to grow, maintain and harvest produce from the growing gardens.

BCP Food Poverty

A grant received from the BCP Food & Warmth Support Fund to deliver a series of cost-of-living related skills workshops working through Somerford Primary School, Somerford Family Hub and Christchurch Community Partnership affiliated groups, providing a range of cooking & food skills and household energy advice workshops.

BCP NEET Prevention

A contract funded by BCP Council to provide a NEETs (Not in Education, Employment or Training) prevention programme of 121 Coaching and emotional literacy training and support for years 10 and 11 students.

BCP NEET challenge

A contract funded by BCP Council to provide a series of social action community based Team Challenge workshops specifically aimed at young people at risk of being classified as NEET and asylum seeking young people.

Digital Inclusion Capability

A capability grant from the Good Things Foundation - Fix the Digital Divide, to offer access to & support for IT at Wimborne Community Centre.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

18 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS (CONTINUED)

PURPOSES OF RESTRICTED FUNDS (continued)

National Garden Scheme

A grant to fund gardening materials to create a growing and sensory community garden

NCS Groundworks

Social and community action Team Challenges & training support for young people 16 / 17 and those in care or with mental health or learning disabilities up to the age of 24. Funded by NCS via Groundworks.

NCS Training

Social and community action Team Challenges & training support for young people with mental health or learning disabilities up to the age of 24. Funded by NCS.

Prison Project

Funding from Dorset Council. This was an extension of the previous Serious Violent Crime project to include current Serious Violent Crime Prisoners in the research.

RHS Flourish

A community training grant received for the Seed2Plate project to engage volunteers to repurpose plots of land to grow fresh fruit and vegetables, whilst gaining skills and qualifications through the National Open College Network (NOCN). The project is the only level 1 NOCN in Horticulture currently delivered in Dorset.

Rural Housing Enabler

Funding from ACRE aimed at boosting the supply of new rural affordable housing by providing access to a service that supports landowners and communities identify sites, work with housing associations and local authorities to deliver high quality homes that meet local housing need through small scale schemes.

Serious Violence Duty Consultation

Funding from Dorset Council (HM Govt funding) to undertake research work on the causes and impacts of serious violence, with both perpetrators and victims of violence.

Talbot Village Trust

A partnership with the Dorset Village Hall Association. 75% funding was secured from Talbot Village Trust alongside 25% from DCA reserves to support Village Halls through the Hallmark

Transfers between funds

Transfers between funds have been used where Dorset Community Action have used core resources to fulfil the restriction on the fund.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

19 LEASING AGREEMENTS

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Within one year	16,022	15,224
Between one and five years	59,573	60,000
In more than five years	-	11,250
	75,595	86,474

20 RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party disclosures for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor the year ended 31 March 2023.

21 PENSIONS

Defined Benefit

The charity operated a defined benefit pension scheme for some longer serving employees of Dorset Community Action but the scheme was closed to new entrants and new employees. The Dorset County Council pension scheme is a multi-employer defined benefit scheme administered for the benefit of Local Authorities and other bodies and is managed in accordance with the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 1997. Dorset Community Action ceased participation in the Fund on 11 August 2023 when the last active member left service. All assets and liabilities as at 11 August 2023 fell back to Dorset Council at that date and no exit payment was required to be paid by Dorset Community Action. As a ceasing Employer, Dorset Community Action has no further obligations to the Fund under Regulation 64 and the Rates and Adjustments Certificate dated 31 March 2023 has been revised to this effect.

Defined Contribution

The charitable company operates two defined contribution pension schemes for its employees, one being with Dorset Council which is now closed to new employees, and the other with Aviva. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate. Dorset Community Action pays a contribution of 6% into the Aviva scheme and acts as an agent in collecting and paying over employee pension contributions. DCA's staging date for auto-enrolment was 1st May 2017 and those qualifying staff not already in the Aviva Scheme were enrolled into the scheme with DCA paying 6% employers contribution. The employer contributions made for the accounting period are treated as an expense and were £19,565 (2023: £19,222).

22 COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Dorset Community Action is a company limited by guarantee and accordingly does not have a share capital.