R.I.S.E. (REFUGE, INFORMATION, SUPPORT AND EDUCATION)

England & Wales · Charity number 1065846

Details

Other names	THE WOMEN'S REFUGE PROJECT, BRIGHTON & SOUTH DOWNS AREA, R.I.S.E.
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	03425008
Registered	1997-11-17
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Rise Community Base 113 Queens Road Brighton BN1 3XG
Phone	01273 622828
Email	finance@riseuk.org.uk
Website	www.riseuk.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE CHARITY'S OBJECTS ARE SPECIFICALLY RESTRICTED TO: RELIEVE THE POVERTY, SICKNESS, DISTRESS AND SUFFERING EXPERIENCED BY THOSE WHO ARE ABUSED, AND SURVIVORS OF ABUSE AND VIOLENCE AND IN PARTICULAR WOMEN, LGBT, CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES WHO HAVE BEEN IMPACTED BY DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL ABUSE AND VIOLENCE.

Activities: Provision of services to Women, Children and Young People and LGBTQI people who are affected by Domestic Violence to include advice, emotional and therapeutic support and residential services. Education and training provision for awareness and prevention of domestic abuse.

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Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Accommodation/housing
- **Who:** Children/young People, Other Defined Groups

Geography

- East Sussex
- West Sussex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£906,567	£1,098,946	£411,026	29
2024-03-31	£1,098,406	£1,270,925	£603,405	36
2023-03-31	£1,080,218	£1,141,636	£775,924	36
2022-03-31	£1,146,511	£1,038,499	£837,342	35
2021-03-31	£3,139,424	£2,853,486	£729,330	67

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Dani Ahrens		2022-06-11
Isobel Clare Montgomery		2022-06-11
Rebecca Vaughan		2025-06-21

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R.I.S.E. (REFUGE, INFORMATION, SUPPORT AND EDUCATION)

England & Wales - Charity number 1065846

Accounts

freedom from abuse & violence

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

31st March 2025

R.I.S.E. (Refuge, Information, Support and Education) is a registered charity (No. 1065846)
R.I.S.E. (Refuge, Information, Support and Education) is a Company Limited by Guarantee registered in England No. 3425008.

RISE, Community Base, 113 Queens Road, Brighton, BN1 3XG



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Legal and Administrative Information

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER	1065846	COMPANY NUMBER	03425008

REGISTERED OFFICE	Community Base 113 Queens Road Brighton BN1 3XG	
TRUSTEES	Dani Ahrens	
	Kate Goddard	
	Chris Magill	
	Isobel Montgomery	
	Viktorija Zdanoviciute	
	Rebecca Vaughan	Appointed 21st June 2025
	Catherine Barker	Resigned 13th September 2025
	Helen Carr	Resigned 13th September 2025
	Louise Leonard	Resigned 22nd April 2025
	Kim Turnbull James	Resigned 30th September 2024
	Alison Simmonds	Resigned 31st October 2024

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	Jo Gough	SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM	
		K Dale	
		A Munro	Redundant 31st December 2024
		L Mcilrath	Resigned 30th September 2024
		S Cassidy	Appointed 1st October 2024
		A Yang	Appointed 9th December 2024
		L Holmes	Appointed 1st January 2025
		E Millar-Fleming	Appointed 7th January 2025

BANKERS	Santander Bootle Merseyside L30 4GB	CAF 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Carpenter Box Amelia House Crescent Road Worthing West Sussex BN11 1RL	SOLICITORS	Fitzhugh Gates 3 Pavilion Parade Brighton BN2 1RY

TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2025

RISE Board of Trustees present their annual trustees' report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31st March 2025. These have been prepared to meet the statutory reporting requirements for a charitable company, including the directors' report and accounts required by Companies House.

Objectives and Activities

Objectives and Aims

RISE offers strength-based, trauma-informed services and is committed to providing accessible, fair, and safe services to survivors of violence and abuse, including women of all ages, children, young people, trans and non-binary people, lesbians and bisexual women, gay and bisexual men, black and minoritised women, women with religious affiliations or none, disabled women and other minoritised women.

We are a feminist, women-led and centred domestic violence and abuse charity that has worked for over thirty years to end all forms of violence and abuse against women, children and LGBT+ people.

Our vision is 'Freedom from Abuse and Violence'.

We review our aims, objectives and activities each year. This review looks at what we achieved and the outcomes of our work in the previous 12 months. The review looks at the success of each key activity and the benefits they have brought to those groups of people we are set up to help. The review also helps us ensure our aim, objectives and activities remain focused on our stated purposes.

Activities

We aim to deliver responsive wrap around services that support women, children and LGBT survivors from crisis and early intervention through to recovery and onwards into safe and healthy futures. Our activities include:

- Helpline and casework
- Expert specialist advocacy (housing, family, health, justice)
- Legal and housing advice
- Adult and child counselling and group work
- Family interventions and therapeutic support for babies, children and young people
- Dedicated LGBT refuge and support services
- Community projects and outreach
- Dedicated support for older people, disabled people, homeless and Black and minoritised people
- Dispersed refuge accommodation support
- Training and consultancy services

Public Benefit

The Trustees have had due regard for the guidance on the public benefit requirement published by the Charities

Commission, as required by the Charities Act 2011.

Key achievements during the year

The trustees assess the charity's success by the extent to which its services are accessible, responsive, and valued by service users. Given the complex nature of the charity's work supporting survivors of abuse, success is not defined by binary outcomes which may not be appropriate indicators of effective support.

In 2024/25, RISE delivered services to 956 adult survivors and 68 children and young people. The charity has received positive feedback from users of its services.

Therapy, Counselling and Wellbeing Services: Our longstanding Trauma Pathway project continued to provide wellbeing support to women and children including a mixture of creative, therapeutic, outdoor, group and 1:1 sessions and music therapy.

Helpline, Advocacy and Groups: The helpline offers a two day a week support line for both emotional support and practical help, often acting as a vital source of first contact. Our recovery group continues to run online and face-to-face, alongside well-being programmes that survivors can work through independently. RISE is also working in partnership with Surviving Economic Abuse (SEA) and Money Advice Plus to transform responses to economic abuse.

Children and Family: The team continues to deliver bespoke programmes to children and mothers to aid safety, recovery and healthy relationships. Our Family and Civil Court Advocate supported complex cases through civil and family processes whilst also providing training to law students with the hope of bringing cultural change.

Safe Homes Team and LGBT Dispersed Refuge: Our independent housing advocacy and sanctuary scheme continues this year, with a specialist embedded in the council housing team building relationships with Refuge providers to uphold statutory rights of survivors. The Housing Support Fund pays for advice, advocacy and items to help people in poverty. Our LGBT Dispersed Refuge works with Southdown Housing to source new lets and provide community-based LGBT floating support.

Communities Rising: Our National Lottery-funded project entered its third and final year, working with marginalised (including older, disabled and multiple disadvantaged) as well as black and minoritised women. It delivered outreach, peer-led groups, skills development and advocacy initiatives that amplified voices, strengthened community networks, and promoted sustainable, community-led action to end violence against women and girls.

Training & Development: We deliver training to corporates, schools, charities and local authorities to share our expertise in creating cultures that do not tolerate abuse and violence.

Other: RISE secured its Women's Aid Quality Standard Accreditation. RISE completed a staffing restructure to ensure its long-term financial stability. RISE has focused on embedding and improving equality and diversity.

Financial Review

Against the backdrop of limited resources and insecurities over funding, it has continued to be difficult to plan or develop services. Nevertheless, the charity, with the support of both its staff and volunteers, has achieved

income of £906k (2024: £1,098k). Total expenditure in the year was £1,099k (2024: £1,271k), which was in line with the previous financial year's income. This resulted in a deficit of £192k (2024: £173k) which was funded from a healthy reserve balance.

Principal Funding Sources

Restricted income from local authorities is the principal funding source for the charity. This funding supports several key services, including: LGBT dispersed refuge and refuge in-reach provision; housing team services such as the Sanctuary Scheme (safety in home), Floating Support and a Housing IDVA (Independent Domestic Violence Advisor); the Community Support programme for Children and Young People; and support for people with Multiple Complex Disadvantages. All these funding streams are short-term and insecure, which creates ongoing challenges for sustainability.

Alongside this, the charity raised unrestricted funding of £192k (2024: £246k). This was primarily achieved through a substantial donation from the Musk Burton Family Trust, our 8k Run for Women event and our Big Give Match Funding campaign.

As a member of the Institute of Fundraising, we adhere to their guidelines in our fundraising activity as well as following the Charity Commission advice on best practice.

Reserves Policy

Restricted funds of £136k (2024: £256k) are held at year end. These funds are designated for projects as directed by the terms and conditions of the grant provider. These will be disbursed in line with each project's budget agreement.

Unrestricted funds of £275k (2024; £347k) are held at year end. These are funds that have been raised with a specific end use but are not subject to donor contractual obligations. Of this balance, the charity holds reserves of £120k to cover wind-up costs, unforeseen emergency and running costs and £10k of designated funds for buildings maintenance. At year end, an additional £154k of free reserves are held to support any deficit caused by insecurity in funding sources.

In accordance with the advice of the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales, we aim to hold unrestricted reserves at levels sufficient to ensure the long-term financial stability of the charity. The reserve policy is reviewed every 2 years or more frequently if the charity's income or liabilities require.

Investment Policy and Objectives

Funds are held on deposit with the charity's bankers in a interest bearing account. The aim is to maximise the return on cash at the lowest possible risk to the charity.

Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. While in previous years the charity has run at a deficit, the charity has identified and adopted the required cost initiatives to enable it to run on a breakeven basis. It has a further £154k free reserves which it could use if a deficit does arise from insecurity in the funding sources. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial

statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

Plans

The charity plans on continuing the activities outlined above in the forthcoming years subject to satisfactory funding arrangements. Our strategic aims for the next 5 years are:

- ✓ **Strategic Aim 1:** To create a community of resistance and care, within our local community.
- ✓ **Strategic Aim 2:** To continue to fight for freedom from abuse and violence as a feminist organisation, as activists and campaigners for true justice
- ✓ **Strategic Aim 3:** To become stable, independent, and future ready with our own building(s), secure funding, and a business development function
- ✓ **Strategic Aim 4:** To maintain and enhance our specialist, high-quality and holistic services

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

RISE is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity. It was first registered as a charity on 9th May 1994, and then re-registered on 17th November 1997, having been incorporated as a company on 26th August 1997. On 28th October 2008, the company changed its name to R.I.S.E. (Refuge, Information, Support and Education). The charitable company is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association which were updated in July 2014.

Organisational Structure

Decision-making responsibility rests with the Board. All board members give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity. Day-to-day operational decisions which are within the agreed operating budget are delegated to the appropriate members of the management team and the outcome of these reported at Board meetings. Matters of particular significance are discussed at the Board.

Volunteers

Volunteers make a significant contribution to the charity's ability to deliver its activities. Volunteers provide the first point of contact on the charity's helpline, supported by trained staff, with cases escalated to specialist workers where appropriate. Volunteers also support the fundraising and communications team on an ongoing basis, assist with one-off events such as the 8K Run for Women, and contribute to governance, with trustees serving in a voluntary capacity.

In addition, the charity engages volunteer counsellors, group workers and other project-specific volunteer roles, as well as survivor volunteers who help inform the charity's work and act as ambassadors and speakers on behalf of RISE.

The trustees recognise the significant contribution made by volunteers in enabling the charity to operate at scale and maximise its impact. However, it is not practicable to reliably measure the economic value of general volunteer time and, in accordance with the Charities SORP, volunteer contributions are not included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Recruitment, Appointment, Induction and Training of Trustees

The specific skills and experience required of new and additional Trustees are monitored on an ongoing basis, and recruitment is targeted to, for example, relevant professional bodies, and nominees. Candidates for Board membership will be recruited either through recommendations as defined in RISE Articles of Association, or through open recruitment in line with our Governance Board Recruitment, Selection and Review Policy. The appointment of Trustees is governed by the provisions set out in RISE's Articles of Association, which specify eligibility, the process for appointment at general meetings and the ability of the Board to co-opt Trustees to fill vacancies until the next AGM. New Trustees will meet with existing Trustees and staff for briefings on the activities of the charity, the policies adopted and the particular issues facing the charity. Specific training needs will be dealt with as they arise.

Key Management Remuneration

Key management remuneration is set by reference to the employment market locally for comparable positions.

Risk Management

The trustees and leadership team review the major risks that the charity faces on a regular basis and are satisfied that appropriate controls are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks. A risk register has been established and is updated at least annually. Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of policies and procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects, and to ensure consistent quality of delivery. Significant external risks to funding are reviewed at each board meeting.

Principal Risks

- Death of a service user on waiting list due to restrictions in levels of service.
- Staff retention and recruitment risks which are inherent in a relatively small organisation.
- Loss of key income streams and associated services

Connected and Related Parties

- Surviving Economic Abuse - works in partnership to deliver the Compass Project
- Money Advice Plus - RISE works in partnership with Money Advice Plus and Breakeven to deliver the Gambling Harms project
- Women's Aid Federation England - receive grants for survivors from Women's Aid through the Flee Fund

Approved by the trustees on 6th December 2025
and signed on their behalf by

Dani Ahrens



Trustee

Kate Goddard



Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF R.I.S.E. (REFUGE, INFORMATION, SUPPORT AND EDUCATION)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of R.I.S.E. (Refuge, Information, Support and Education) (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2025.

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

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charitable 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 the charitable company's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

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

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charitable company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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

Robin Evans BA FCA CTA DChA 

Carpenter Box
Amelia House
Crescent Road
Worthing
West Sussex
BN11 1RL

Dated: 22 December 2025

Statements of Financial Activities Including Income and Expenditure Accounts 31st March 2025

	Notes	General Fund	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total	General Fund	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total
		2025				2024			
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS									
Donations and Legacies	4	149,799			149,799	177,800			177,800
Other Trading Activities	4	42,351			42,351	68,673			68,673
Income from Investments		22,854			22,854	27,711			27,711
Incoming from Charitable activities									
Residential, Casework and group work				540,563	540,563			679,540	679,540
Therapeutic		6,159		141,300	147,459	6,799		137,883	144,682
Other incoming resources		3,541			3,541				
Total Income and Endowments		**224,704**		**681,863**	**906,567**	**280,983**		**817,423**	**1,098,406**
RESOURCES EXPENDED									
Expenditure on raising funds	5	78,416			78,416	97,698			97,698
Expenditure on Charitable activities	6								
Residential, Casework and Group work		214,999		642,462	857,461	201,764		703,963	905,727
Therapeutic		1,141		161,928	163,069	62,385		205,115	267,500
Sub-Total		216,140		804,390	1,020,530	264,149		909,078	1,173,227
Total Expenditure		**294,556**		**804,390**	**1,098,946**	**361,847**		**909,078**	**1,270,925**
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	3	(69,852)		(122,527)	(192,379)	(80,864)		(91,655)	(172,519)
Transfers between funds		(2,492)		2,492		(1,486)		1,486	
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(72,344)		(120,035)	(192,379)	(82,350)		(90,169)	(172,519)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS									
Total funds brought forward		337,004	10,000	256,401	603,405	419,354	10,000	346,570	775,924
Total funds carried forward		264,660	10,000	136,366	411,026	337,004	10,000	256,401	603,405

The statement of financial activities has been prepared on the basis that all activities are continuing.

Balance Sheet at 31st March 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	10	14,325	6,248
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	11	50,140	102,711
Cash at bank and in hand		455,509	575,998
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		505,649	678,709
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	12	108,948	81,552
NET CURRENT ASSETS		396,700	597,156
NET ASSETS		411,026	603,405
ACCUMULATED FUNDS			
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	15	264,660	337,004
Designated funds	15	10,000	10,000
Restricted funds	15	136,366	256,401
		411,026	603,405

For the financial year in question the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006. The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for preparation of accounts. These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the trustees on 6th December 2025

Dani Ahrens



Vice Chair

Kate Goddard



Treasurer

Cash Flow Statement Accounts Ending 31st March 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Net cash (used in) / provided by operating activities	16	**(130,113)**	**(240,917)**
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Interest received		22,854	27,711
Purchase of Tangible Fixed Assets		(13,230)	(1,248)
Net cash provided by investing activities		**9,624**	**26,463**
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(120,489)	(214,454)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		575,998	790,452
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		**455,509**	**575,998**

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ending 31st March 2025

1. Accounting Policies

a) Basis of Preparation

RISE is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Community Base, 113 Queens Road, Brighton, BN1 3XG.
The charity has no share capital. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the charity.
The accounts have been prepared in accordance with "Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 01 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006. The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 12.
The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.
The accounts have been prepared under historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

b) Going Concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The trustees have considered relevant information, including the annual budget, forecast future cash flows and the impact of subsequent events in making their assessment.

A decision was made by the Board of Trustees in March 2024 to restructure the entity due to discontinuation of several key funding streams. This restructuring has reduced costs to a level which will enable the charity to run on a breakeven basis provided current funding levels are maintained. The charity has £154k free reserves which can be used to offset a deficit arising from insecurity in funding sources.

Based on these assessments and having regard to the resources available to the entity, the trustees have concluded that there is no material uncertainty in relation to the appropriateness of continuing to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and financial statements.

c) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation.
Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful life at the following rate:
Fixtures and fittings 20% straight line basis per annum
Purchase of tangible fixed assets to a value of less than £500 are not capitalized.

d) Donations

Donations are accounted for on a received basis and are grossed up for any income tax recoverable. Donated items are accounted for when received and are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value.

e) Grants receivable

Grants received are treated in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting Reporting by Charities". Grant income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that the income will be received. In the event that a grant is subject to the fulfilment of performance conditions before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

f) Legacies

Pecuniary legacies are recognised as receivable once probate has been granted and notification has been received. Residuary legacies are recognised as receivable once probate has been granted, provided that sufficient information has been received to enable valuation of the Charity's entitlement. Amounts receivable are included at 90% of their valuation to reflect uncertainty inherent in the administration of estates. Residuary legacies are subject to further reduction to reflect the impact on the valuation of unrealised estate assets of subsequent adverse movements in property and investment markets. Reversionary interests involving a life tenant are not recognised due to the intrinsic uncertainties in valuing them.

g) Trustees

All the trustees donate their time spent running the charity on a voluntary basis and do not receive any remuneration. Indemnity Insurance is provided for the trustees.

h) Allocation of expenditure

Resources are analysed as follows:
Costs of generating funds includes fundraising and publicity costs as well as a proportion of salaries and staff costs based on allocation of staff time spent raising and funding applications.
Charitable activities expenditure includes the direct running costs of the charity's projects together with the support costs incurred that enable these activities to be undertaken.
Governance costs relate to statutory costs in connection with the general running of the charity, such as audit fees, AGM and trustee expenses and legal and professional fees. They also include an allocation of staff salaries.
All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

i) Taxation

The charitable company is registered as a charity and is exempt from taxation (except for Value Added Tax) on its income and capital gains applied for charitable purposes.

j) Employee Benefits

The charity operates a defined contribution group personal pension scheme, which is available to all employees. The amount charged against expenditure represents the contributions payable to the scheme in respect of the year.
The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.
Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the company is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

k) Leasing

Rental charges are charged on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

l) Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.
Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with a specific purpose, as explained in note 15.

m) Designated Funds

Designated funds are set up in order to put aside funds for future large expenditure. As laid out in the reserves policy, a designated fund for building maintenance is defined.
Any transfers from general to designated reserves is agreed by the Board of Trustees and minuted. The reserves policy is to be reviewed every two years.

n) Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial 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.

2. Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

There are not considered to be any critical accounting estimates or judgements.

3. Net Incoming Resources

Net incoming resources for the year are stated after charging:

	2025 £	2024 £
Audit services	-	12,550
Independent Examination	2,610	-
Operating lease payments	24,401	24,401

4. Voluntary Income

	2025	2024
CORE GRANTS, DONATIONS AND LEGACIES	£	£
Major donors	60,000	111,073
Unrestricted donations	73,975	39,466
Legacies	3,000	8,719
Gift Aid	12,824	18,542
	149,799	177,800
OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES		
Training and student fees income	2,500	6,720
Membership	65	90
Fundraising Events		
Race income	21,300	41,089
Collections and events	18,486	20,774
	42,351	68,673
TOTAL VOLUNTARY INCOME	192,150	246,473

5. Expenditure on Raising Funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Fund	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Salaries and staff costs	52,721	-	-	52,721	46,004
Fundraising	15,836	-	-	15,836	29,951
Support costs and overhead	9,859	-	-	9,859	21,742
	78,416	-	-	78,416	97,698

6. Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Staff Costs	Direct Service Costs	Support and Governance Costs	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Residential Casework / Groupwork	588,117	129,814	139,530	857,461	905,727
Therapeutic	118,208	9,978	34,883	163,069	267,500
TOTAL	706,325	139,792	174,413	1,020,530	1,173,227

7. Analysis of Support and Governance Costs

	Support	Governance	Total 2025	Total 2024 (Restated) *
	£	£	£	£
Salaries and staff costs	90,243	11,588	101,831	88,051
Audit and accountancy fees	-	12,408	12,408	12,550
Management Committee and AGM	-	368	368	608
Support overheads	59,806	-	59,806	43,369
TOTAL	150,049	24,364	174,413	144,578

* The 2025 Support and Governance Costs are net of Overheads that were used to support direct program delivery, which were charged to funders; 2024 costs are restated using the same methodology.

8. Employees and Trustees

During the year there were no reimbursements to trustees (2024: £NIL).
There was no remuneration paid to any of the trustees or any persons connected to them.

	2025	2024
Salary costs:	£	£
Wages and salaries	681,679	863,653
Social security costs	52,240	70,701
Pensions - Employer contribution	16,381	21,705
	750,300	956,059

No employee earned at a rate of greater than £60,000 per annum.

Key management personnel remuneration:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Senior Managers	184,409	159,912

The average number of employees, analyzed by function, was:

	2025	2024
Raising funds	2	3
Charitable activities	23	27
Management and administration of the charity	4	6
	29	36

9. Related Party Transactions

There were no related party transactions in the period.

The aggregate donations received from trustees during the period was £325 (2024: £190).

10. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £
COST	
At 1 April 2024	40,924
Additions	13,230
Disposals	(4,189)
At 31 March 2025	49,965
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 April 2024	34,676
Charge for year	5,153
Eliminated in respect of disposals	(4,189)
At 31 March 2025	35,640
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2024	6,248
At 31 March 2025	14,325

11. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	42,937	63,804
Prepayments	1,760	20,776
Accrued income	5,443	18,131
	50,140	102,711

12. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	18,141	30,287
Deferred income	10,000	8,417
Accruals	21,490	15,859
Accrued annual leave	2,625	3,851
Taxation/pensions	56,692	23,138
	108,948	81,552

Deferred income of £8,417 from 2024 was fully released during the period, and £10,000 of resources have been deferred in the year. These are grants from Sussex Community Fund (£5,000) and Ernest Kleinwart (£5,000) related to work to be carried out over the next year.

13. Pensions

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme.
Contributions made by the company amounted to £16,380 (2024: £21,705) and there were contributions of £2,534 owing at the end of the year (2024: £4,141).

14. Operating Lease Commitments

The following operating lease payments are committed to be paid:

Land and buildings		2025	2024
		£	£
Expiring:	Within one year	8,989	12,665
	In two to five years	-	1,333
		8,989	13,998

15. Funds

ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS	Tangible Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets	2025 Total	2024 Total
	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds	-	136,366	136,366	256,401
General funds	14,325	250,335	264,660	337,004
Designated funds	-	10,000	10,000	10,000
	14,325	396,701	411,026	603,405

RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance at 31/03/2024	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers between funds	Balance at 31/03/2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Children in Need	2,241	-	(2,241)	-	0
ICB (Sussex Integrated Care Board)	16,612	94,178	(113,100)	2,310	(0)
NHS via OPCC	257	-	(257)	-	0
BHCC Housing IDVA	4,698	40,000	(40,545)	-	4,153
BHCC Third Sector Investment Programme	0.39	45,000	(42,785)	-	2,216
Dodgson Foundation	2,343	5,000	(5,438)	-	1,905
Ernest Hecht Charitable Trust	596	-	(597)	-	(0)
MHCLG Wellbeing & LGBT+ Refuge	7,363	49,982	(43,756)	(13,589)	(0)
National Lottery Community Fund	106,814	68,667	(175,481)	-	(0)
OPCC Safe Space	1,986	10,000	(11,986)	-	(0)
Volant Trust	613	-	(613)	-	(0)
BHCC Sanctuary Scheme & Floating Support	95,242	120,000	(124,827)	-	90,416
Ministry of Justice via OPCC	2,050	47,122	(48,828)	-	344
BHCC Changing Futures	4,798	17,977	(22,775)	-	0
Surviving Economic Abuse	2,783	32,000	(27,313)	-	7,470
BHCC Children & Young People Community Pr	8,004	16,094	(14,580)	-	9,518
Gambling Harms	-	60,031	(45,560)	-	14,471
HENRY SMITH FUND	-	33,650	(27,775)	-	5,875
DLUHC EXIT	-	22,112	(35,701)	13,589	(0)
Womens Aid	-	1,000	(1,182)	182	0
JUSTLIFE	-	15,050	(15,050)	-	0
Household support fund	-	4,000	(4,000)	-	0
Total Restricted Funds	256,401	681,863	(804,390)	2,492	136,366

RESTRICTED FUNDS 2022-23 FOR COMPARISON

	Balance at 31/03/2023 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers between funds £	Balance at 31/03/2024 £
Children in Need	10,043	9,869	17,671	-	2,241
ICB (Sussex Integrated Care Board)	53,677	104,014	141,079	-	16,612
NHS via OPCC	15,364	-	15,107	-	257
BHCC Housing IDVA	17,026	40,000	52,328	-	4,698
BHCC Third Sector Investment Programme	-	50,000	51,486	1,486	0
Dodgson Foundation	1,266	5,000	3,923	-	2,343
Ernest Hecht Charitable Trust	4,101	-	3,505	-	596
MHCLG Wellbeing & LGBT+ Refuge	7,049	99,963	99,649	-	7,363
National Lottery Community Fund	124,446	269,864	287,496	-	106,814
OPCC Safe Space	1,610	20,000	19,623	-	1,986
Volant Trust	16,126	-	15,513	-	613
BHCC Sanctuary Scheme & Floating Support	75,474	130,000	110,232	-	95,242
Ministry of Justice via OPCC	17,110	33,869	48,928	-	2,050
BHCC Changing Futures	871	26,966	23,039	-	4,798
Surviving Economic Abuse	-	6,000	3,217	-	2,783
BHCC Children & Young People Community Programme	2,407	21,879	16,283	-	8,004
Total Restricted Funds	346,570	817,423	909,078	1,486	256,401

RESTRICTED FUNDS - PROVIDER AND PURPOSE	
Provider	**Purpose**
Brighton & Hove County Council	Sanctuary Scheme and Floating Support
Brighton & Hove County Council	Housing IDVA (Independent Domestic Violence Advisor)
BHCC Children & Young People Community Programme	CYP Rising Stars groups
BHCC Changing Futures	DV support to people with Multiple Disadvantages
BHCC Third Sector Investment Programme	Children and Young People service
Children In Need	Children's Worker
Ernest Hecht Charitable Trust	Housing support
Department of Levelling Up Housing and Communities via BHCC	Continuation of LGBT+ Refuge and Wellbeing service
Dodgson Foundation	Older Person support
ICB (Sussex Integrated Care Board)	Family, Children and Young People's Service
Ministry of Justice via Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner	Specialist LGBT+ Therapist and Wellbeing service
National Lottery - Community Fund	Community engagement and development
NHS via Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner and ESCC	Uplift to sexual violence support services during Covid-19 pandemic
Office of the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner	Safe Space Sussex, Regroup and Economic Abuse workers
Surviving Economic Abuse	Secondment of worker
Volant Trust	Helpline and Casework
Money Advice Plus	Gambling Harm and Economic Abuse
Henry Smith Fund	Support women and children with experience of domestic abuse and family/civil court processes
Brighton & Hove County Council	Household Support Fund

	Balance at 31/03/2024	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers between funds	Balance at 31/03/2025
DESIGNATED FUNDS	£	£	£	£	£
Buildings maintenance	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
Total Designated Funds	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
Total Unrestricted Funds	337,004	224,704	(294,556)	(2,492)	264,660
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	603,405	906,567	(1,098,946)		411,026

DESIGNATED FUNDS - PURPOSE

Building Maintenance	The £10,000 designated funds relates to building maintenance for the Marina Box premises only, which is used for the therapy team.

16. Notes to the Cash Flow Statement

Reconciliation of Net Movement in Funds to Net Cash Flow from Operating Activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Net surplus (deficit)	(192,379)	(172,519)
Depreciation charges	5,153	5,153
Interest	(22,854)	(27,711)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	52,571	(41,127)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	27,396	(4,714)
Increase/(decrease) in provisions	-	-
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(130,113)	(240,917)

	At 31 March 2024 £	Cash flows £	At 31 March 2025 £
Cash at Bank and in hand	575,998	(120,489)	455,509
	575,998	(120,489)	455,509

17. Subsequent events

As at 31 May 2025, the charity made 1 redundancy due to discontinued funding. The redundancy amounted to £3,982.

R.I.S.E. (REFUGE, INFORMATION, SUPPORT AND EDUCATION)

England & Wales - Charity number 1065846

Accounts

freedom from abuse & violence

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

31st March 2024

R.I.S.E. (Refuge, Information, Support and Education) is a registered charity (No. 1065846)
R.I.S.E. (Refuge, Information, Support and Education) is a Company Limited by Guarantee registered in England No. 3425008.

RISE, Community Base, 113 Queens Road, Brighton, BN1 3XG



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Legal and Administrative Information

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER	1065846	COMPANY NUMBER	03425008

REGISTERED OFFICE	Community Base 113 Queens Road Brighton BN1 3XG

TRUSTEES	Kim Turnbull James	Chair Resigned 30th September 2024
	Kate Goddard	Treasurer Appointed 17th June 2023
	Alison Simmonds	Treasurer Appointed 17th June 2023 Resigned 31st October 2024
	Angie Uglow	Treasurer Resigned 31st March 2024
	Piyali Mendiratta	Resigned 9th September 2023
	Dani Ahrens	
	Catherine Barker	
	Helen Carr	
	Louise Leonard	
	Chris Magill	
	Isobel Montgomery	
	Viktorija Zdanoviciute	

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	Jo Gough	SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM	Kate Dale Azaria Munro Alison Gray Left 31st March 2024 Lisa Mcilrath Started 19th March 2024

BANKERS	Santander Bootle Merseyside L30 4GB	CAF 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ

REGISTERED AUDITORS	Sumer Audit Amelia House Crescent Road Worthing West Sussex BN11 1RL	SOLICITORS	Fitzhugh Gates 3 Pavilion Parade Brighton BN2 1RY

TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024

RISE Board of Trustees are pleased to present their annual trustees' report, together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31st March 2024. These are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies House.

Significant Activities and Project Areas

History and Charitable Purpose

RISE was established in 1994 as The Women's Refuge Project and renamed in 2008 to reflect its growth in provision of services. We deliver:

- A specialist Housing Team providing crisis and resettlement support in Brighton & Hove, community outreach and a Sanctuary (household security) service.
- A Helpline providing access to services, support and advice by phone and email, and online self-directed learning.
- Casework, including specialist Family and Civil Courts advocacy.
- Specialist support for mothers, children and young people, including family work, 1:1 support for mothers, groups for mothers, and recovery groups and therapeutic support for children and young people.
- Longer term recovery and social support in the community, including drop-in sessions, adult therapy, our own Recovery and Empowerment Group programmes and Wellbeing groups that help people to recover from the effects of domestic abuse, as well as a Women of Colour Wellbeing Group.
- Embedded and assertive outreach support in universal as well as specialist services alongside partners in police, housing, substance misuse, homelessness and disability services.
- LGBT dispersed refuge and community services including strong links with other LGBT support locally and nationally.
- Training and consultancy services to statutory, voluntary and private sector partners and customers.

RISE has grown from focusing on refuge accommodation in its early days to delivering responsive wrap around services that support survivors from crisis and early intervention, through to recovery and onwards into safe and healthy futures. Alongside this we work to prevent domestic violence and abuse (DVA) in new generations through education and awareness with children, young people, their families and other professionals involved in their support.

R.I.S.E. stands for Refuge, Information, Support and Education.

Our vision is: 'Freedom from Abuse and Violence'.

We are a feminist, women-led and centred domestic violence and abuse charity that has worked for almost 30 years to end all forms of violence and abuse against women, children and LGBT+ people.

RISE offers strength-based, trauma-informed services and is committed to providing accessible, fair, and safe services to survivors of violence and abuse, including women of all ages, children, young people, trans and non-binary people, lesbians and bisexual women, gay and bisexual men, black and minoritised women, women with religious affiliations or none, disabled women and other minoritised women.

RISE is a key partner in the local Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG), Domestic and Sexual Violence Strategy in Brighton and Hove and across Sussex, playing a key role in providing expertise, guidance, and response to emerging needs. We receive various grants from government (local and national), charitable trusts such as National Lottery, Children in Need and smaller local or specialist trusts as well as a contract from the local Integrated Care Board (formerly Clinical Commissioning Group - NHS) for delivering therapy services as part of a Trauma Pathway.

The organisation is an established specialist partner in the VAWG and Domestic Violence care pathway in the city.

Public Benefit

The Trustees have had due regard for the guidance on the public benefit requirement published by the Charities Commission, as required by the Charities Act 2011.

General Financial Position

The operating results for the year ended 31st March 2024 show the RISE has maintained financial stability and has achieved results consistent with our financial plan. In the year to 31st March 2024, RISE achieved income of £1,098,406 (2023: £1,080,218), while total expenditure was £1,270,926 (2023: £1,141,636). This gave rise to a deficit of £172,519 (2023: surplus £61,418).

In 2023-24 there was an in-year deficit on restricted income less expenditure of £91,655 (2023: surplus £89,561). At the same time, unrestricted income less expenditure produced an in-year deficit of £80,864 (2023: deficit £150,979). This resulted in a reduction in our unrestricted

reserves in line with our plan to use unrestricted reserves to support our core services while seeking more sustainable funding.

The closing year balance on reserves show a decrease to £603,405 (2023: £775,924) of which £337,004 (2023: £419,354) is held as general unrestricted reserves, £10,000 (2023: £10,000) as designated reserves and £256,401 (2023: £346,570) as restricted reserves. This is after a transfer of £1,486 (2023: £0) from restricted to unrestricted reserves.

The fundraising team made good progress in securing funds against a reduced target of £260,000 in this year securing £246,473 in total. RISE remains in a strong position to maintain stability while rebuilding and seeking new funding for our services. We were grateful to receive a substantial donation from the Musk Burton Family Trust and are pleased to have secured a promise of an equal amount from them for the next four years which will help us through this period. A second major donor, Mrs Cooper, also gave £25,000 which, along with corporate donors, made a total of £111,073 from major donors. Our flagship 8k Run for Women was back on track in October 2023 and surpassed the income target of £25,000 to secure £41,089.

The Brighton and Hove Mayor named RISE as one of her five charities this year leading to participation in several joint fundraising events including an abseil down the I360, an online auction and an event with food and music on the pier called 'Wave of Love'. The Big Give Match Fund Women and Girls Campaign generated £17,625 from 55 donors with the largest donor (£5,000) being Another Way Women.

In the third year following the loss of two large contracts RISE continues to experience strong competition for available funding. However we have been successful in securing a continuation of the funding from the local authority (via New Burdens) for the LGBT dispersed refuge and refuge in-reach provision; continued funding from the Integrated Care Board (previously the Clinical Commissioning Group) for funding towards the cost of our therapy team; continued funding for our housing team including Sanctuary Scheme (safety in home) and Floating Support, as well as funding for a Housing IDVA (Independent Domestic Violence Advisor) from the local authority (via New Burdens). As well as this continued funding we have successfully secured new grants from the Ministry of Justice for a specialist LGBT therapist and wellbeing provision; the Brighton and Hove City Council Community Support programme for Children and Young People (via New Burdens), and from Changing Lives (via New Burdens) to support people with Multiple Complex Disadvantages.

In this year the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 began to lead to structural and systemic changes with the roll out of guidance to enact the legislation including, for the first time, recognising children as victims of domestic violence aligning with RISE practice.

Following the DA Act the NHS established a public health approach to domestic abuse which has more recently led to the Chief Delivery Officer, Steve Russell at NHS England sending a letter to all Integrated Care Boards (ICBs), asking them to appoint a new Domestic Abuse and Violence lead at the executive level. This letter represents a significant milestone in the tireless advocacy from RISE as part of the Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) sector. There are potentials for huge cost-savings to public services if this becomes a reality with Women's Aid's latest research with ResPublica calculating that domestic abuse costs the health service a staggering £2.7 billion per year.

Violence against women and girls has this year been recognised as a strategic policing threat demonstrating the scale of change required – from the training and skills officers need to investigations and protections for women, and of course the glaring issues of sexism, racism and other forms of discrimination within policing. Following the Baroness Casey of Blackstock's conclusions about the current misconduct system in the Metropolitan Police Service (the Met) as set out in her letter of 17th October 2022 to the Met Commissioner and final report in March 2023 it was found that there were severe institutional failings across the organisation that will require radical reform to resolve. One significant change required was to better protect women and children with a dedicated women's protection service; introducing a new children's strategy; and re-instating sexual and domestic abuse services as specialist functions. The pressing issue of tackling police perpetrators of violence against women and girls, and the severe problems with vetting and monitoring officers, are an urgent priority for improving trust and confidence. RISE has continued to work with local police - challenging and proactively supporting positive change.

The new national Domestic Abuse Commissioner published her mapping data showing what survivors want and what they get. This is presented for each police area or regionally. Accessing help - Domestic Abuse Commissioner. The findings chime with our insight and reflect our priorities. She made 26 key recommendations following her 'A Patchwork of Provision' - Domestic Abuse Commissioner Report. RISE has utilised this important data to demonstrate gaps in service and raise new funds.

Key Strategic Aims

2023-24 was the charity's 29th year in operation, and the final year of our five-year strategic plan.

Our key strategic aims were:

1. **Excellence:** RISE will be a centre of excellence for domestic violence and abuse knowledge and expertise, building on existing knowledge and creating a new evidence basis for our work and achieving recognised quality standards appropriate to our work and sector.

2. **Community Focused**: RISE will broaden our reach, take a community approach and increase our role in a community response to domestic violence and abuse by collaborating

with professional partners, communities of interest and working in neighbourhoods to make sure DVA is everyone's business.

3. **Voice & Leadership:** RISE will be a recognised leading voice on domestic abuse and violence in the context of VAWG and come alongside survivors to amplify their voices to inform provision and bring social change.

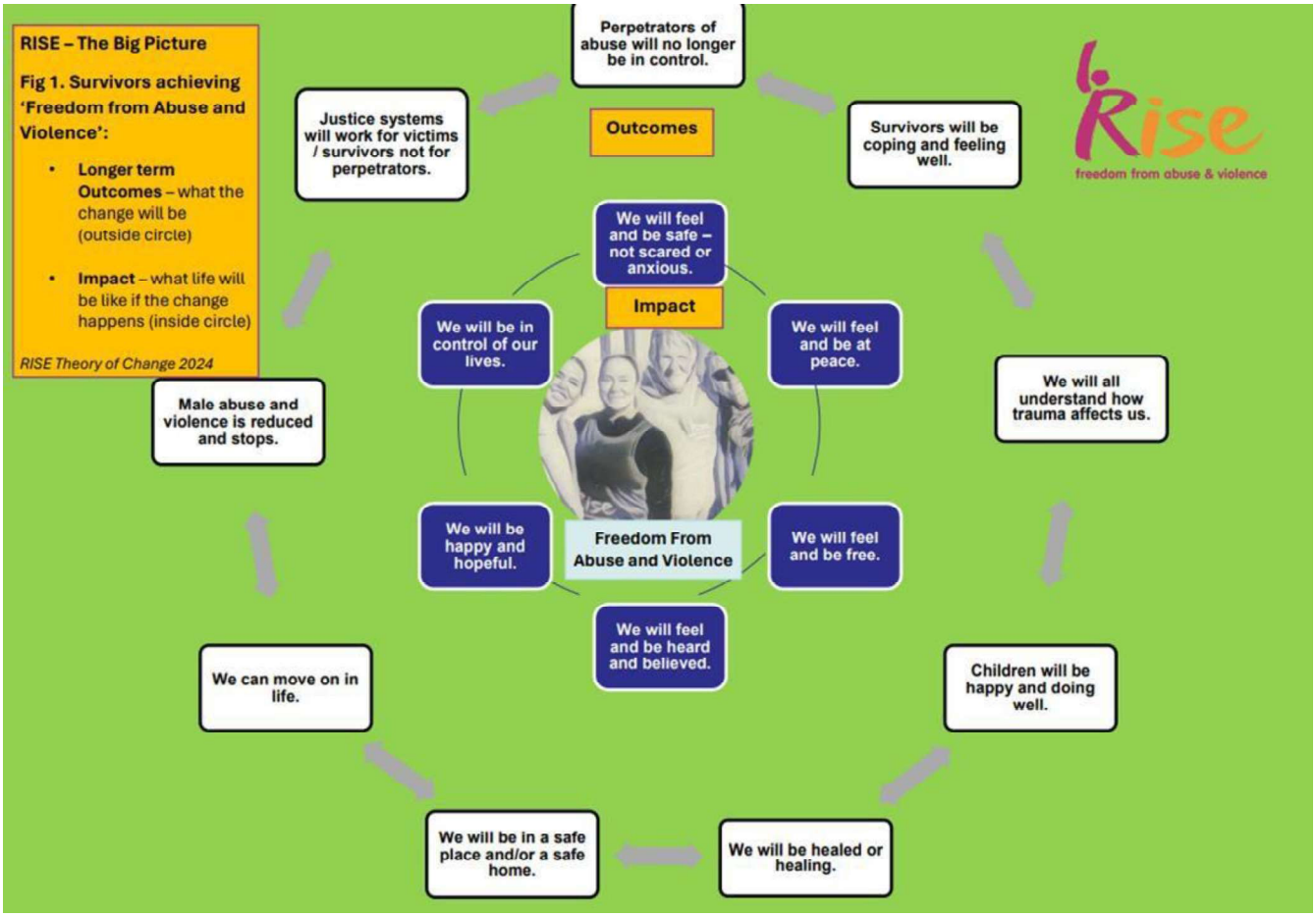
4. **Secure, Sustainable and Future-Proofed:** RISE will diversify and grow income streams to decrease reliance on public funds; commit to good governance principles and practice including robust management of risk; exploit new technology for service delivery, to improve accessibility and modernise our service offer.

Key achievements during the year

A New Strategic Direction

In the last year of our 2019-2024 Strategic Business Plan a year-long programme of strategy development began from April 2023. Staff, survivors, Board and stakeholder involvement took place to develop a new Theory of Change (now called the RISE Big Picture), new Strategic Aims, Objectives RISE Five-year Strategic Aims 2024 to 2029 | RISE (riseuk.org.uk) and Values Our Values | RISE (riseuk.org.uk) .

We conducted one to one interviews and surveys with both survivors and stakeholders and set up a small RISE Survivor Panel that met regularly to inform the above and to finalise our new 'RISE Big Picture':



Service Delivery

In this year, 2023 to 2024, a total of 1,671 referrals came to RISE. 201 were referrals for children and 1470 for adults. 1,180 clients were helped in this year with the addition of 228 short-work logs completed. – this is a decrease of 13% on the previous year (2022/23).

In the previous year, 2022/23, we supported 1,357 people which was a 40% increase on the previous year (2021/23) but a decrease against this year.

Here's a snapshot of our activity in 2023/24:

Communities Rising

Our National Lottery-funded Communities Rising project entered its second year working with marginalised women (older, disabled and multiple disadvantaged women), black and minoritised women. It is building on survivor strengths to create a coordinated community response to domestic abuse.

A new Ambassadors programme and greater survivor leadership through the 'Change maker' role has been added and once again Dodgson Trust has supplemented this project helping to support a drop-in for older and disabled women. We continued our Community Connector and Research projects bringing survivors to the core of our work, as well as a new role working with women experiencing multiple disadvantages linking Communities Rising with a Sussex-wide 'Changing Futures' programme. Our 'Women Rooted' project continued this year taking an 'eco-feminist' therapeutic approach. The Women of Colour Wellbeing group that began under Rosa funding continued this year and grew in membership.

Our RISE Ambassadors training programme has created more than 200 volunteer community ambassadors that understand domestic abuse and are able to safely provide a bridge to specialist services. This includes men and women and all age groups with programmes delivered to university students, skateboard coaches and yoga teachers this year.

Paid Survivor Change Maker positions were added to the team bringing the richness of the survivor experience into the core of RISE.

RISE Therapy, Counselling Service and Wellbeing

Throughout the previous year NHS England-funded projects brought extra capacity to our therapy team with a focus on reaching women experiencing sexual abuse in the context of domestic abuse - this ended in this year.

Our longstanding funding from the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) for the Trauma Pathway continued this year - through surplus funding we reduced the waiting list and provided new groups. This funding continues to be on a short-term basis despite having eight-years track record of delivering the 'Trauma Pathway' in partnership. The Trauma Pathway waiting list had to close to new referrals this year as it reached 2.5 years for adults. Later in the year the children's Therapy service also had close to manage demand. This contract is now under review and due to be re-commissioned in 2025.

A new LGBT Counselling service started this year, and we continue to provide wellbeing support as in-reach to Brighton Refuge which provides a wide range of support to resident women and children including a mixture of creative, therapeutic, outdoor, group and 1:1, music therapy. RISE also provide professional support to Stonewater (the Refuge Provider) staff and managers through operational meetings.

We continued to raise underfunding of the service with commissioners and have bid for new funding.

The Children and Family Team

The team continues to deliver bespoke 'Rising Stars' programmes to children and their mothers to aid safety, recovery and healthy relationships now funded by the local authority. The lead for this team offers support and training to Health Visitors, Social Workers and School Educational Psychologists.

Our Family and Civil Court Advocate supported complex cases through civil and family processes following changes in law whilst also providing training to magistrates and law students to bring about culture change.

The Children and Families Team provides case-work and group activities (for children and adults) whilst also providing domestic abuse expertise to professionals working with families. A regular children's Christmas party is supported by our local community gifting presents via a Wishlist.

Helpline, Advocacy and Groups

The helpline and case work team remains a vital source of first contact and support for survivors working with partners and actively bridging the gaps between the now myriad of services provided locally. A new coffee morning has been established and our recovery group – 'ReGroup' - continues to run successfully online and face-to-face alongside well-being and support programmes that survivors' can work through independently. New volunteers were inducted and supported this year to expand the service.

RISE is working in partnership with Surviving Economic Abuse (SEA) to transform responses to economic abuse as one of three pilot areas as a women sector lead partner.

Safe Homes Team and LGBT Dispersed Refuge

In this year we expanded our independent housing advocacy support to include floating support and a £40k sanctuary scheme (security and safety equipment) creating a housing support service. A specialist RISE worker embeds in the council housing team and builds bridges with Refuge and other housing providers to uphold the statutory rights of survivors. We have developed a referral and triage service in order to link with Housing IDVA (crisis work); Outreach support – a combination of support around DVA and housing survivors in any housing situation; and Sanctuary Scheme i.e. security measures to enable survivors to stay in their homes. Training and embedded work is leading to significant culture change in the Council.

The RISE LGBT Dispersed Refuge continues to work with Southdown Housing to source new lets and provides community-based LGBT specialist floating support.

We are grateful for an ongoing corporate partnership to provide free safety and security equipment to keep survivors safe in their own homes when separated from the perpetrator.

Training & Development

Sharing our expertise to create a culture that does not tolerate abuse and violence is core to our mission. We do this by continuing to deliver training to corporates, Schools, charities (e.g. Money Advice Plus) and to Magistrates etc.

Equality and Diversity

This year's equality and diversity priorities have been:

- Single-sex provision
- Race Equality
- Disability

We have established our approach to single-sex services and providing access to services for all our key beneficiaries – women, children and LGBT survivors. This includes protected services for women on the basis of sex using the exceptions in the Equality Act 2010 as well as services that are open access or for specified cohorts of survivors including LGBT, different age groups, women of colour groups, older women group, young people etc. Staff now have a better understanding of key legislation and have received training on 'Managing Difference'. We reviewed our Equalities and Diversity Policy to better reflect our approach to single sex services and developed staff confidence in communicating our message as well as ensuring each service is assessed and then eligibility is appropriately communicated.

Alongside the above we have also stepped up our commitment to anti-racism in line with the Ending Racism in VAWG commitments: https://www.endingracisminvawg.org/. We have updated our recruitment policy and changed our adverts and pack to better reflect this. We identified anti-racism (race as a protected characteristic) as our key equality priority and our CEO completed intensive anti-racism training for white leaders as well as agreeing an in-year budget increase to deliver unconscious bias and anti-racism training for staff.

RISE is a 'Disability Confident Employer' and has been working to expand our support to our disabled staff through Access to Work and flexible policies. On the ground we are also working with key disabled people organisations and groups for example Speak Out, a self-advocacy group for people with learning disabilities, to establish our working relationship and look for further opportunities for partnership. We are continuing to build opportunities for disabled survivors to be influential at RISE and in this year supported disabled survivors to be part of our Survivor Panel. Recite is installed on our website– this includes top range accessibility tools. We are looking into how we can link these tools to other activities such as online groups. Regular text descriptions of visuals on social media are now produced by volunteers.

We are providing face-face and remote options for some of our services as we have feedback that this increases accessibility where people have physical disabilities. The disabled and older people's Drop-In is continuing, and we have secured new funds through Dodgson Foundation. We are working with Blatchington Trust, PossAbility People and a learning disability group to build capacity in communities to respond to abuse. Key staff have completed Autism training.

The updated recruitment policy is now operational making changes to improve access and to diversify our workforce. We are able to protect some posts through positive action where it is proportionate (e.g. LGBT workers, Black and Minoritised Worker), as well as regularly using the single-sex exception in the EA2010. Our recruitment pack now provides more information on our commitments around diversity and inclusion and provides clarity on the scope of our work including our approach to the protected characteristic of sex. It outlines our commitment to Anti-Racism and we have made this more visible in adverts with the following statement:

> *The successful candidate will join a highly regarded women-led, women-centred, and trauma-informed charity with almost 30-years track record in violence against women and girls (VAWG) and LGBT Domestic Abuse.*
>
> *RISE is committed to ending racism and has signed up to the Ending Racism in VAWG commitments: https://www.endingracisminvawg.org/ and RISE is a Disability Confident Employer.*

Unconscious Bias Training was rolled out to all staff and as the VAWG Forum Chair the RISE CEO led a themed presentation and discussion on Anti-Racism in VAWG – this allowed opportunities to outline some of the intersecting issues as well as challenging partners in the police and in council to make a step change.

We are committed to actively holding anti-racist values and practices and nurturing the contributions from Black and minoritised women within the sector so that Black and minoritised leadership can grow. Intensive anti-racism training for white members of leadership team with two Board members took place in the Autumn and we participated in Race Equality Week - Race Equality Matters in 2024. We continue to promote opportunities for black women leaders and support networks.

The updated Equalities and Diversity Policy has been finalised with Service Impact Assessments now in use for all teams.

Plans for the Future:

- 30th RISE and 50th Brighton Women's Aid Anniversary celebration in 2024
- Launch and embed our strategic plan, values & theory of change for 2024/29
- Survivor involvement established in all levels of RISE

- Women's Aid Quality Standards completed
- Advance our partnership development in fundraising and operational delivery

Staffing and Governance Structure

There have been some changes to the RISE Leadership Team (RLT) including the loss of two managers and the restructuring of the F&C team as well as the Central services team to create a new Manager role with survivor involvement lead and a new Head of Partnership Development. The RLT is made up of all managers and oversees the strategic plan and the operation of RISE services.

We have refreshed our governance and recruited two more new Board members with finance skills to fill identified skill and representation gaps.

We are continuing with the development of a stronger structure for survivor involvement having established a new survivor panel and new leadership role for survivor involvement underscoring our commitment to survivor involvement to manifest in our structures.

We want to thank our Board and Subgroup members, in particular those who stood down this year (Jeanette Ashton) for bringing their expertise to RISE and helping us successfully steer through the challenges of the year.

COVID-19 impact and response

Most roles at RISE are now hybrid allowing some homeworking and some office working with occasional meetings that are routinely face to face.

There are fewer cases of Covid-19 affecting delivery but still a small number of absences. The pandemic forced us to transition to remote working and some practices, such as online meetings have become part of our new working style. It has also had a positive impact on the ways we deliver some of our services to survivors as we are now able to offer a combination of in-person and online support options, which has improved our accessibility.

The pandemic made us rapidly develop our IT infrastructure and we have invested in IT support and security to ensure safe working practices.

We have now moved to a smaller office and adopted flexible working so staff can split their time between home and office.

Lockdown inevitably saw an increase in demand for support for women suffering from the effects of domestic abuse. The number of calls to the helpline increased and has remained high. Recognising the increase in the need for support for women around sexual violence, we

secured funding from NHS England to increase the capacity in the therapy team, which extended to March 2023. Despite this additional funding, waiting times for our therapy service continue to grow.

Fundraising

RISE receives voluntary donations and gifts from individual and corporate donors. As a member of the Institute of Fundraising, we adhere to their guidelines in our fundraising activity as well as following the Charity Commission advice on best practice. We have an Ethical Fundraising policy to ensure clarity and openness to all our stakeholders. All personal data is processed in line with the General Data Protection Regulations and Data Protection Act 2018. RISE will only process data of supporters and donors if they have given opt-in consent.

RISE organise all our fundraising internally and do not engage third parties to seek donations from individuals. We are mindful of people's privacy and do not exert undue pressure on potential donors. Our preferred approach is that 'it is not about making people feel bad for not giving, it is about making people feel good for giving'. There have been no complaints about fundraising.

Reserves Policy

In accordance with the advice of the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales, we aim to hold unrestricted reserves at levels sufficient to ensure the long-term financial stability of the charity.

The areas highlighted to meet this requirement are wind up costs, unforeseen emergency, unforeseen running costs to include maternity and sickness, and designated funds for buildings maintenance and furniture renewal, and seed funding to initiate projects for expansion into new areas. The amounts held to cover each financial risk within the tiers are to be defined and reviewed every 2 years or more frequently if the charity's income or liabilities should change drastically.

Surplus unrestricted funding is built into the annual budget where possible to build up the free reserves. As long as these are at the required level, these can be used to support the charitable aims of RISE at the discretion of the CEO and board of trustees. Free reserves should not be allowed to drop below 7% of turnover except in a wind-up situation.

Reserve Tiers

FINANCIAL RISKS	**At March 2023**	**At March 2024**	
WIND UP FUNDING			
Redundancy Payments	40,000	40,000	
Key Staff	30,000	30,000	Wind up costs - 3 months

Lease Commitments	15,665	15,461	Marina Box to December 2025, Community Base 6 months
	85,665	**85,461**	
DESIGNATED FUNDS			
Buildings Maintenance	10,000	10,000	
	10,000	**10,000**	
UNFORESEEN EMERGENCY			
	10,000	10,000	
	10,000	**10,000**	
UNFORESEEN RUNNING COSTS			
Short term capacity issues in Central Services	5,000	5,000	
Disability Support, sickness or maternity cover	10,000	10,000	Based on 12 weeks pay + 6 months SSP for a frontline worker
	15,000	**15,000**	
PLANNED COMMITMENT			
Use of reserves to support budget plans	155,000	163,000	Budgeted shortfall of income compared to expenditure2024-25
Free Reserve	153,689	63,543	Held to support deficit budget in 2025-26
	308,689	**226,543**	
GRAND TOTAL	**£429,354**	**£347,004**	

	2023	2024
General Reserve held at 31st March	**£419,354**	**£337,004**
Designated fund held at 31st March	**£10,000**	**£10,000**
	£429,354	**£347,004**
Restricted Reserve held at 31st March	**£346,570**	**£256,401**
Total Reserves	**£775,924**	**£603,405**

Structure, Governance and Management

Incorporation

RISE is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity. It was first registered as a charity on 9th May 1994, and then re-registered on 17th November 1997, having been incorporated as a company on 26th August 1997. On 28th October 2008, the company changed its name to R.I.S.E. (Refuge, Information, Support and Education). The charitable company is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association which were updated in July 2014.
RISE is governed by a board of trustees, whose principal responsibilities are the setting and monitoring of the strategic direction of the organisation and the establishment of policy. The trustees are also directors for the purposes of company law.

The board meets formally once every three months.

The board delegates the day-to-day operation of the organisation to the CEO who in turn delegates to managers.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees, who are also the directors of RISE for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view the trustees should:

1) follow best practice and select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
2) make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
3) state whether applicable United Kingdom accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
4) prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the company will continue its operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

We aim to have between 10 and 15 Board Members to ensure a quorum at meetings of 5. Recruitment is based on relevance of expertise and experience. We carry out regular skills audits to identify any existing or possible gaps in the knowledge and expertise on the Board, and to fill these gaps appropriately. Candidates for Board membership will be recruited either through recommendation as defined in RISE Articles of Association, or through open recruitment in line with our Governance Board Recruitment, Selection and Review Policy.

Trustee Induction and Training

All new board members are introduced to current board members, and receive an induction pack, and a face-to-face induction training on Strategy and Governance. Trustees are invited to visit RISE Services and attend open mornings as well as RISE training and full team meetings. Free training is available for roles and responsibilities, and governance. The CEO is the permanent representative of the staff on the board and other senior staff members of RISE management team and the service teams attend board meetings where possible. All board members are required to attend board meetings, the annual strategic planning day, development days, and are welcomed at staff meetings and other social events.

The board receive on-going development and attend a number of governance training days throughout the year.

Trustee Working Groups

The board has set up specific sub-groups to undertake detailed work in the following areas, Income Generation, Human Resources and Equalities, Finance and Risk Management and Clinical Governance. Other Working Groups are set-up from time to time.

Risk Management

The trustees and leadership team review the major risks that the charity faces on a regular basis and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks. Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of policies and procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects, and to ensure consistent quality of delivery for all operational aspects of the charitable company. These procedures are periodically reviewed to ensure that they still meet the needs of the charity. A working group consisting of staff and trustees has been set up to monitor risk and to review and prepare business recovery processes. There is a business Continuity Plan for crisis management.

The key risks are:

1) Risk of death of a service user or client on waiting list due to restrictions in levels of service.
2) Risk of loss of key staff, to include staff burn out, sickness and loss due to restrictions in remuneration packages.
3) Risk of loss of key income streams and associated services reducing our needs-led and trauma-focused holistic service model.
4) Risk of fraud/theft of charity funds.
5) Risk of a health pandemic causing disruption to the service

Auditors

Each of the Trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditors are aware of such information.

A resolution proposing that Carpenter Box be reappointed as auditors of the company will be put to the members.

The trustees have paid due regard to the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

The trustees have complied with their duty under section 17(5) of the 2011 Charities Act to have due regard to guidance published by the charitable commission.

The trustees have prepared this report in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The trustees present their report for the year in compliance with the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

At the time of approving the accounts, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts. Going concern is considered further at note 1(a).

Approved by the trustees on 7th December 2024
And signed on their behalf by

Dani Ahrens | **Helen Carr**





Vice Chair | Trustee

Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of R.I.S.E. (Refuge, Information, Support & Education) for the year ended 31 March 2024

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of R.I.S.E. (Refuge, Information, Support & Education) (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, including the income and expenditure account, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:
give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

- adequate and proper accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not
- been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees, who are also the directors of the charity for the purpose of company law, are responsible for the

preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

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

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and noncompliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- Obtaining an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework in which the company operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the financial statements and operations;
- Obtaining an understanding of the charity's policies and procedures on fraud risks, including knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud; and
- Discussing among the engagement team how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud through our knowledge and understanding of the charity and our sector specific experience.

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the company for fraud. We are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override. As a result of performing the above, we

identified the following areas as those most likely to have an impact on the financial statements: compliance with the UK Companies Act and the Charities SORP (FRS102).

In addition to the above, our procedures to respond to risks identified included the following:

- Making enquiries of management, about any known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of the board and senior management; and
- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness.

Due to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that some material misstatements in the financial statements may not be detected, even though the audit is properly planed and performed in accordance with the ISAs (UK). For instance, the further removed non-compliance is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the auditor is to become aware of it or to recognise the non-compliance.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Robin Evans BA FCA CTA DChA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Sumer Audit
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor
Worthing



12 December 2024

Sumer Audit is the trading name of Sumer Auditco Limited

Statements of Financial Activities Including Income and Expenditure Accounts 31st March 2024

	Notes	General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
		2024				2023			
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS									
Donations and Legacies	4	177,800			177,800	133,950			133,950
Other Trading Activities	4	68,673			68,673	40,242			40,242
Income from Investments		27,711			27,711	9,647			9,647
Incoming from charitable activities									
Residential, Casework and Group Work				679,540	679,540			657,988	657,988
Therapeutic		6,799		137,883	144,682	3,710		230,946	234,656
Other Incoming Resources						3,735			3,735
Total Income and Endowments		280,983		817,423	1,098,406	191,284		888,934	1,080,218
RESOURCES EXPENDED									
Expenditure on Raising Funds	5	97,698			97,698	110,030			110,030
Expenditure on Charitable Activities	6								
Residential, Casework and Group Work		201,764		703,963	905,727	173,157		608,514	781,671
Therapeutic		62,385		205,115	267,500	59,076		190,859	249,935
Sub-total		264,149		909,078	1,173,227	232,233		799,373	1,031,606
Total Expenditure		361,847		909,078	1,270,925	342,263		799,373	1,141,636
Net income/ (expenditure) for the year	3	(80,864)		(91,655)	(172,519)	(150,979)		89,561	(61,418)
Transfers between funds		(1,486)		1,486					
Net Movement in funds		(82,350)		(90,169)	(172,519)	(150,979)		89,561	(61,418)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS									
Total funds brought forward		419,354	10,000	346,570	775,924	570,333	10,000	257,009	837,342
Total funds carried forward		337,004	10,000	256,401	603,405	419,354	10,000	346,570	775,924

The statement of financial activities has been prepared on the basis that all activities are continuing.

Balance Sheet at 31st March 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	10	6,248	10,154
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	11	102,711	61,584
Cash at bank and in hand		575,998	790,452
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		678,709	852,036
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	12	81,552	86,266
NET CURRENT ASSETS		597,156	765,770
NET ASSETS		603,405	775,924
ACCUMULATED FUNDS			
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	15	337,004	419,354
Designated funds	15	10,000	10,000
Restricted funds	15	256,401	346,570
		603,405	775,924

Approved by the trustees on 7th December 2024

Dani Ahrens

Vice Chair

Helen Carr

Trustee

Cash Flow Statement Accounts Ending 31st March 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Net cash (used in) / provided by operating activities	16	**(240,917)**	**(91,371)**
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:			
Interest received		27,711	9,647
Purchase of Tangible Fixed Assets		(1,248)	(864
Net cash provided by investing activities		**26,463**	**8,783**
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(214,454)	(82,588)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		790,452	873,040
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		**575,998**	**790,452**

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ending 31st March 2024

1. Accounting Policies

a) Basis of Preparation

RISE is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Community Base, 113 Queens Road, Brighton, BN1 3XG.

The charity has no share capital. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the charity.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with "Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 01 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006. The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 12.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

The accounts have been prepared under historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

b) Going Concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The trustees have considered relevant information, including the annual budget, forecast future cash flows and the impact of subsequent events in making their assessment.

Although the entity stayed well within its three year plan to 2024-25 to use unrestricted reserves for delivering the core services of helpline, casework and family work, the decision was made by the Board of Trustees in March 2024 to restructure the entity to secure its financial future. This was driven by knowledge of the National Lottery funding finishing in Autumn 2024 and significant cuts to Local Authority funding from March 2025. The restructure, which focussed on reducing management costs and overheads, was fully in effect from 1 October 2024. In addition to this, since the end of the year there have been positive outcomes from fundraising bids providing sizeable new funding streams over a 2 to 3 year period.

Based on these assessments and having regard to the resources available to the entity, the trustees have concluded that there is no material uncertainty in relation to the appropriateness of continuing to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and financial statements.

c) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation.

Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful life at the following rate:

Fixtures and fittings 20% straight line basis per annum

Purchase of tangible fixed assets to a value of less than £500 are not capitalized.

d) Donations

Donations are accounted for on a received basis and are grossed up for any income tax recoverable. Donated items are accounted for when received and are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value.

e) Grants receivable

Grants received are treated in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting Reporting by Charities". Grant income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that the income will be received. In the event that a grant is subject to the fulfilment of performance conditions before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

f) Legacies

Pecuniary legacies are recognised as receivable once probate has been granted and notification has been received. Residuary legacies are recognised as receivable once probate has been granted, provided that sufficient information has been received to enable valuation of the Charity's entitlement. Amounts receivable are included at 90% of their valuation to reflect uncertainty inherent in the administration of estates. Residuary legacies are subject to further reduction to reflect the impact on the valuation of unrealised estate assets of subsequent adverse movements in property and investment markets. Reversionary interests involving a life tenant are not recognised due to the intrinsic uncertainties in valuing them.

g) Trustees

All the trustees donate their time spent running the charity on a voluntary basis and do not receive any remuneration. Indemnity Insurance is provided for the trustees.

h) Allocation of expenditure

Resources are analysed as follows:

Costs of generating funds includes fundraising and publicity costs as well as a proportion of salaries and staff costs based on allocation of staff time spent raising and funding applications.

Charitable activities expenditure includes the direct running costs of the charity's projects together with the support costs incurred that enable these activities to be undertaken.

Governance costs relate to statutory costs in connection with the general running of the charity, such as audit fees, AGM and trustee expenses and legal and professional fees. They also include an allocation of staff salaries.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

i) Taxation

The charitable company is registered as a charity and is exempt from taxation (except for Value Added Tax) on its income and capital gains applied for charitable purposes.

j) Employee Benefits

The charity operates a defined contribution group personal pension scheme, which is available to all employees. The amount charged against expenditure represents the contributions payable to the scheme in respect of the year.

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the company is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

k) Leasing

Rental charges are charged on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

l) Fund Accounting

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

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with a specific purpose, as explained in note 15.

m) Designated Funds

Designated funds are set up in order to put aside funds for future large expenditure. As laid out in the reserves policy, a designated fund for building maintenance is defined.

Any transfers from general to designated reserves is agreed by the Board of Trustees and minuted. The reserves policy is to be reviewed every two years.

n) Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial 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.

2. Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

There are not considered to be any critical accounting estimates or judgements.

3. Net Incoming Resources

Net incoming resources for the year are stated after charging:

	2024 £	2023 £
Auditors' remuneration - audit services	12,550	7,980
Operating lease payments	24,401	23,536

4. Voluntary Income

	2024	2023
CORE GRANTS, DONATIONS AND LEGACIES	£	£
Major donors	111,073	61,035
Unrestricted donations	39,466	64,842
Legacies	8,719	1,751
Gift Aid	18,542	6,322
	177,800	133,950
OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES		
Training and student fees income	6,720	2,900
Membership	90	70
Fundraising Events		
Race income	41,089	25,747
Collections and events	20,774	11,525
	68,673	40,242
TOTAL VOLUNTARY INCOME	246,473	174,192

5. Expenditure on Raising Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Fund	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Salaries and staff costs	46,004	-	-	46,004	62,666
Fundraising	29,951	-	-	29,951	29,711
Support costs and overheads	21,742	-	-	21,742	17,593
TOTAL	97,698	-	-	97,698	110,030

6. Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Staff Costs	Direct Service Costs	Support and Governance Costs	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Residential Casework/ group work	459,013	129,311	317,403	905,727	781,671
Therapeutic	154,594	27,109	85,797	267,500	249,935
TOTAL	613,607	156,420	403,200	1,173,227	1,031,606

7. Analysis of Support and Governance Costs

	Support	Governance	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Salaries and staff costs	284,860	11,588	296,448	272,059
Audit and accountancy fees	-	12,550	12,550	7,980
Management Committee and AGM	-	608	608	578
Support overheads	93,595	-	93,595	94,122
TOTAL	378,454	24,746	403,200	374,739

8. Employees and Trustees

During the year there were no reimbursements to trustees (2023: £NIL).

There was no remuneration paid to any of the trustees or any persons connected to them.

	2024	2023
Salary costs:	£	£
Wages and salaries	863,653	786,325
Social security costs	70,701	63,569
Pensions - Employer contribution	21,705	18,690
	956,059	868,584

No employee earned at a rate of greater than £60,000 per annum.

Key management personnel remuneration:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Senior Managers	159,912	161,191

The average number of employees, analysed by function, was:

	2024	2023
Raising funds	3	3
Charitable activities	27	27
Management and administration of the charity	6	6
	36	36

9. Related Party Transactions

There were no related party transactions in the period.

The aggregate donations received from trustees during the period was £190 (2023: £90).

10. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment
COST	**£**
At 1 April 2023	39,676
Additions	1,248
At 31 March 2024	40,924
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 April 2023	29,522
Charge for year	5,154
At 31 March 2024	34,676
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2023	10,154
At 31 March 2024	6,248

11. Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade debtors	63,804	34,664
Prepayments	20,776	19,962
Accrued income	18,131	6,958
	102,711	61,584

12. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	30,287	25,152
Deferred income	8,417	26,606
Accruals	15,859	11,312
Accrued annual leave	3,851	5,229
Taxation/pensions	23,138	17,967
	81,552	86,266

13. Pensions

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme.

Contributions made by the company amounted to £21,705 (2023: £18,690) and there were contributions of £4,141 owing at the end of the year (2023: £NIL).

14. Operating Lease Commitments

The following operating lease payments are committed to be paid:

Land and buildings		2024 £	2023 £
Expiring:	Within one year	12,665	12,665
	In two to five years	1,333	3,000
		13,998	15,665

15. Funds

ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Tangible Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds	-	256,401	256,401	346,570
General funds	6,248	330,756	337,004	419,354
Designated Funds	-	10,000	10,000	10,000
	6,248	597,157	603,405	775,924

RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance at 31/03/2023	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers between funds	Balance at 31/03/2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Children In Need	10,043	9,869	17,671	-	2,241
ICB (Sussex Integrated Care Board)	53,677	104,014	141,079	-	16,612
NHS via OPCC	15,364	-	15,107	-	257
BHCC Housing IDVA	17,026	40,000	52,328	-	4,698
BHCC Third Sector Investment Programme	-	50,000	51,486	1,486	-
Dodgson Foundation	1,266	5,000	3,923	-	2,343
Ernest Hecht Charitable Trust	4,101	-	3,505	-	596
MHCLG Wellbeing & LGBT Refuge	7,049	99,963	99,649	-	7,363
National Lottery Community Fund	124,446	269,864	287,496	-	106,814
OPCC Safe Space	1,610	20,000	19,623	-	1,986
Volant Trust	16,126	-	15,513	-	613
BHCC Sanctuary Scheme and Floating Support	75,474	130,000	110,232	-	95,242
Ministry of Justice via OPCC	17,110	33,869	48,928	-	2,050
BHCC Changing Futures	871	26,966	23,039	-	4,798
Surviving Economic Abuse	-	6,000	3,217	-	2,783
BHCC Children & Young People Community Programme	2,407	21,879	16,283	-	8,004
Total Restricted Funds	346,570	817,423	909,078	1,486	256,401

RESTRICTED FUNDS 2022-23 FOR COMPARISON

	Balance at 31/03/2022	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers between funds	Balance at 31/03/2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Children In Need	10,825	38,105	38,887	-	10,043
ICB (Sussex Integrated Care Board)	46,063	114,100	106,486	-	53,677
National Foundation for Youth Music	-	2,678	2,678	-	-
NHS via OPCC	-	72,767	57,403	-	15,364
BHCC Housing IDVA	13,342	35,000	49,085	17,769	17,026
BHCC Third Sector Investment Programme	-	50,000	50,000	-	-
Charles Hayward	6,812	8,333	15,145	-	-
Dodgson Foundation	-	3,050	1,784	-	1,266
Ernest Hecht Charitable Trust	24,851	-	20,750	-	4,101
MHCLG / DLUHC Wellbeing & LGBT Refuge	15,159	99,962	90,303	17,769	7,049
National Lottery Community Fund	64,526	265,161	205,241	-	124,446
OPCC Safe Space	537	20,000	18,927	-	1,610
Rosa Fund: Women Thrive	34,947	-	34,947	-	-
Volant Trust	39,947	-	23,821	-	16,126
BHCC Sanctuary Scheme & Floating Support		130,000	54,526	-	75,474
Ministry of Justice via OPCC	-	40,495	23,385	-	17,110
BHCC Changing Futures		2,247	1,376	-	871
Asda Small Grant	-	1,300	1,300	-	-
Another Way Women's Foundation	-	1,284	1,284	-	-
Arnold Clark Community Grant	-	1,000	1,000	-	-
BHCC Children & Young People Community Programme	-	3,452	1,045	-	2,407
Total Restricted Funds	257,009	888,934	799,373	-	346,570

DESIGNATED FUNDS

	Balance at 31/03/2023	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers between Funds	Balance at 31/03/2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Buildings maintenance	10,000		-	-	10,000
Total Designated Funds	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
Total Unrestricted Funds	419,354	280,983	361,847	(1,486)	337,004
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	775,924	1,098,406	1,270,925	(1,486)	603,405

RESTRICTED FUNDS - PROVIDER AND PURPOSE

Provider	Purpose
Asda Small Grant	Art and Wellbeing therapy group
Another Way Women's Foundation	Art and Wellbeing therapy group
Brighton & Hove City Council	Sanctuary Scheme and Floating Support
Brighton & Hove City Council	Housing IDVA (Independent Violence Advisor)
BHCC Children & Young People Community Programme	CYP Rising Stars groups
BHCC Changing Futures	DV support to people with Multiple Disadvantages
BHCC Third Sector Investment Programme	Children and Young People Service
Charles Hayward	Family Cour Advocacy
Children In Need	Children's worker
Department of Levelling Up Housing and Communities via BHCC	Continuation of LGBT+ Refuge and Wellbeing service
Dodgson Foundation	Older person support
Ernest Hecht Charitable Trust	Housing Support

ICB (Sussex Integrated Care Board)	Family, Children and Young People's Service
MHCLG Wellbeing & LGBT Refuge	Support LGBT+ victims of domestic abuse
Ministry of Justice via Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner and ESCC	Specialist LGBT+ Therapist and Wellbeing service
National Lottery – Community Fund	Community engagement and development
National Foundation for Youth Music	Music therapy for young people
NHS via the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner and ESCC	Uplift to sexual violence support services during Covid-19 pandemic.
Office of the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner	Safe Space Sussex, Regroup, and Economic Abuse workers
Rosa Fund: Women Thrive	BME Specialist support
Surviving Economic Abuse	Secondment of worker
Volant Trust	Helpline and Casework

DESIGNATED FUNDS - PURPOSE

Building Maintenance	The £10,000 designated funds relates to building maintenance for the Marina Box premises only, which is used for the therapy team.

16. Notes to the Cash Flow Statement

Reconciliation of Net Movement in Funds to Net Cash Flow from Operating Activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Net surplus (deficit)	(172,519)	(61,418)
Depreciation charges	5,154	4,904
Interest	(27,711)	(9,647)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(41,127)	(34,879)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(4,714)	9,669
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(240,917)	(91,371)

Analysis of changes in net funds

	At 1 April 2023 £	Cash flows £	At 31 March 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	790,452	(214,454)	575,998
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	790,452	(214,454)	579,998

17. Subsequent events

As at 30 September 2024, the charity made 5 redundancies in order to preserve the future of the charity. The redundancies amounted to £23,813.

Rise

freedom from abuse & violence

RISE
Community Base,
113 Queens Road,
Brighton,
BN1 3XG

Helpline 01273 622 822
www.riseuk.org.uk
@riseuk
RiseUK

R.I.S.E. (REFUGE, INFORMATION, SUPPORT AND EDUCATION)

England & Wales - Charity number 1065846

Accounts

freedom from abuse & violence

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

31st March 2023

R.I.S.E. (Refuge, Information, Support and Education) is a registered charity (No. 1065846)
R.I.S.E. (Refuge, Information, Support and Education) is a Company Limited by Guarantee registered in England No. 3425008.

RISE, Community Base, 113 Queens Road, Brighton, BN1 3XG



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Contents and Administrative Information

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER	1065846	COMPANY NUMBER	03425008

REGISTERED OFFICE	Community Base 113 Queens Road Brighton BN1 3XG

TRUSTEES	Kim Turnbull James	Chair
	Patricia Wass	Chair Resigned 11th June 2022
	Angie Uglow	Treasurer
	Jean Spray	Resigned 11th June 2022
	Jeanette Ashton	Resigned 10th December 2022
	Piyali Mendiratta	Resigned 9th September 2023
	Dani Ahrens	Appointed 11th June 2022
	Catherine Barker	Appointed 11th June 2022
	Helen Carr	Appointed 11th June 2022
	Louise Leonard	Appointed 11th June 2022
	Chris Magill	Appointed 11th June 2022
	Isobel Montgomery	Appointed 11th June 2022
	Viktorija Zdanoviciute	Appointed 11th June 2022
	Isobel Montgomery	Appointed 11th June 2022
	Kate Goddard	Appointed 17th June 2023
	Alison Simmonds	Appointed 17th June 2023

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	Jo Gough	SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM	Kate Dale Azaria Munro Alison Gray

BANKERS	Santander Bootle Merseyside L30 4GB	CAF 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ

REGISTERED AUDITORS	Carpenter Box Amelia House Crescent Road Worthing West Sussex BN11 1RL	SOLICITORS	Fitzhugh Gates 3 Pavilion Parade Brighton BN2 1RY

TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023

RISE Board of Trustees are pleased to present their annual trustees' report, together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31st March 2023. These are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies House.

Significant Activities and Project Areas

History and Charitable Purpose

RISE was established in 1994 as The Women's Refuge Project and renamed in 2008 to reflect its growth in provision of services. We deliver:

- A specialist Housing Team providing crisis and resettlement support in Brighton & Hove, community outreach and a Sanctuary (household security) service.
- A Helpline providing access to services, support and advice by phone and email, and online self-directed learning.
- Crisis support and casework, including specialist Family and Civil Courts advocacy.
- Specialist support for mothers, children and young people, including family work, 1:1 support for mothers, groups for mothers, and recovery groups and therapeutic support for children and young people.
- Longer term recovery and social support in the community, including drop-in sessions, adult therapy, our own Recovery and Empowerment group programmes and Wellbeing groups that help people to recover from the effects of domestic abuse, including a Women of Colour Wellbeing Group.
- Embedded and assertive outreach support in universal as well as specialist services alongside partners in police, housing, substance misuse and homelessness services.
- LGBT dispersed refuge and community services including strong links with other LGBT support locally and nationally.
- Training and consultancy services to statutory, voluntary and private sector partners and customers.

RISE has grown from focusing on refuge accommodation in its early days to delivering responsive wrap around services that support survivors from crisis and early intervention, through to recovery and onwards into safe and healthy futures. Alongside this we work to prevent domestic violence and abuse (DVA) in new generations through education and awareness with children, young people, their families and other professionals involved in their support.

R.I.S.E. stands for Refuge, Information, Support and Education.

Our vision is: ‘Freedom from Abuse and Violence’.

We are a feminist, women-led and centred domestic violence and abuse charity that has worked for almost 30 years to end all forms of violence and abuse against women, children and LGBT+ people.

RISE offers strength-based, trauma-informed services and is committed to providing accessible, fair, and safe services to survivors of violence and abuse, including women of all ages, children, young people, trans and non-binary people, lesbians and bisexual women, gay and bisexual men, black and minoritised women, women with religious affiliations or none, disabled women and other minoritised women.

RISE is a key partner in the local Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG), Domestic and Sexual Violence Strategy in Brighton and Hove and across Sussex, playing a key role in providing expertise, guidance, and response to emerging needs. We receive various grants from government (local and national), charitable trusts such as National Lottery, Children in Need and smaller local or specialist trusts as well as a contract from the local Integrated Care Board (formerly Clinical Commissioning Group - NHS) for delivering therapy services as part of a Trauma Pathway.

The organisation is an established specialist partner in the VAWG and Domestic Violence care pathway in the city, providing a first point of contact to survivors, initial assessment, and onward referral to the appropriate internal or external support service to meet their needs.

Public Benefit

The Trustees have had due regard for the guidance on the public benefit requirement published by the Charities Commission, as required by the Charities Act 2011.

General Financial Position

The operating results for the year ended 31st March 2023 show that RISE has maintained financial stability and has achieved results consistent with the previous year and our financial plan. In the year to 31st March 2023, RISE achieved income of £1,080,218 (2022: £1,146,511), while total expenditure was £1,141,636 (2022: 1,038,499). This gave rise to a deficit of £61,418 (2022: surplus £108,012).

In 2022-23 there was an in-year surplus on restricted income less expenditure of £89,561 (2022: surplus £124,714). At the same time, general income less expenditure produced an in-year deficit of £150,979 (2022: deficit £16,702). This resulted in a

reduction in our unrestricted reserves in line with our plan to use unrestricted reserves to support our core services while seeking more sustainable funding.

The closing year balance on reserves show a decrease to £775,924 (2022: £837,342) of which £419,354 (2022: £570,333) is held as general unrestricted reserves, £10,000 (2022: £10,000) as designated reserves and £346,570 (2022: £257,009) as restricted reserves.

The fundraising team have had a difficult year and have not achieved the income target set, mainly due to the very tough economic conditions nationally. We were able to make savings within the core and central budgets to mitigate this shortfall, so the in-year reduction in unrestricted reserves of £150,979 was in line with our budgeted unrestricted deficit of £149,735. RISE remains in a strong position to maintain stability while rebuilding and seeking new funding for our services. We were grateful to receive a substantial donation from the Musk Burton Family Trust and are pleased to have secured a promise of an equal amount from them for the next five years which will help us through this period. Our flagship 8k run for women was back on track in October 2022 after the hiatus during the COVID-19 pandemic and met the income target of £25k.

The sector continues to experience a challenging economic environment, and there is strong competition from the third sector for available funding. However we have been successful in securing a continuation of the funding from the local authority (via New Burdens) for the LGBT dispersed refuge and refuge in-reach provision; continued funding from the Integrated Care Board (previously the Clinical Commissioning Group) for funding towards the cost of our therapy team; continued funding for our housing team including Sanctuary Scheme and Floating Support, as well as funding for a Housing IDVA (Independent Domestic Violence Advisor) from the local authority (via New Burdens). As well as this continued funding we have successfully secured new grants from the Ministry of Justice for a specialist LGBT therapist and wellbeing provision; the Brighton and Hove City Council Community Support programme for Children and Young People (via New Burdens), and from Changing Lives (via New Burdens) to support people with Multiple Complex Disadvantages.

Key Strategic Aims

2022-23 was the charity's 28th year in operation, and the 4th year of our five-year strategic plan.

Our key strategic aims are:

1) **Excellence:** RISE will be a centre of excellence for domestic violence and abuse knowledge and expertise, building on existing knowledge and creating a new

evidence basis for our work and achieving recognised quality standards appropriate to our work and sector.

2) **Community Focused:** RISE will broaden our reach, take a community approach and increase our role in a community response to domestic violence and abuse by collaborating with professional partners, communities of interest and working in neighbourhoods to make sure DVA is everyone's business.
3) **Voice & Leadership:** RISE will be a recognised leading voice on domestic abuse and violence in the context of VAWG and come alongside survivors to amplify their voices to inform provision and bring social change.
4) **Secure, Sustainable and Future-Proofed:** RISE will diversify and grow income streams to decrease reliance on public funds; commit to good governance principles and practice including robust management of risk; exploit new technology for service delivery, to improve accessibility and modernise our service offer.

Key achievements during the year

RISE started the year with a successful Big Give – Women and Girls income generation campaign bringing in just over £23k - £21,470 plus £1,922 Gift Aid.

This campaign using The Big Give platform with match funds provided by DCMS Tampon Tax Fund helped RISE provide women-centred counselling sessions, assertive outreach, recovery groups and peer support helping them through their recovery journey to be safer, more confident and able to thrive.



Two of our major donors supported this campaign alongside 107 local supporters with 13 donors giving over £100.

In October 2022 we brought back our flagship event the RISE 8K Run for Women - 200 runners raised £25k. This was both a celebration of a return to events after Covid-19 restrictions and of the continuing support for RISE in our local community.

At the end of this year, we were delighted to be a founding charity partner of Community Wills Sussex, a brand-new community initiative, open to over-55s in Sussex, who would like to leave a legacy gift to us, or one of three other charities. Time Britton solicitors led the legal side of the scheme providing an opportunity to leave a lasting impact for people affected by domestic abuse that we support, by including of a legacy gift from you to us in your will.

We set a high target (£310,000) for fundraising in 2022-23 which was not met. A smaller fundraising team that had gaps in posts throughout the year has made some significant progress in establishing new funding streams including corporate giving, crowd funding and legacies but has been less successful in retaining some of the significant successes in the previous two years.

This was the second year after the loss of a large contract leaving RISE much smaller but with a continued commitment to our charitable objectives - supporting women, children and LGBT people who have been affected by domestic abuse and violence, making a difference to their lives.

During this period until the year end 31st March 2023 our Board of Trustees and management team concentrated on ensuring the sustainability and growth of the charity building on our strong community connections and specialist expertise.

The decision by Council, PCC and Health Commissioners two years ago has led to continued community support for our much-needed services. Survivors and local residents continued to campaign for this decision to be reversed and a council working group concluded that there were errors in the process which would be rectified for future commissions.

After our strategy day in March 2022, we identified activity for the year which included ‘business as usual’ as well as three strands of activity to change culture and to aspire to better fulfil our charitable aims including:

1) Initiatives/projects /aspirations:

- Fundraising: building a new team and focussing on new corporate partnerships as well as planning activity for the year ahead
- Client services: therapy services moving from periphery to central; focus on specialisms such as BAME; more preventative work with young people/ older women drop in; more (saleable) online materials for self-help/training; capacity building (outside of) Communities Rising; community hubs; helpline; podcast
- Refuge and housing: developing new offers for Refuge and safe Housing.

2) How we want to work together to achieve them:

- Review values and built-in assumptions about our approach: trauma informed; client focussed; intersectionality as an important aspect of our work; self-health care and well-being for all staff.

3) Processes for achieving our aims:

- Management practice: collaborating across teams and externally; keeping different parts of RISE together and connected; streamlining processes; listening; sharing expertise; allowing more room for creativity; getting the balance right between online and in person.

At the end of March 2021 RISE had 66 staff in post amounting to almost 46 full-time equivalents. By the end of March 2023, we had 37 staff representing just over 24 full-time equivalents, which is a decrease of around 50%.The loss of a large contract through a competitive tender in 2021 has continued to impact on key activity making it difficult to secure suitable premise or provide job-security for staff – this has been the focus of the leadership team and Board for the 2022-23 year of operation and remains a key lever for 2023-24.

Our second year after losing the large contract saw an increase in referrals and clients in service in comparison to the previous year. 781 adult and 210 children and young people were referred to RISE in this period leading to 1,156 adults and 201 children and young people being helped over the year. In addition, 359 short term work logs were completed of which 54% were from professionals and 29% from survivors.

Overall, we supported 1,357 people in 2022-23 a 40% increase on the previous year. Of the adult clients about 50% have on average 2 children each and 23% of our adult clients are disabled.

Last year (2021-22) we supported 828 adults and 141 children across our services. This is a total of 969 and a 43% increase to our work with children.

For those 369 adult clients exiting RISE services in 2022-23, where we have outcome data:

- 200 did not reconcile with perpetrator.
- 90 saw a cessation or reduction in physical abuse.
- 124 saw a cessation or reduction in emotional/psychological abuse
- 209 recorded risk posed to client improved.
- 205 clients' perception of own safety improved.

In this year there were considerable changes in legislation and policy that impacted our work positively.

The Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence - also known as the Istanbul Convention, after the city where the first signatures were made - came into force in the United Kingdom on the 1st November 2022.

Following the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 being passed the Government presented its Domestic Abuse Plan. Domestic abuse has now been recognised as a form of violence against women and girls, and the plan focuses on preventing as well as responding to domestic abuse. A commitment to addressing structural inequality and sex stereotypes is welcomed although we are still unclear on how this will be achieved in the long-term given the minimal funding available.

RISE is cautiously hopeful that the plan recognises that domestic abuse is not solely a criminal justice issue but also one that affects all aspects of life including housing, health, family justice, education, employment and financial stability. After wider campaigning from the women's sector the plan now rightly sits under the wider Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy, with a separate plan for men.

The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 recognises children as victims of domestic violence instead of witnesses which aligns with RISE practice to working with children.

The long-awaited Domestic Abuse Register has been met with some mixed feelings. Whilst this puts offenders of domestic abuse on the same footing as those committing sexual offenses we know the life-changing impacts women face when coming forward to report abuse. Together with shockingly low charging, prosecution and conviction rates any form of register could offer women false reassurances.

Following the Act, the NHS has established a public health approach to domestic abuse which has more recently led to the Chief Delivery Officer, Steve Russell at NHS England sending a letter to all Integrated Care Boards (ICBs), asking them to appoint a new Domestic Abuse and Violence lead at the executive level. This letter represents a significant milestone in the tireless advocacy of the VAWG sector. The sector has campaigned relentlessly for years to raise awareness and prioritise domestic abuse as a public health issue. There are potentials for huge cost-savings to public services if this becomes a reality with Women's Aid's latest research with ResPublica calculating that domestic abuse costs the health service a staggering £2.7 billion per year.

Violence against women and girls has this year been recognised as a strategic policing threat demonstrating the scale of change required – from the training and skills officers need to investigations and protections for women, and of course the glaring issues of sexism, racism and other forms of discrimination within policing. Following the Baroness Casey of Blackstock's conclusions about the current misconduct system in the Metropolitan Police Service (the Met) as set out in her letter of 17th October 2022 to the

Met Commissioner and final report in March 2023 it was found that there were severe institutional failings across the organisation that will require radical reform to resolve. One significant change required was to better protect women and children with a dedicated women's protection service; introducing a new children's strategy; and re-instating sexual and domestic abuse services as specialist functions. The pressing issue of tackling police perpetrators of violence against women and girls, and the severe problems with vetting and monitoring officers, are an urgent priority for improving trust and confidence. RISE has continued to work with local police - challenging and proactively supporting positive change.

The new national Domestic Abuse Commissioner published her mapping data showing what survivors want and what they get. This is presented for each police area or regionally. Accessing help - Domestic Abuse Commissioner . The findings chime with our insight and reflect our priorities. She made 26 key recommendations following her 'A Patchwork of Provision' - Domestic Abuse Commissioner Report. RISE has utilised this important data to demonstrate gaps in service and raise new funds.

With the above backdrop Brighton and Hove City Council (BHCC) have been notified by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) that the city council has been awarded two further years New Burdens Funding to support local implementation of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021. The funding has been set at £620,128 for 2023-24 and £631,828 for 2024-25. The decision-making on allocation of these funds took longer than expected but eventually RISE was awarded continuation funding for our LGBT+ Dispersed Refuge, Wellbeing service and a new Housing Independent Domestic Violence Advocate project through this route.

RISE continued to communicate our plan for establishing new self-funded refuge provision in Brighton and Hove to address gaps in service to meet the local need. We also continued to raise our concerns about the non-specialist nature of commissioning locally to national government through our membership of Women's Aid including joining a round-table event with the Minister for Safeguarding to review the guidance to the DA Strategy and contributed to the VAWG commissioning update.

Towards the end of the year RISE established a partnership with Surviving Economic Abuse (SEA) Surviving Economic Abuse: Transforming responses to economic abuse as one of three pilot areas to test a partnership approach to tackling economic abuse. We have agreed with SEA to make a further joint bid to Aviva in October 2023 for staffing to develop the above project.

Communities Rising (Lottery – Community Fund): Our National Lottery-funded Communities Rising project entered its second year working with marginalised women (older, disabled and multiple disadvantaged women), black and minoritised women. It is

building on survivor strengths to create a coordinated community response to domestic abuse.

A new Ambassadors programme and greater survivor leadership through the 'Change maker' role has been added and once again Dodgson Trust has supplemented this project helping to support a drop-in for older and disabled women. We relaunched our Community Connector and Research projects bringing survivors to the core of our work, as well as a new role working with women experiencing multiple disadvantage linking Communities Rising with a Sussex-wide 'Changing Futures' programme. Our 'Women Rooted' project started this year taking an 'eco-feminist' therapeutic approach. The Women of Colour Wellbeing group that began under Rosa funding continued this year.

RISE Therapy Service: Throughout the previous year NHS England-funded projects brought extra capacity to our therapy team with a focus on reaching women experiencing sexual abuse in the context of domestic abuse. A 1-year extension was secured allowing additional capacity at a crucial time. Our longstanding funding from the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) for the Trauma Pathway was increased this year through surplus funding which helped to reduce the waiting list and provide new groups. This funding continues to be on a short-term basis despite having seven-years track record of delivering the 'Trauma Pathway' in partnership. The Trauma Pathway waiting list had to close to new referrals this year as it reached 2.5 years for adults. This contract is now under review and due to be re-commissioned in 2024.

A new LGBT Counselling service started this year, and we continue to provide wellbeing support as in-reach to Brighton Refuge which provides a wide range of support to resident women and children including a mixture of creative, therapeutic, outdoor, group and 1:1, music therapy. RISE also provide professional support to Stonewater (the Refuge Provider) staff and managers through operational meetings.

The Family Team: The team continues to deliver bespoke 'Rising Stars' programmes to children and their mothers to aid safety, recovery and healthy relationships now funded by the local authority as well as Children in Need. High levels of demand from professionals for support as significant safeguarding issues were managed by the lead for this team and training provided to Health Visitors, Social Workers and School Educational Psychologists. Children in Need funding has now ended, so we have been bidding for new funds to protect these roles.

Our Family and Civil Court Advocate supported complex cases through civil and family processes following changes in law whilst also providing training to magistrates and law students to bring about culture change. This post is currently funded by RISE reserves while we continue to actively seek alternative, sustainable funding.

Helpline, Advocacy and Groups: The helpline and case work team remains a vital source of first contact and support for survivors working with partners and actively bridging the gaps between the now myriad services provided locally. A new coffee morning has been established and our recovery group - ReGroup - continues to run successfully online alongside well-being and support programmes that survivors can work through independently. New volunteers were inducted and supported this year to expand the service.

Safe Homes: In this year we expanded our independent housing advocacy support to include floating support and a £40k sanctuary scheme which created a housing support service. This embeds in the council housing team and builds bridges with Refuge and other housing providers to uphold the statutory rights of survivors. We have developed a referral and triage service in order to link with Housing IDVA (crisis work); Outreach support – a combination of support around DVA and housing survivors in any housing situation; and Sanctuary Scheme i.e. security measures to enable survivors to stay in their homes. The LGBT Dispersed Refuge (Formerly MHCLG now New Burdens) continues to work with Southdown Housing to source new lets and provides community-based LGBT specialist support.

Quality Assurance: This year we are aiming to complete our Women's Aid Quality Standards with first submission in March 2023. We have begun to review other quality standards to further establish our 'trauma informed' approach.

Property Development – A RISE Refuge: The Board received the business case at its September 2022 meeting and agreed to receive a full business plan making recommendations for progressing the purchase of a self-funded Refuge based on best practice examples including financial modelling.

Equality and Diversity: Our equality and diversity work this year has focused on establishing our approach to single-sex services and providing access to services for all our key beneficiaries in the context of gender self-identification. After a consultation an internal working group established an approach including thorough equality impact assessment and seeking preferences from those accessing our services. This has also included a better understanding of key legislation and training for staff on 'Managing Difference'. We reviewed our Equalities and Diversity Policy to better reflect our approach to single sex and self-ID into services and developed staff confidence in communicating our message as well as ensuring each service is assessed and then eligibility is appropriately communicated.

Alongside the above we have also stepped up our commitment to anti-racism in line with the Ending Racism in VAWG commitments: https://www.endingracisminvawg.org/ . We have updated our recruitment policy and changed our adverts and pack to better reflect this. We identified anti-racism (race as a protected characteristic) as our key equality

priority and our CEO completed intensive anti-racism training for white leaders as well as agreeing an in-year budget increase to deliver unconscious bias and anti-racism training for staff.

RISE is a 'Disability Confident Employer' and has been working to expand our support to our disabled staff through Access to Work and flexible policies. On the ground we are also working with key disabled people organisations and groups for example Speak Out, a self-advocacy group for people with learning disabilities, to establish our working relationship and look for further opportunities for partnership. We are continuing to build opportunities for disabled survivors to be influential at RISE and in 2022 supported a visually impaired survivor to share her story with a funder and at a public event.

Plans for the Future

- 30th RISE and 50th Brighton Women's Aid Anniversary celebration in 2024.
- New Strategic plan & theory of change for 2024/29.
- Survivor involvement established in all levels of RISE.
- Women's Aid Quality Standards completed, and Trauma Award achieved.
- Advance our partnership development in fundraising and operational delivery.
- RISE self-funded refuge property development in progress.

Staffing and Governance Structure

There have been some changes to the RISE Leadership Team (RLT) including the loss of two managers and the restructuring of the F&C team as well as the Central services team to create a new manager role with survivor involvement lead and a new Head of Partnership Development. The RLT is made up of all managers and oversees the strategic plan and the operation of RISE services.

We have refreshed our governance and recruited two more new Board members with finance skills to fill identified skill and representation gaps.

We are continuing with the development of a stronger structure for survivor involvement and have developed an Expert by Experience volunteer role along with our 'Get Ready for Volunteering' assessment process this will enable a safe and supportive expansion of opportunities for survivors to engage more fully in RISE. A new survivor panel and new leadership role for survivor involvement will enable our strong commitment to survivor involvement to manifest in our structures.

We want to thank our Board and Subgroup members, in particular those who stood down this year (Jeanette Ashton) for bringing their expertise to RISE and helping us successfully steer through the challenges of the year.

COVID-19 impact and response.

Most roles at RISE are now hybrid allowing some homeworking and some office working with occasional meetings that are routinely face to face. We have now moved to a smaller office and adopted flexible working so staff can split their time between home and office.

There are fewer cases of COVID-19 affecting delivery but still a small number of absences. The pandemic forced us to transition to remote working and some practices, such as online meetings have become part of our new working style. It has also had a positive impact on the ways we deliver some of our services to survivors as we are now able to offer a combination of in-person and online support options, which has improved our accessibility.

Lockdown inevitably saw an increase in demand for support for women suffering from the effects of domestic abuse. The number of calls to the helpline increased and has remained high. Recognising the increase in the need for support for women around sexual violence, we secured funding from NHS England to increase the capacity in the therapy team, which extended to March 2023. Despite this additional funding, waiting times for our therapy service continue to grow.

Having been unable to put on our challenge events due to the pandemic restrictions, we ran our signature 8k event with restricted numbers in September 2021, and were back to capacity in September 2022. This was very successful and met our income target of £25k.

Fundraising

RISE receives voluntary donations and gifts from individual and corporate donors. As a member of the Institute of Fundraising, we adhere to their guidelines in our fundraising activity as well as following the Charity Commission advice on best practice. We have an Ethical Fundraising policy to ensure clarity and openness to all our stakeholders. All personal data is processed in line with the General Data Protection Regulations and Data Protection Act 2018. RISE will only process data of supporters and donors if they have given opt-in consent.

RISE organise all our fundraising internally and do not engage third parties to seek donations from individuals. We are mindful of people's privacy and do not exert undue pressure on potential donors. Our preferred approach is that 'it is not about making people feel bad for not giving, it is about making people feel good for giving'. There have been no complaints about fundraising.

Reserves Policy

In accordance with the advice of the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales, we aim to hold unrestricted reserves at levels sufficient to ensure the long-term financial stability of the charity.

The areas highlighted to meet this requirement are wind up costs, unforeseen emergency, unforeseen running costs to include maternity and sickness, and designated funds for buildings maintenance and furniture renewal, and seed funding to initiate projects for expansion into new areas. The amounts held to cover each financial risk within the tiers are to be defined and reviewed every 2 years or more frequently if the charity's income or liabilities should change drastically.

Surplus unrestricted funding should be built into the annual budget where possible to build up the free reserves. As long as these are at the required level, these can be used to support the charitable aims of RISE at the discretion of the CEO and board of trustees. Free reserves should not be allowed to drop below 7% of turnover except in a wind-up situation.

Reserve Tiers

FINANCIAL RISKS	At March 2022	At March 2023	
WIND UP FUNDING			
Redundancy Payments	40,000	40,000	
Key Staff	30,000	30,000	Wind up costs - 3 months
Lease Commitments	17,665	15,665	Marina Box 2.5 years, Community Base 6 months
	87,665	**85,665**	
DESIGNATED FUNDS			
Buildings Maintenance	**10,000**	**10,000**	
UNFORESEEN EMERGENCY			
	10,000	**10,000**	
UNFORESEEN RUNNING COSTS			
Short term capacity issues in Central Services	5,000	5,000	
Disability support, sickness or maternity cover	10,000	10,000	Based on 12 weeks pay + 6 months SSP for a frontline worker
	15,000	**15,000**	
PLANNED COMMITMENT			
Use of reserves to support budget plans	163,000	155,000	To support deficit budget 2023-24
Free Reserve	294,668	153,689	Held to support deficit budget in 2024-25
	457,668	308,689	
GRAND TOTAL	**£580,333**	**£429,354**	

	2022	2023
General Reserve held at 31st March	**£570,333**	**£419,354**
Designated fund held at 31st March	**£10,000**	**£10,000**
	£580,333	**£429,354**
Restricted Reserve held at 31st March	**£257,009**	**£346,570**
Total Reserves	**£837,342**	**£775,924**

Structure, Governance and Management

Incorporation

RISE is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity. It was first registered as a charity on 9th May 1994, and then re-registered on 17th November 1997, having been incorporated as a company on 26th August 1997. On 28th October 2008, the company changed its name to R.I.S.E. (Refuge, Information, Support and Education). The charitable company is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association which were updated in July 2014.

RISE is governed by a board of trustees, whose principal responsibilities are the setting and monitoring of the strategic direction of the organisation and the establishment of policy. The trustees are also directors for the purposes of company law.

The board meets formally once every 3 months.

The board delegates the day-to-day operation of the organisation to the CEO who in turn delegates to managers.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees, who are also the directors of RISE for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view the trustees should:

1) follow best practice and select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
2) make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
3) state whether applicable United Kingdom accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
4) prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the company will continue its operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

We aim to have between 10 and 15 board members to ensure a quorum at meetings of 5. Recruitment is based on diversity of experience. We carry out regular skills audits to identify any existing or possible gaps in the knowledge and expertise on the Board, and to fill these gaps appropriately. Candidates for Board membership will be recruited either through recommendation as defined in RISE Articles of Association, or through open recruitment in line with our Governance Board Recruitment, Selection and Review Policy.

Trustee Induction and Training

All new board members are introduced to current board members, and receive an induction pack, which includes a Statement of Aims, and Management Committee Ground Rules. Visits to RISE Services and open mornings are coordinated when appropriate.
Free training is available for roles and responsibilities, and governance. The CEO is the permanent representative of the staff on the board and other senior staff members of RISE management team and the service teams attend board meetings where possible. All board members are required to attend board meetings, the annual strategic planning day, team building days, staff meetings and other social events with staff as coordinated. The board is undergoing on-going development and attend a number of governance training days throughout the year.

Trustee Working Groups

The board has set up specific sub-groups to undertake detailed work in the following areas, Income Generation, Human Resources and Equalities, Finance and Risk Management, Clinical Governance and Strategic Management.

Risk Management

The trustees review the major risks that the charity faces on a regular basis and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks. Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of policies and procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects, and to ensure consistent quality of delivery for all operational aspects of the charitable company. These procedures are periodically reviewed to

ensure that they still meet the needs of the charity. A working group consisting of staff and trustees has been set up to monitor risk and to review and prepare business recovery processes. There is a Business Continuity Plan for crisis management.
The key risks are:

1) Risk of death of a service user or client on waiting list due to restrictions in levels of service.
2) Risk of loss of key staff, to include staff burn out, sickness and loss due to restrictions in remuneration packages.
3) Risk of loss of key income streams and associated services reducing our needs-led and trauma-focused holistic service model.
4) Risk of fraud/theft of charity funds.
5) Risk of a health pandemic causing disruption to the service.

Auditors

Each of the trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditors are aware of such information.

A resolution proposing that Carpenter Box be reappointed as auditors of the company will be put to the members.

The trustees have paid due regard to the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

The trustees have complied with their duty under section 17(5) of the 2011 Charities Act to have due regard to guidance published by the charitable commission.

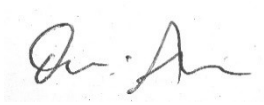
The trustees have prepared this report in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

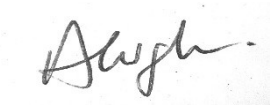
The trustees present their report for the year in compliance with the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

At the time of approving the accounts, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts. Going concern is considered further at note 1(a).

Approved by the trustees on 2nd December 2023
And signed on their behalf by

Dani Ahrens **Angie Uglow**





Vice Chair Treasurer

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of R.I.S.E. (Refuge, Information, Support and Education) for the year ended 31 March 2023

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of R.I.S.E. (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

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

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

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

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the trustees' report, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees, who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purpose of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company’s ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

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

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- Obtaining an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework in which the charitable company operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the financial statements and operations;
- Obtaining an understanding of the charitable company's policies and procedures on fraud risks, including knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;
- Discussing among the engagement team how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements, and any potential indicators of fraud through our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and our sector-specific experience.

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the charitable company for fraud. We are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override. As a result of performing the above, we identified the following areas as those most likely to have an impact on the financial statements: health & safety, employment law, compliance with the UK Companies Act and the Charities Act.

In addition to the above, our procedures to respond to risks identified included the following:

- Making enquiries of management about any known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of the Board and senior management;
- Assessment of matters recorded on the charitable company's incident reporting register;
- Reading correspondence with regulators;
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in their significant accounting estimates; and
- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness.

Due to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that some material misstatements in the financial statements may not be detected, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with the ISAs (UK). For instance, the further removed non-compliance is from the vents and transactions reflected in the

financial statements, the less likely the auditor is to become aware of it or to recognise the non-compliance.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

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

Robin Evans BA FCA CTA DChA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Carpenter Box
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor

Amelia House
Crescent Road
Worthing
West Sussex
BN11 1RL

Carpenter Box is a trading name of Carpenter Box Limited

Statements of Financial Activities Including Income and Expenditure Accounts 31st March 2023

	Notes	General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
		2023				2022			
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS									
Donations and Legacies	4	133,950			133,950	316,160			316,160
Other Trading Activities	4	40,242			40,242	38,878			38,878
Income from Investments		9,647			9,647	595			595
Incoming from charitable activities									
Residential, Casework and Group Work				657,988	657,988	7,608		598,659	606,267
Therapeutic		3,710		230,946	234,656	5,145		171,152	176,297
Other Incoming Resources		3,735			3,735	8,314			8,314
Total Income and Endowments		191,284		888,934	1,080,218	376,700		769,811	1,146,511
RESOURCES EXPENDED									
Expenditure on Raising Funds	5	110,030			110,030	113,006			113,006
Expenditure on Charitable Activities	6								
Residential, Casework and Group Work		173,157		608,514	781,671	208,891		490,524	699,415
Therapeutic		59,076		190,859	249,935	71,505		154,573	226,078
Sub-total		232,233		799,373	1,031,606	280,396		645,097	925,493
Total Expenditure		342,263		799,373	1,141,636	393,402		645,097	1,038,499

Net income/ (expenditure) for the year	**3**	(150,979)		89,561	(61,418)	(16,702)		124,714	108,012
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS									
Total funds brought forward		570,333	10,000	257,009	837,342	587,035	10,000	132,295	729,330
Total funds carried forward		419,354	10,000	346,570	775,924	570,333	10,000	257,009	837,342

The statement of financial activities has been prepared on the basis that all activities are continuing.

Balance Sheet at 31st March 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	10	10,154	14,194
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	11	61,584	26,705
Cash at bank and in hand		790,452	873,040
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		852,036	899,745
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	12	86,266	76,597
NET CURRENT ASSETS		765,770	823,148
NET ASSETS		775,924	837,342
ACCUMULATED FUNDS			
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	15	419,354	570,333
Designated funds	15	10,000	10,000
Restricted funds	15	346,570	257,009
		775,924	837,342

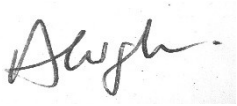
Approved by the trustees on 2nd December 2023

Dani Ahrens



Vice Chair

Angie Uglow



Treasurer

Cash Flow Statement Accounts Ending 31st March 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Net cash (used in) / provided by operating activities	16	**(91,371)**	**64,735**
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:			
Interest received		9,647	595
Purchase of Tangible Fixed Assets		(864)	-
Net cash provided by investing activities		**8,783**	**595**
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(82,588)	65,330
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		873,040	807,710
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		**790,452**	**873,040**

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ending 31st March 2023

1. Accounting Policies

a) Basis of Preparation

RISE is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Community Base, 113 Queens Road, Brighton, BN1 3XG.

The charity has no share capital. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the charity.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with "Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" issued on 16 July 2014, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006. The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 12.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

The accounts have been prepared under historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

Going Concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The trustees have considered relevant information, including the annual budget, forecast future cash flows and the impact of subsequent events in making their assessment. Following the loss of our VAWG commissioned contract in March 2021 we are now established as a smaller organisation with a restructured staff team, keeping a smaller central and management team, and moved to smaller offices practising flexible working to reduce costs. We had significant reserves, having benefited during 2020-21 from short term funding opportunities relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, and a good response from the community which boosted our fundraising. We were able to use these unrestricted reserves to put a 3-year budget plan in place which allows us to continue to provide our core services, which include Helpline and specialist case worker functions. In 2021-22 we did not need to use unrestricted reserves as planned, as we were successful in securing new funding, so we have extended the 3-year plan to 2024-25.

Statutory funding from the Local Authority for Housing, Children and Families support and LGBT+ support has been secured until March 2025. We also have our Therapy and Wellbeing teams which are funded by both local commissioners (health and police and crime commissioner), and trusts and funds. Our Communities Project which supports disadvantaged communities and survivors to build on their strengths and grow beyond their experiences has received continuation funding from The National Lottery.

Based on these assessments and having regard to the resources available to the entity, the trustees have concluded that there is no material uncertainty in relation to the

appropriateness of continuing to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and accounts.

b) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation.

Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful life at the following rate:

Fixtures and fittings 20% straight line basis per annum

Purchase of tangible fixed assets to a value of less than £500 are not capitalized.

c) Donations

Donations are accounted for on a received basis and are grossed up for any income tax recoverable. Donated items are accounted for when received and are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value.

d) Grants receivable

Grants received are treated in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting Reporting by Charities". Grant income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that the income will be received. In the event that a grant is subject to the fulfilment of performance conditions before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

e) Legacies

Pecuniary legacies are recognised as receivable once probate has been granted and notification has been received. Residuary legacies are recognised as receivable once probate has been granted, provided that sufficient information has been received to enable valuation of the Charity’s entitlement. Amounts receivable are included at 90% of their valuation to reflect uncertainty inherent in the administration of estates. Residuary legacies are subject to further reduction to reflect the impact on the valuation of unrealised estate assets of subsequent adverse movements in property and investment markets. Reversionary interests involving a life tenant are not recognised due to the intrinsic uncertainties in valuing them.

f) Trustees

All the trustees donate their time spent running the charity on a voluntary basis and do not receive any remuneration. Indemnity Insurance is provided for the trustees.

g) Allocation of expenditure

Resources are analysed as follows:

Costs of generating funds includes fundraising and publicity costs as well as a proportion of salaries and staff costs based on allocation of staff time spent raising and funding applications.

Charitable activities expenditure includes the direct running costs of the charity's projects together with the support costs incurred that enable these activities to be undertaken.

Governance costs relate to statutory costs in connection with the general running of the charity, such as audit fees, AGM and trustee expenses and legal and professional fees. They also include an allocation of staff salaries.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

h) Taxation

The charitable company is registered as a charity and is exempt from taxation (except for Value Added Tax) on its income and capital gains applied for charitable purposes.

i) Employee Benefits

The charity operates a defined contribution group personal pension scheme, which is available to all employees. The amount charged against expenditure represents the contributions payable to the scheme in respect of the year.

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the company is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

j) Leasing

Rental charges are charged on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

k) Fund Accounting

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

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with a specific purpose, as explained in note 15.

l) Designated Funds

Designated funds are set up in order to put aside funds for future large expenditure. As laid out in the reserves policy, a designated fund for building maintenance is defined.

Any transfers from general to designated reserves is agreed by the Board of Trustees and minuted. The reserves policy is to be reviewed every two years.

m) Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial 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.

2. Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3. Net Incoming Resources

Net incoming resources for the year are stated after charging:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Auditors' remuneration - audit services	7,980	10,764
Trustees' expenses	-	24
Operating lease payments	23,536	10,888

4. Voluntary Income

	2023	2022
CORE GRANTS, DONATIONS AND LEGACIES	£	£
B&HCC core grant	-	45,000
Major donors	61,035	158,048
Unrestricted donations	64,842	99,165
Legacies	1,751	-
Gift Aid	6,322	13,947
	133,950	316,160
OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES		
Training and student fees income	2,900	6,870
Membership	70	70
Fundraising Events		
Race income	25,747	28,121
Collections and events	11,525	3,817
	40,242	38,878
TOTAL VOLUNTARY INCOME	174,192	355,038

5. Expenditure on Raising Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Fund	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£

Salaries and staff costs	62,666	-	-	62,666	72,304
Fundraising	29,771	-	-	29,771	22,503
Support costs and overheads	17,593	-	-	17,593	18,199
TOTAL	110,030	-	-	110,030	113,006

6. Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Staff Costs	Direct Service Costs	Support and Governance Costs	Total 2023	Total 2022
Residential	£	£	£	£	£
Casework/ group work	400,530	97,333	283,808	781,671	699,415
Therapeutic	132,410	26,594	90,931	249,935	226,078
TOTAL	532,940	123,927	374,739	1,031,606	925,493

7. Analysis of Support and Governance Costs

	Support	Governance	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Salaries and staff costs	260,696	11,363	272,059	257,811
Audit and accountancy fees	-	7,980	7,980	10,764
Management Committee and AGM	-	578	578	13
Support overheads	94,122	-	94,122	115,813
TOTAL	354,818	19,921	374,739	384,401

8. Employees and Trustees

During the year there were no reimbursements to trustees (2022: £24).

There was no remuneration paid to any of the trustees or any persons connected to them.

	2023	2022
Salary costs:	£	£
Wages and salaries	786,325	691,434
Social security costs	68,569	55,777
Pensions - Employer contribution	18,690	15,736
	873,584	762,947

No employee earned at a rate of greater than £60,000 per annum.

Key management personnel remuneration:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Senior Managers	161,191	155,703

The average number of employees, analysed by function, was:

	2023	2022
Raising funds	3	4
Charitable activities	27	25
Management and administration of the charity	6	6
	36	35

9. Related Party Transactions

There were no related party transactions in the period.

The aggregate donations received from trustees during the period was £90 (2022: £190).

10. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment
COST	**£**
At 1 April 2022	38,812
Additions	864
At 31 March 2023	39,676
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 April 2022	24,618
Charge for year	4,904
At 31 March 2023	29,522
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2022	14,194
At 31 March 2023	10,154

11. Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade debtors	34,664	4,125
Prepayments	19,962	12,848
Accrued income	6,958	9,732
	61,584	26,705

12. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	25,152	15,083
Deferred income	26,606	23,333
Accruals	11,312	29,156
Accrued annual leave	5,229	6,026
Taxation/pensions	17,967	2,999
	86,266	76,597

13. Pensions

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme.

Contributions made by the company amounted to £18,690 (2022: £15,736) and there were no contributions owing at the year end of the year (2022: £2,999).

14. Operating Lease Commitments

The following operating lease payments are committed to be paid:

Land and buildings		2023	2022
		£	£
Expiring:	Within one year	12,665	12,665
	In two to five years	3,000	5,000
		15,665	17,665

15. Funds

ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Tangible Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds	-	346,570	346,570	257,009
General funds	10,154	409,200	419,354	570,333
Designated Funds	-	10,000	10,000	10,000
	10,154	765,770	775,924	837,342

RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance at 31/03/2022	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers between funds	Balance at 31/03/2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Children In Need	10,825	38,105	38,887	-	10,043
Clinical Commissioning Group	46,063	114,100	106,486	-	53,677
National Foundation for Youth Music	-	2,678	2,678	-	-
NHS via OPCC	-	72,767	57,403	-	15,364
BHCC Housing IDVA	13,342	35,000	49,085	17,769	17,026
BHCC Third Sector Investment Programme	-	50,000	50,000	-	-
Charles Hayward	6,812	8,333	15,145	-	-
Dodgson Foundation	-	3,050	1,784	-	1,266
Ernest Hecht Charitable Trust	24,851	-	20,750	-	4,101
DLUHC Wellbeing & LGBT Refuge	15,159	99,962	90,303	(17,769)	7,049
National Lottery Community Fund	64,526	265,161	205,241	-	124,446
OPCC Safe Space	537	20,000	18,927	-	1,610
Rosa Fund: Women Thrive	34,947	-	34,947	-	-
Volant Trust	39,947	-	23,821	-	16,126
BHCC Sanctuary Scheme and Floating Support	-	130,000	54,526	-	75,474
Ministry of Justice via OPCC	-	40,495	23,385	-	17,110
BHCC Changing Futures	-	2,247	1,376	-	871
Asda Small Grant	-	1,300	1,300	-	-
Another Way Women's Foundation	-	1,284	1,284	-	-
Arnold Clark Community Grant	-	1,000	1,000	-	-
BHCC Children & Young People Community Programme	-	3,452	1,045	-	2,407
Total Restricted Funds	257,009	888,934	799,373	-	346,570

Restricted Funds 21-22 for comparison

	Balance at 31/03/2021	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers between funds	Balance at 31/03/2022
	£	£	£	£	£
BHCC Assertive Outreach	5,081	-	5,081	-	-
Children In Need	7,122	31,994	28,291	-	10,825
Clinical Commissioning Group	540	171,151	125,628	-	46,063
MHCLG Complex Need Refuge	19,759	24,962	44,721	-	-
National Foundation for Youth Music	14,038	-	14,038	-	-
National Lottery Women & Girls	49,341	-	49,341	-	-
NHS SV Covid Emergency	28,945	-	28,945	-	-
Postcode Community Trust	469	-	469	-	-
Small Covid Emergency Grants	7,000	-	7,000	-	-
BHCC Housing IDVA	-	15,000	1,658	-	13,342
BHCC Third Sector Investment Programme	-	50,000	50,000	-	-
BHCC: LGBT Contain Outbreak	-	11,910	11,910	-	-
Charles Hayward	-	16,667	9,855	-	6,812
Dodgson Foundation	-	1,500	1,500	-	-
Ernest Hecht Charitable Trust	-	50,000	25,149	-	24,851
MHCLG / DLUHC Wellbeing & LGBT Refuge	-	49,981	34,822	-	15,159
National Lottery Community Fund	-	189,147	124,621	-	64,526
OPCC Safe Space	-	51,438	50,901	-	537
Rosa Fund: Women Thrive	-	49,081	14,134	-	34,947
Surviving Economic Abuse	-	11,980	11,980	-	-
Volant Trust	-	45,000	5,053		39,947
	132,295	769,811	645,097	-	257,009

DESIGNATED FUNDS

	Balance at 31/03/2022	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers between Funds	Balance at 31/03/2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Buildings maintenance	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
Total Designated Funds	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
Total Unrestricted Funds	570,333	191,284	342,263	-	419,354

TOTAL FUND BALANCES	837,342	1,080,218	1,141,636	-	775,924

RESTRICTED FUNDS - PROVIDER AND PURPOSE

Provider	Purpose
Asda Small Grant	Art and Wellbeing therapy group
Another Way Women's Foundation	Art and Wellbeing therapy group
Arnold Clark Community Grant	Art and Wellbeing therapy group
Brighton & Hove City Council	Sanctuary Scheme, Floating Support and Housing IDVA (Independent Domestic Violence Advisor)
Brighton & Hove City Council	Assertive Outreach to the homeless community
BHCC Children & Young People Community Programme	CYP Rising Stars groups
BHCC: LGBT Contain Outbreak	Additional LGBT refuge service
BHCC Changing Futures	DV support to people with Multiple Disadvantages
BHCC Third Sector Investment Programme	Family, Children and Young People Service
Charles Hayward	Family Court Advocacy
Children In Need	Children's worker
Clinical Commissioning Group	Therapy service
Department of Levelling Up Housing and Communities	Wellbeing and LGBT dispersed refuge
Dodgson Foundation	Older person support
Ernest Hecht Charitable Trust	Housing Support
Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	Continuation of Complex Need dispersed refuge
Ministry of Justice via Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner	LGBT specialist therapy and wellbeing
National Foundation for Youth Music	Music therapy for young people
National Lottery – Community Fund	Community engagement and development
National Lottery – Women & Girls	Outreach and therapeutic work
NHS via the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner & ESCC	Uplift to sexual violence support services during COVID-19 pandemic

Office of the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner	Safe Space Sussex, Regroup and Economic Abuse workers
Postcode Community Trust	Therapeutic gardening project
Rosa Fund: Women Thrive	BME Specialist Support
Small Covid Emergency Grants	Various small grants to aid setting up home working at the start of the pandemic, and emergency support for clients
Surviving Economic Abuse	Secondment of worker
Volant Trust	Helpline and Casework

16. Notes to the Cash Flow Statement

Reconciliation of Net Movement in Funds to Net Cash Flow from Operating Activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Net surplus (deficit)	(61,418)	108,012
Depreciation charges	4,904	4,732
Interest	(9,647)	(595)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(34,879)	168,654
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	9,669	(178,163)
Increase/(decrease) in provisions	-	(37,905)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(91,371)	64,735

Analysis of changes in net funds

	At 1 April 2022 £	Cash flows £	At 31 March 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	873,040	(82,588)	790,452
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	873,040	(82,588)	790,452

Rise

freedom from abuse & violence

RISE
Community Base,
113 Queens Road,
Brighton,
BN1 3XG

Helpline 01273 622 822
www.riseuk.org.uk
@riseuk
RiseUK

R.I.S.E. (REFUGE, INFORMATION, SUPPORT AND EDUCATION)

England & Wales - Charity number 1065846

Accounts

freedom from abuse & violence

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

31st March 2022

Helpline 01273 622822
www.riseuk.org.uk
@riseuk
RiseUk

R.I.S.E. (Refuge, Information, Support and Education) is a registered charity (No. 1065846)
R.I.S.E. (Refuge, Information, Support and Education) is a Company Limited by Guarantee registered in England No. 3425008.

RISE, Community Base, 113 Queens Road, Brighton, BN1 3XG

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Legal and Administrative Information

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER	1065846	COMPANY NUMBER	03425008

PRINCIPAL ADDRESS	PO Box 889 Brighton BN2 1GH	REGISTERED OFFICE	Community Base 113 Queens Road Brighton BN1 3XG

TRUSTEES	Patricia Wass	Chair Resigned 11th June 2022
	Kim Turnbull James	Chair
	Angie Uglow	Treasurer
	Piyali Mendiratta	
	Jeanette Ashton	
	Nicole Lawton	Resigned 9th April 2021
	Alison Jeremy	Resigned 2nd November 2021
	Calliope Farsides	Resigned 17th December 2021
	Jean Spray	Resigned 11th June 2022
	Louise Leonard	Appointed 11th June 2022
	Dani Ahrens	Appointed 11th June 2022
	Chris Magill	Appointed 11th June 2022
	Viktorija Zdanoviciute	Appointed 11th June 2022
	Catherine Barker	Appointed 11th June 2022
	Helen Carr	Appointed 11th June 2022
	Isobel Montgomery	Appointed 11th June 2022

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	Jo Gough	SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM	Kate Dale Azaria Munro Alison Gray

BANKERS	Santander Bootle Merseyside L30 4GB	CAF 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ

REGISTERED AUDITORS	Carpenter Box Amelia House Crescent Road Worthing West Sussex BN11 1RL	SOLICITORS	Fitzhugh Gates 3 Pavilion Parade Brighton BN2 1RY

TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022

RISE Board of Trustees are pleased to present their annual trustees' report, together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31st March 2022. These are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies House.

Significant Activities and Project Areas

History and Charitable Purpose

RISE was established in 1994 as The Women's Refuge Project and renamed in 2008 to reflect its growth in provision of services. We deliver:

- Refuge and resettlement support in Brighton & Hove.
- Helpline and chat facilities, providing access to services, support and advice by phone.
- Crisis support for high-risk clients, through the criminal justice process (IDVA - Independent Domestic Violence Advice).
- Longer term support in the community, including drop-in sessions, therapy, and group work programmes that help people to recover from the effects of domestic abuse.
- Specialist support for children and young people.
- Embedded support in universal services alongside partners in police, health (A&E at the Royal Sussex County Hospital), LGBTQ+ community services and other partner agencies as appropriate.
- Training and consultancy services to statutory, voluntary and private sector partners and customers.

RISE has grown from focusing on refuge accommodation in its early days to delivering responsive wrap around services that support survivors from crisis and early intervention, through to recovery and onwards into safe and healthy futures. Alongside this we work to prevent domestic violence and abuse (DVA) in new generations through education and awareness with children, young people, their families, and other professionals involved in their support.

RISE is a key partner in the local Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG), Domestic and Sexual Violence Strategy in Brighton and Hove and across Sussex, playing a key role in providing expertise, guidance, and response to emerging needs. We receive various grants from government (local and national), charitable trusts such as National Lottery, Children in Need and smaller local or specialist trusts as well as a contract from the local Clinical Commissioning Group (NHS) for delivering therapy services as part of a Trauma Pathway.

The organisation is an established specialist partner in the VAWG and Domestic Violence care pathway in the city, providing a first point of contact to survivors, initial assessment, and onward referral to the appropriate internal or external support service to meet their needs.

Public Benefit

The Trustees have had due regard for the guidance on the public benefit requirement published by the Charities Commission, as required by the Charities Act 2011.

General Financial Position

As expected, the operating results for the year ended 31st March 2022 show that both income and expenditure at RISE were considerably reduced since the previous year. In the year to 31st March 2022, RISE achieved income of £1,146,511 (2021: £3,139,424), while total expenditure decreased to £1,038,499 (2021: £2,853,486). This gave rise to a surplus of £108,012 (2021: surplus £285,938).

This decrease in both income and expenditure was due to the end of the statutory funded contract (DVA/SVA Contract to deliver 'The Portal' services) on 31st March 2021. We were unsuccessful in our tender to secure a new contract, resulting in RISE becoming a smaller organisation, with a smaller staff team and a restructure of services. Despite this we have been able to achieve financial stability through successful fundraising and securing new grants, several of which are expected to lead to further funding.

In 2021-22 there was an in-year surplus on restricted income less expenditure of £124,714 (2021: deficit £77,002), as some of the new funds which started during the year were underspent at year end, resulting in carry forwards to 2022-23. At the same time, general income less expenditure produced an in-year deficit of £16,702 (2021: surplus £382,940), so the unrestricted reserves available remained stable.

The closing year balance on reserves show an increase to £837,342, (2021: £729,330) of which £570,333 (2021: £587,035) is held as general unrestricted reserves, £10,000 (2021: £10,000) as designated reserves and £257,009 (2021: £132,295) as restricted reserves.

The fundraising team have exceeded their target again this year, so RISE remains in a strong position to maintain stability while rebuilding and seeking new funding for our services. We were grateful to receive substantial donations from Ambergate Charitable Trust and the Musk Burton Family Trust, which helped us through this period, and we will receive further funding from Musk Burton Family Trust 2022-23. Having lost income due

to COVID-19, when we were not able to run our fundraising events, we were able to deliver our flagship 8k run in October 2021, albeit in a smaller format, and are anticipating a return to a full-sized event in October 2022. Community fundraising events raised significant funds during the pandemic, and alongside successful bids for government grants we were able to come out of this period with substantial reserves, which enabled us to produce a 3-year budget plan to March 2025.

The sector continues to experience a challenging economic environment, and there is strong competition from the third sector for available funding. However we have been successful in securing additional funding from the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities for a continuation of the LGBT dispersed refuge provision; an extension from Children in Need (CIN) to continue the work of the children and families team; secured and expanded funding for the therapy team for a further year from the Clinical Commissioning Group; additional funding for the therapy team from the NHS; new funding for a family court advocate and additional funding for our housing team from the local authority Sanctuary Scheme, and Housing IDVA (Independent Domestic Violence Advisor).

Key Strategic Aims

2021-22 was the charity's 27th year in operation, and the 3rd year of our five-year strategic plan.

Our key strategic aims are:

1) **Excellence:** RISE will be a centre of excellence for domestic violence and abuse knowledge and expertise, building on existing knowledge and creating a new evidence basis for our work and achieving recognised quality standards appropriate to our work and sector.
2) **Community Focused:** RISE will broaden our reach, take a community approach and increase our role in a community response to domestic violence and abuse by collaborating with professional partners, communities of interest and working in neighbourhoods to make sure DVA is everyone's business.
3) **Voice & Leadership:** RISE will be a recognised leading voice on domestic abuse and violence in the context of VAWG and come alongside survivors to amplify their voices to inform provision and bring social change.
4) **Secure, Sustainable and Future-Proofed:** RISE will diversify and grow income streams to decrease reliance on public funds; commit to good governance principles and practice including robust management of risk; exploit new technology for service delivery, to improve accessibility and modernise our service offer.

Key achievements during the year

RISE started this year with a renewed commitment to our charitable objectives of supporting women, children and LGBT people who have been affected by domestic abuse and violence and making a difference to their lives.

The initial insecurity of the loss of a large contract in the previous year soon moved to feeling free to progress our priorities in line with our five-year plan which had previously been hampered by a restrictive contract. This sense of freedom has motivated RISE to focus closely on our main strategic aims of excellence, community focus and voice, and leadership and to strengthen our holistic offer of support.

RISE ended the 'Portal Services' across East Sussex and Brighton and Hove on 31st March 2021. All staff connected to this contract were (where agreed) TUPE'd to the new providers on 1st April 2021.

During this period until the year end 31st March 2022 our Board of Trustees and management team concentrated on ensuring the sustainability of the charity, to continue to support women and children and LGBT people affected by abuse and violence. We focused on the following:

- Setting achievable targets for income generation
- Establishing a base
- Reviewing our strategic priorities and operational strengths and weaknesses
- Fundraising to secure operation of strategic priorities
- Completing a consultation to inform delivery of our services

Following the decision not to recommission RISE we received an abundance of support from our community, who lobbied the local authority and organised a survivor-led petition, which achieved 30,000 signatures, and was presented to Brighton and Hove Council for debate in March 2021. The Council set-up a working group to investigate this decision.

After a strategy day in April 2021, we reset our direction to be bold, brave and radical. We wanted to stand-up for and alongside survivors providing holistic and strengths-based services. Whilst we felt exhausted and worried for our future after such a difficult time with the pandemic and the decommissioning, we were determined to build on our expertise and respond to the needs of those we are here to serve.

We set the following key priorities in July 2021:

- Sustainable funding – long term
- Premises – a RISE Home
- Relationships with funders / commissioners
- Capital assets – property / housing for survivors
- Products for income generation & brand security
- Access statement and development of EDI plans (Race & Disability)
- Consistency in training and development
- Review Quality Standards / Accreditation
- Governance – audit of governance and recruit to Board
- Fundraising & Communications new team & new strategy
- New collaborative governance structure with survivors central

The loss of large contracts through a competitive tender led to a draft budget for the year of £300k. By the end of the year our income had raised to over £1.1 million of which £300k came from unrestricted fundraising. Three major donors plus continued strong support from our community helped us go beyond our target as well as securing new and continued project funding through Trusts, Grants, NHS and government (local and national) funders.

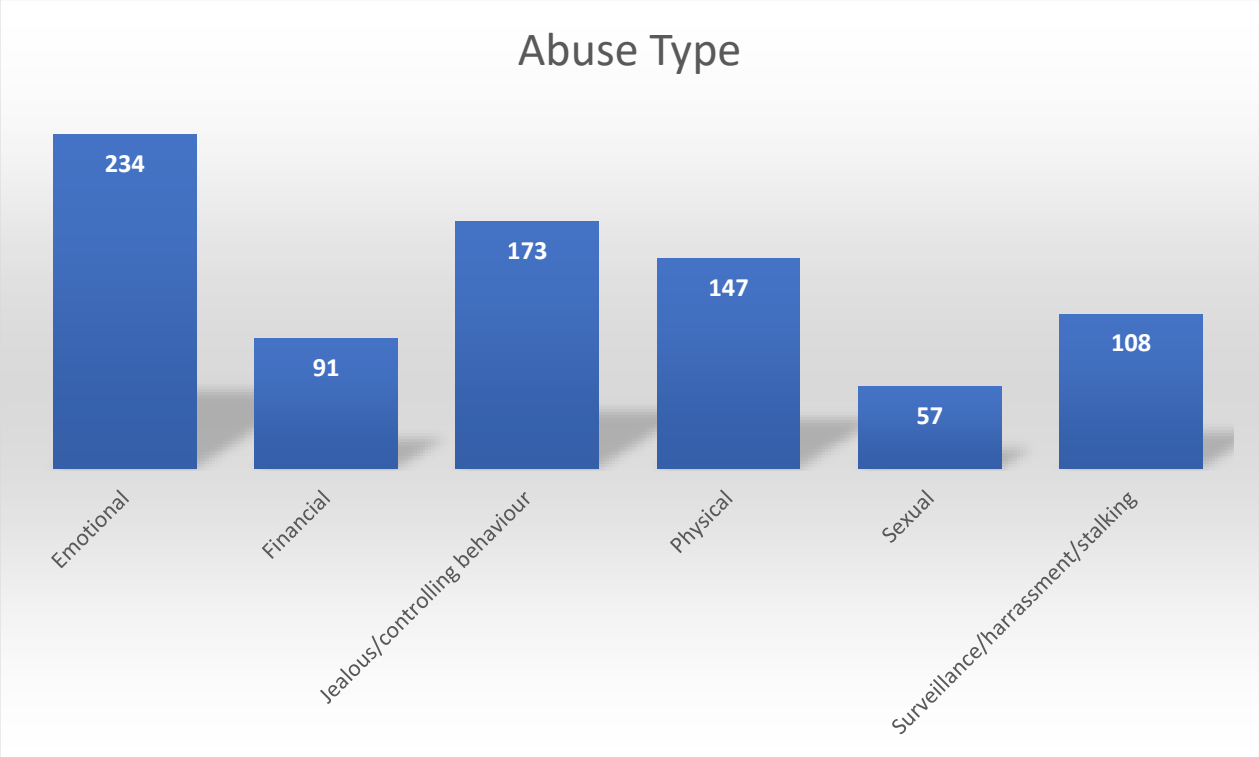
At the end of March 2021 RISE had 66 staff in post amounting to almost 46 full-time equivalents. By the end of March 2022, we had 37 staff representing just over 21 full-time equivalents – less than half of the previous year.

Even though our service reduced in size RISE saw a total of 821 referrals in 2021 to 2022 of which 662 were adult referrals and 159 child referrals in this period.

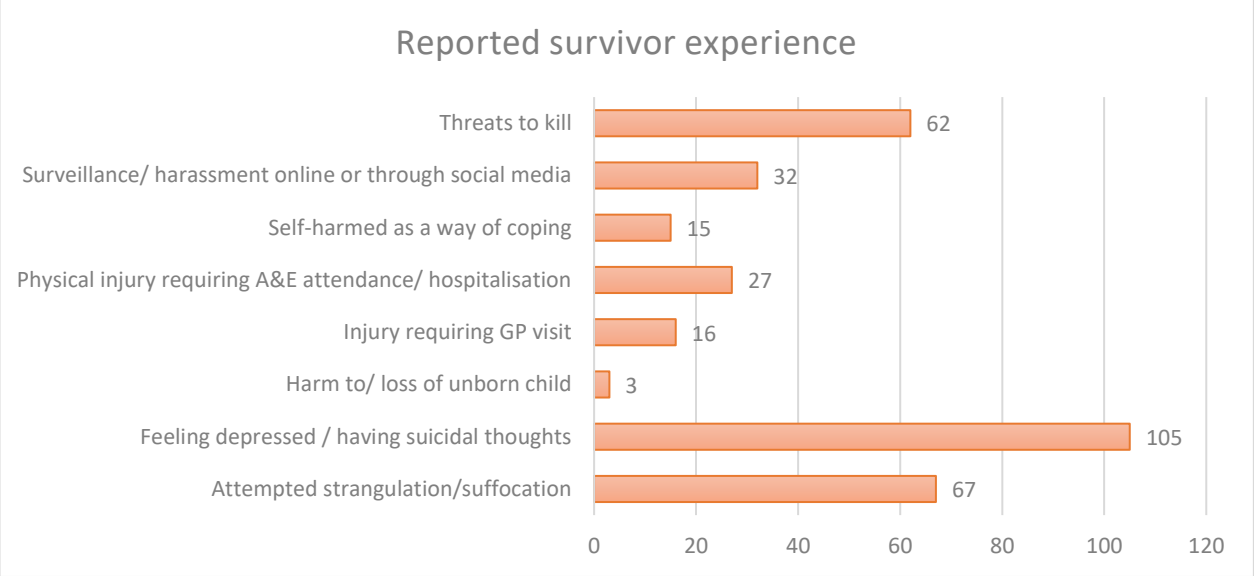
As well as referrals we handled 459 short-work logs of which 45% were from professionals and 36% from survivors.

A total of 975 survivors were helped through 1:1 (therapy and casework) and groupwork in 2021-22. 836 were adult clients and 139 child clients (58% under the age of 10 years). 94% adult clients were female, 4 identified as gender queer, 7 non-binary and 15 trans. 75% were recorded as White British adult clients, 71% Heterosexual, 85% spoke English with the remainder speaking a total of 61 different languages.

Emotional abuse is recorded as the most frequent abuse type.



RISE survivors show high levels of threats to kill, attempted suicide, attempted strangulation/suffocation.



Outcomes for those exiting our service show 71% improvement in client safety and 65% improvement in risk. 34% have improved coping strategies, 24% have reduction in symptoms of trauma and anxiety.

Our successful fundraising efforts in 2020-21 and 2021-22 have ensured the sustainability of RISE, so that we have kept going during and after the pandemic and loss of contract. Despite having a smaller fundraising team in this year our digital and regular giving income began to show increases. Our plans to grow our corporate giving were active towards the end of the year with the recruitment of a new Fundraising and Engagement Manager to steer this work.

Our work supporting children and families through casework and our innovative 'Rising Stars' programme looked insecure this year until we were able to secure a one-year extension from Children in Need taking us to July 2021 and later in the year a continuation project to 2023.

Throughout the previous year NHS England-funded projects brought extra capacity to our therapy team with a focus on reaching women experiencing sexual abuse in the context of domestic abuse. This ended in September 2021 after which a 1-year extension was secured. Our longstanding funding from the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) for the Trauma Pathway was increased this year through surplus funding which helped to reduce the waiting list and provide new groups. CCG funding continues to be on a short-term basis despite having 7-years track record of delivering the Trauma Pathway in partnership. As well as new funding for a Wellbeing Worker through the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) this year we were delighted to have success in applying for Rosa Fund funding (Smallwood Trust) for a Black and Minoritised Wellbeing Worker for 20 months which also came with core funding.

RISE was sad to lose our child-to-adult violence Break4Change (B4C) project lead this year. This DAPHNE funded project is internationally acclaimed, and evidence based. We continue to explore opportunities to build on this learning and deliver via our online training tool.

Since 2018 RISE has delivered independent Housing Advocacy support through trust funding. This year we secured funds to continue this project for two years partly through a grant from the Ernest Hecht Charitable Trust and partly through our surplus reserves.

Following lobbying efforts from survivors and RISE we received £50k 3-year funding through an amendment at Council in March 2021 which allowed us to retain a specialist Children and Families Manager. The manager has established new links and raised our profile. Later in the year we secured new funding for a Family Courts Advocate through the Charles Hayward Fund which will sit within this team.

£45k Core Funding was provided to RISE from our local Council to allow for the transition from being a contracted service and to stabilise our activity.

This year we relaunched peer support and recovery groups including Recovery Group (ReGroup) through funding from the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC). Clinical Commissioning Group funding has allowed an increase in our wellbeing groups and our children and families team are continuing to provide groups for children and young people.

In January 2019, the government introduced the Domestic Abuse Bill 2017-19 following a consultation on transforming the response to domestic abuse. The legislation was reintroduced in March 2020 as the Domestic Abuse Bill 2019-21 and received royal assent on 29 April 2021. It came into effect over 2021-22 with the following key actions:

- creates a statutory definition of domestic abuse
- establishes the office of Domestic Abuse Commissioner
- prohibits offenders from cross-examining their victims in person in the family courts
- creates a domestic abuse protection notice (DAPN) and domestic abuse protection order (DAPO)
- provides a statutory basis for the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (Clare's law) guidance
- creates a new domestic abuse offence in Northern Ireland to criminalise controlling or coercive behaviour
- creates a statutory presumption that victims of domestic abuse are eligible for special measures in the criminal courts
- enables domestic abuse offenders to be subject to polygraph testing as a licence condition following release from custody
- places a duty on local authorities to give support to victims of domestic abuse and their children in refuges and safe accommodation
- requires local authorities to grant new secure tenancies to social tenants leaving existing secure tenancies for reasons connected with domestic abuse
- extends the extra-territorial jurisdiction of the criminal courts of England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland to further violent and sexual offences

In March 2021 local authorities were notified of the 'new burdens' funding related to the Act which amounted to £606k for Brighton and Hove in 2021-22. The decision-making on allocation of these funds took longer than expected but eventually RISE was awarded continuation funding for our LGBT+ Dispersed Refuge, Wellbeing service and a new Housing Independent Domestic Violence Advocate project through this route.

Part-way through this year a new Sussex-wide Partnership to oversee the 'new burdens' of the Domestic Abuse Act convened, and RISE was given a place to affect decisions. RISE continued to communicate our desire to work with BHCC to establish new self-funded Refuge provision in Brighton and Hove to address gaps in service to meet the 'new burdens'. We also continued to raise our concerns about the non-specialist nature of commissioning locally to national government through our membership of Women's Aid including joining a round-table event with the Minister for Safeguarding to review the guidance to the DA Strategy and contributed to the VAWG commissioning update.

We launched our National Lottery funded project (£792,839) for a three-year period in August 2021. Communities Rising is working with marginalised women (older, disabled and multiple disadvantaged women), black and minoritised communities, as well as enterprising women who have made a difference in other sectors from across Brighton and Hove. It is building on survivor strengths to create a coordinated community response to domestic abuse. A community and survivor-led conference in September 2021 showcased RISE's community work and shared the findings of our embedded research as well as the independent research led by survivors. Attended and organised by survivors and community members it elevated the voices of those who would normally be hidden creating a platform to tell their stories and demonstrate their gifts.

In October 2021 we brought back our Flagship event the RISE 8K for Women. Carefully following best Covid safety practice, we hosted the event in-person and our runners raised £25k. This was a celebration of a return to events and of the continuing support for RISE in our local community.

To end the year in March 2022 we embarked on an income generation campaign through the Big Give – Women and Girls raising a total of £23,092. This was a match funding campaign using The Big Give platform and match funding provided by DCMS Tampon Tax Fund. The Big Give funding has helped RISE to provide women-centred counselling sessions, assertive outreach, recovery groups and peer support. Women survivors of domestic violence and abuse and their children are helped through their recovery journey moving on to be safer, more confident and able to thrive.

We want to thank our Board and Sub-Group members, in particular those who stood down this year; Nicole Lawton, Alison Jeremy, Calliope (Bobbie) Farsides, also Jean Spray and Tricia Wass who stood down on June 2022, for bringing their expertise to RISE and helping us successfully steer through the challenges of the year.

Plans for the Future

RISE ended this financial year with a sense of freedom and the 2022-23 year began with a renewed awareness that our services are still needed and that we are walking alongside our community and the survivors that live here.

After a strategy day in February 2022 the RISE Leadership Team set our one-year plan and renewed our High-Level delivery plan with the following key priorities for 2022-23:

Fundraising

Building the fund-raising team to secure longer term funds for posts and projects; funding pipeline for 2024-25; growing our corporate partnerships.

Client services

Bringing our therapy services to the centre of the organisation; focus on specialisms reaching those not well reached; more preventative work with young people and developing the older and disabled women's drop in; providing online materials for self-help/training; capacity building in our communities; community hubs; growing the helpline; a RISE podcast; build on our housing support and develop a self-funded Refuge and safe housing.

Working together better

Continuing to be trauma informed; client focussed; and intersectionality in our work; with self-health care and well-being for staff and volunteers. These underline a culture that RISE nurtures for staff and service users alike and which are not open for regular renegotiation.

To achieve the above, we plan to collaborate across teams and externally; keeping different parts of RISE together and connected; streamlining processes; encouraging criticism and listening; sharing expertise; allowing more room for creativity; getting the balance right between online and in person; less firefighting; managing hybrid working; reducing frequency of some meetings.

Staffing and Structure

The new RISE Leadership Team (RLT) was established in September 2021 to enable a more collaborative approach to decision-making. The RLT is made up of all managers and oversees the strategic plan and the operation of RISE services.

Since downsizing all Central team staff have new job descriptions reflecting the changing needs of the organisation. We have also reviewed the Fundraising and Communication team and have recruited to the expanded Fundraising and Engagement Manager role. We have refreshed our governance and recruited seven new Board members to fill identified skill and representation gaps. We have successfully attracted survivors and experts in Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) into these roles.

We are continuing with the development of a stronger structure for survivor involvement and have developed an Expert by Experience volunteer role along with our 'Get Ready for Volunteering' assessment process which will enable a safe and supportive expansion of opportunities for survivors to engage more fully in RISE.

COVID-19 impact and response

We are gradually returning to in person working since the easing of lockdown restrictions during the year. The pandemic forced us to transition to remote working and some practices, such as online meetings have become part of our new working style. It has also had a positive impact on the ways we deliver some of our services to survivors as we are now able to offer a combination of in-person and online support options, which has improved our accessibility.

The pandemic made us rapidly develop our IT infrastructure and we have invested in IT support and security to ensure safe working practices.

We have now moved to a smaller office and adopted flexible working so staff can split their time between home and office.

Lockdown inevitably saw an increase in demand for support for women suffering from the effects of domestic abuse. The number of calls to the helpline has increased, as has the complexity of cases we are dealing with and the level of distress. Recognising that there has been an increase in the need for support for women around sexual violence, we secured funding from NHS England to increase the capacity in the therapy team. This has now been extended to March 2023. Despite this additional funding, waiting times for our therapy service continue to grow.

Due to the pandemic restrictions, the fundraising team were unable to put on the challenge events that provide a large proportion of our fundraising income. They focused on digital and corporate fundraising and on communicating the message about our work through social media and other channels. In October 2021 we were once again able to run our

signature 8k event, albeit with restricted numbers, and this was very successful. It is expected to be back to capacity in autumn 2022.

We have had to manage staff absence due to Covid-19 which can have a big impact in a small staff team.

Fundraising

RISE receives voluntary donations and gifts from individual and corporate donors. As a member of the Institute of Fundraising, we adhere to their guidelines in our fundraising activity as well as following the Charity Commission advice on best practice. We have an Ethical Fundraising policy to ensure clarity and openness to all our stakeholders. All personal data is processed in line with the General Data Protection Regulations and Data Protection Act 2018. RISE will only process data of supporters and donors if they have given opt-in consent.

RISE organise all our fundraising internally and do not engage third parties to seek donations from individuals. We are mindful of people's privacy and do not exert undue pressure on potential donors. Our preferred approach is that 'it is not about making people feel bad for not giving, it is about making people feel good for giving'. There have been no complaints about fundraising.

Reserves Policy

In accordance with the advice of the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales, we aim to hold unrestricted reserves at levels sufficient to ensure the long-term financial stability of the charity.

The areas highlighted to meet this requirement are wind up costs, unforeseen emergency, unforeseen running costs to include maternity and sickness, and designated funds for buildings maintenance and furniture renewal, and seed funding to initiate projects for expansion into new areas. The amounts held to cover each financial risk within the tiers are to be defined and reviewed every 2 years or more frequently if the charity's income or liabilities should change drastically.

Surplus unrestricted funding should be built into the annual budget where possible to build up the free reserves. As long as these are at the required level, these can be used to support the charitable aims of RISE at the discretion of the CEO and board of trustees. Free reserves should not be allowed to drop below 7% of turnover except in a wind-up situation.

Reserve Tiers

FINANCIAL RISKS	2020-21 At March 2021	2021-22 At March 2022	
	£	£	
WIND UP FUNDING			
Redundancy payments	40,000	40,000	
Key staff	30,000	30,000	Wind up costs - 3 months
Lease commitments	9,000	17,655	Marina Box 4.5 years, Community Base 6 months
	79,000	**87,655**	
DESIGNATED FUNDS			
Buildings Maintenance	10,000	10,000	
	10,000	**10,000**	
UNFORESEEN EMERGENCY			
Tribunal / Complaints costs	10,000	10,000	
	10,000	**10,000**	
UNFORESEEN RUNNING COSTS			
Short term capacity issues in Central Services	5,000	5,000	
Disability support, sickness or maternity cover	10,000	10,000	Based on 12 weeks' pay + 6 months SSP for a frontline worker
	15,000	**15,000**	
PLANNED COMMITMENT			
Use of reserves to support 2020-21 budget plan	220,000	163,000	Agreed by board July 2022
Free reserve	263,035	294,668	To be used in 23-24 & 24-25 budgets
	483,035	**457,668**	
GRAND TOTAL	**597,035**	**580,333**	

	2021	2022
General Reserve held at 31st March	**£587,035**	**£570,333**
Designated fund held at 31st March	**£10,000**	**£10,000**
	£597,035	**£580,333**
Restricted Reserve held at 31st March	**£132,295**	**£257,009**
Total Reserves	**£729,330**	**£837,342**

Structure, Governance and Management

Incorporation

RISE is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity. It was first registered as a charity on 9th May 1994, and then re-registered on 17th November 1997, having been incorporated as a company on 26th August 1997. On 28th October 2008, the company changed its name to R.I.S.E. (Refuge, Information, Support and Education). The charitable company is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association which were updated in July 2014.

RISE is governed by a board of trustees, whose principal responsibilities are the setting and monitoring of the strategic direction of the organisation and the establishment of policy. The trustees are also directors for the purposes of company law.

The board meets formally once every 3 months.

The board delegates the day-to-day operation of the organisation to the CEO who in turn delegates to managers.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees, who are also the directors of RISE for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view the trustees should:

1) follow best practice and select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
2) make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
3) state whether applicable United Kingdom accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
4) prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the company will continue its operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

We aim to have between 10 and 15 Board Members to ensure a quorum at meetings of 5. Recruitment is based on diversity of experience. We carry out regular skills audits to identify any existing or possible gaps in the knowledge and expertise on the Board, and to fill these gaps appropriately. Candidates for Board membership will be recruited either through recommendation as defined in RISE Articles of Association, or through open recruitment in line with our Governance Board Recruitment, Selection and Review Policy.

Trustee Induction and Training

All new board members are introduced to current board members, and receive an induction pack, which includes a Statement of Aims, and Management Committee Ground Rules. Visits to RISE Services and open mornings are coordinated when appropriate.
Free training is available for roles and responsibilities, and governance. The CEO is the permanent representative of the staff on the board and other senior staff members of RISE management team and the service teams attend board meetings where possible. All board members are required to attend board meetings, the annual strategic planning day, team building days, staff meetings and other social events with staff as coordinated.
The board is undergoing on-going development and attend a number of governance training days throughout the year.

Trustee Working Groups

The board has set up specific sub-groups to undertake detailed work in the following areas, Income Generation, Human Resources and Equalities, Finance and Risk Management, Clinical Governance and Strategic Management.

Risk Management

The trustees review the major risks that the charity faces on a regular basis and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks. Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of policies and procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects, and to ensure consistent quality of delivery for all operational aspects of the charitable company. These procedures are periodically reviewed to ensure that they still meet the needs of the charity. A working group consisting of staff and trustees has been set up to monitor risk and to review and prepare business recovery processes. There is a Business Continuity Plan for crisis management.

The key risks are:

1) Risk of death of a service user or client on waiting list due to restrictions in levels of service.
2) Risk of loss of key staff, to include staff burn out, sickness and loss due to restrictions in remuneration packages.
3) Risk of loss of key income streams and associated services reducing our needs-led and trauma-focused holistic service model.
4) Risk of fraud/theft of charity funds.
5) Risk of a health pandemic causing disruption to the service.

Auditors

Each of the Trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditors are aware of such information.

A resolution proposing that Carpenter Box be reappointed as auditors of the company will be put to the members.

The trustees have paid due regard to the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

The trustees have complied with their duty under section 17(5) of the 2011 Charities Act to have due regard to guidance published by the charitable commission.

The trustees have prepared this report in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

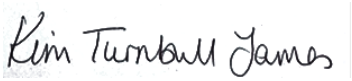
The trustees present their report for the year in compliance with the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

At the time of approving the accounts, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts. Going concern is considered further at note 1(a).

Approved by the trustees on 10th December 2022.

Signed on their behalf by

Kim Turnbull James



Chair

Angie Uglow



Treasurer

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of R.I.S.E. (Refuge, Information, Support and Education) for the year ended 31 March 2022

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of R.I.S.E. (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2022 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate. Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt

on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.
Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information
The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.
We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006
In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception
In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the trustees' report.

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or

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

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees, who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purpose of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

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

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- Obtaining an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework in which the charitable company operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the financial statements and operations;
- Obtaining an understanding of the charitable company's policies and procedures on fraud risks, including knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;
- Discussing among the engagement team how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements, and any potential indicators of fraud through our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and our sector-specific experience.

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the charitable company for fraud. We are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override. As a result of performing the above, we identified the following areas as those most likely to have an impact on the financial statements: health & safety, employment law, compliance with the UK Companies Act and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS 102).

In addition to the above, our procedures to respond to risks identified included the following:

- Making enquiries of management about any known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of the Board and senior management;
- Assessment of matters recorded on the charitable company's incident reporting register;
- Reading correspondence with regulators;
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in their significant accounting estimates; and
- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness.

Due to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that some material misstatements in the financial statements may not be detected, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with the ISAs (UK). For instance, the further removed non-compliance is from the vents and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the auditor is to become aware of it or to recognise the non-compliance.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

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



Robin Evans BA FCA CTA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of Carpenter Box

Chartered Accountants

Statutory Auditor

Amelia House
Crescent Road
Worthing
West Sussex
BN11 1RL

Carpenter Box is a trading name of Carpenter Box Limited

Statements of Financial Activities Including Income and Expenditure Accounts 31st March 2022

	Notes	General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
		2022				2021			
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS									
Donations and Legacies	4	316,160			316,160	437,330			437,330
Other Trading Activities	4	38,878			38,878	82,633			82,633
Income from Investments		595			595	593			593
Incoming from charitable activities									
Residential, Casework and Group Work		7,608		598,659	606,267	277,823		2,169,823	2,447,646
Therapeutic		5,145		171,152	176,297			164,396	164,396
Other Incoming Resources		8,314			8,314	6,826			6,826
Total Income and Endowments		376,700		769,811	1,146,511	805,205		2,334,219	3,139,424
RESOURCES EXPENDED									
Expenditure on Raising Funds	5	113,006			113,006	115,910			115,910
Expenditure on Charitable Activities	6								
Residential, Casework and Group Work		208,891		490,524	699,415	256,587	16,529	2,270,912	2,544,028
Therapeutic		71,505		154,573	226,078	3,334		140,309	143,643
Sub-Total		280,396		645,097	925,493	259,921	16,529	2,411,221	2,687,671
Other Expenditure	18					46,434	3,471		49,905
Total Expenditure		393,402		645,097	1,038,499	422,265	20,000	2,411,221	2,853,486
Net income/ (expenditure) for the year	3	(16,702)		124,714	108,012	382,940	(20,000)	(77,002)	285,938
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS									
Total funds brought forward		587,035	10,000	132,295	729,330	181,095	53,000	209,297	443,392
Transfer between funds						23,000	(23,000)		
Total funds carried forward		570,333	10,000	257,009	837,342	587,035	10,000	132,295	729,330

The statement of financial activities has been prepared on the basis that all activities are continuing

Balance Sheet at 31st March 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	10	14,194	18,926
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	11	26,705	195,359
Cash at bank and in hand	16	873,040	807,710
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		899,745	1,003,069
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	12	76,597	254,760
NET CURRENT ASSETS		823,148	748,309
PROVISIONS	17	-	37,905
NET ASSETS		837,342	729,330
ACCUMULATED FUNDS			
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	15	570,333	587,035
Designated funds	15	10,000	10,000
Restricted funds	15	257,009	132,295
		837,342	729,330

Approved by the trustees on 10th December 2022

Kim Turnbull James



Chair

Angie Uglow



Treasurer

Cash Flow Statement Accounts Ending 31st March 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Net cash used in operating activity	16	**64,735**	**344,595**
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:			
Interest received		595	593
Purchase of Tangible Fixed Assets		-	(23,658)
Net cash provided by investment activities		**595**	**(23,065)**
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		65,330	321,530
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		807,710	486,180
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		**873,040**	**807,710**

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ending 31st March 2022

1. Accounting Policies

a) Basis of Preparation

RISE is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Community Base, 113 Queens Road, Brighton, BN1 3XG.

The charity has no share capital. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the charity.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with "Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" issued on 16 July 2014, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006. The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 12.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

The accounts have been prepared under historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

Going Concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The trustees have considered relevant information, including the annual budget, forecast future cash flows and the impact of subsequent events in making their assessment. In January 2021 RISE learned that the tender for the new VAWG commissioned contract was not successful which resulted in a significant drop in income from 1st April 2021. We restructured our staff team, keeping a smaller central and management team, and moved to smaller offices practising flexible working to save money. During 2021-22 we benefited from short term funding opportunities relating to the Covid-19 pandemic, and a good response from the community which boosted our fundraising and left us with significantly increased unrestricted reserves at the end of the year. We were able to set a 3-year budget using reserves to support our services and are now in the second year of that planned budget. While Covid-19 specific funding has been less significant this year, we have retained enough reserves to fund the plan while seeking new funding.

We are focusing on retaining our core Helpline and Specialist Case Worker functions i.e., Housing, Children and Families Support, LGBT+ support. We also have our Therapy and Wellbeing teams which are currently expanding provision, with new group provision, which is funded by both local commissioners (health and police and crime commissioner), and

trusts and funds. Our Communities Project which supports disadvantaged communities and survivors to build on their strengths and grow beyond their experiences continues to develop and has recently been boosted by continuation funding from The National Lottery

Based on these assessments and having regard to the resources available to the entity, the trustees have concluded that there is no material uncertainty in relation to the appropriateness of continuing to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and accounts.

b) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation.

Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful life at the following rate:

Fixtures and fittings 20% straight line basis per annum

Purchase of tangible fixed assets to a value of less than £500 are not capitalized.

c) Donations

Donations are accounted for on a received basis and are grossed up for any income tax recoverable. Donated items are accounted for when received and are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value.

d) Grants receivable

Grants received are treated in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting Reporting by Charities". Grant income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that the income will be received. In the event that a grant is subject to the fulfilment of performance conditions before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

e) Legacies

Pecuniary legacies are recognised as receivable once probate has been granted and notification has been received. Residuary legacies are recognised as receivable once probate has been granted, provided that sufficient information has been received to enable valuation of the Charity’s entitlement. Amounts receivable are included at 90% of their valuation to reflect uncertainty inherent in the administration of estates. Residuary legacies are subject to further reduction to reflect the impact on the valuation of unrealised estate assets of subsequent adverse movements in property and investment markets. Reversionary interests involving a life tenant are not recognised due to the intrinsic uncertainties in valuing them.

f) Trustees

All the trustees donate their time spent running the charity on a voluntary basis and do not receive any remuneration. Indemnity Insurance is provided for the trustees.

g) Allocation of expenditure

Resources are analysed as follows:

Costs of generating funds includes fundraising and publicity costs as well as a proportion of salaries and staff costs based on allocation of staff time spent raising and funding applications.

Charitable activities expenditure includes the direct running costs of the charity's projects together with the support costs incurred that enable these activities to be undertaken.

Governance costs relate to statutory costs in connection with the general running of the charity, such as audit fees, AGM and trustee expenses and legal and professional fees. They also include an allocation of staff salaries.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

h) Taxation

The charitable company is registered as a charity and is exempt from taxation (except for Value Added Tax) on its income and capital gains applied for charitable purposes.

i) Employee Benefits

The charity operates a defined contribution group personal pension scheme, which is available to all employees. The amount charged against expenditure represents the contributions payable to the scheme in respect of the year.

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the company is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

j) Leasing

Rental charges are charged on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

k) Fund Accounting

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

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with a specific purpose, as explained in note 15.

l) Designated Funds

Designated funds are set up in order to put aside funds for future large expenditure. As laid out in the reserves policy, a designated fund for building maintenance is defined.

Any transfers from general to designated reserves is agreed by the Board of Trustees and minuted. The reserves policy is to be reviewed every two years.

m) Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial 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.

n) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the charitable company has a legal or constructive present obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable that the company will be required to settle that obligation, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the reporting date, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation.

2. Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3. Net Incoming Resources

Net incoming resources for the year are stated after charging:

	2022 £	2021 £
Auditors' remuneration - audit services	10,764	7,853
Trustees' expenses	24	-
Operating lease payments	10,888	48,000

4. Voluntary Income

	2022 £	2021 £
CORE GRANTS, DONATIONS AND LEGACIES		
B&HCC core grant	45,000	80,000
Major donors	158,048	252,655
Unrestricted donations	99,165	85,839
Legacies	-	50
Gift Aid	13,947	18,786
	316,160	437,330
OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES		
Training and student fees Income	6,870	12,463
Membership	70	150
Fundraising Events		
Race income	28,121	27,940
Collections and events	3,817	42,080
	38,878	82,633
TOTAL VOLUNTARY INCOME	355,038	519,963

5. Expenditure on Raising Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Fund	Restricted Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Salaries and staff costs	72,304	-	-	72,304	69,111
Fundraising	22,503	-	-	22,503	24,699
Support costs and overheads	18,199	-	-	18,199	22,100
TOTAL	113,006	-	-	113,006	115,910

6. Expenditure on Charitable Activity

	Staff Costs	Direct Service Costs	Support and Governance Costs	Total 2022	Total 2021
Residential	£	£	£	£	£
Casework/ group work	332,169	80,929	286,317	699,415	2,544,028
Therapeutic	100,663	27,331	98,084	226,078	143,643
TOTAL	432,832	108,260	384,401	925,493	2,687,671

7. Analysis of Support and Governance Costs

	Support	Governance	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Salaries and staff costs	246,786	11,025	257,811	292,256
Audit and accountancy fees	-	10,764	10,764	7,853
Management Committee and AGM	-	13	13	1,409
Support overheads	115,813	-	115,813	101,043
TOTAL	362,599	21,802	384,401	402,561

8. Employees and Trustees

During the year £24 was reimbursed to a trustee for refreshments at a board meeting (2021: £0).

There was no remuneration paid to any of the trustees or any persons connected to them.

	2022	2021
Salary costs:	£	£
Wages and salaries	691,434	1,477,073
Social security costs	55,777	124,636
Pensions - Employer contribution	15,736	34,918
SMP	-	454
	762,947	1,637,081

No employee earned at a rate of greater than £60,000 per annum.

Key management personnel remuneration:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Senior Managers	155,703	196,693

The average number of employees, analysed by function, was:

	2022	2021
Raising funds	4	4
Charitable activities	25	57
Management and administration of the charity	6	6
	35	67

9. Related Party Transactions

There were no related party transactions in the period.

The aggregate donations received from trustees during the period was £190 (2021: £190).

10. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment
COST	**£**
At 1 April 2021	38,812
Additions	-
Disposals	-
At 31 March 2022	38,812
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 April 2021	19,886
Disposals	-
Charge for year	4,732
At 31 March 2022	24,618
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2021	18,926
At 31 March 2022	14,194

11. Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade debtors	4,125	18,835
Prepayments	12,848	3,470
Accrued income	9,732	10,232
Other debtors	-	162,822
	26,705	195,359

12. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade creditors	15,083	177,870
Deferred income	23,333	-
Accruals	29,156	25,779
Accrued annual leave	6,026	6,811
Taxation/pensions	2,999	44,300
	76,597	254,760

13. Pensions

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme.

Contributions made by the company amounted to £15,736 (2021: £34,918) and the amount of contributions underpaid at the year end and included in creditors was £2,999 (2021: £13,467).

14. Operating Lease Commitments

The following operating lease payments are committed to be paid:

Land and buildings		2022	2021
		£	£
Expiring:	Within one year	12,665	2,000
	In two to five years	5,000	7,000
		17,665	9,000

15. Funds

ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Tangible Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds	-	257,009	257,009	132,295
General funds	14,194	556,139	570,333	587,035
Designated Funds	-	10,000	10,000	10,000
	14,194	823,148	837,342	729,330

RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance at 31/03/2021	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers between funds	Balance at 31/03/2022
	£	£	£	£	£
BHCC Assertive Outreach	5,081	-	5,081	-	-
Children In Need	7,122	31,994	28,291	-	10,825
Clinical Commissioning Group	540	171,151	125,628	-	46,063
MHCLG Complex Need Refuge	19,759	24,962	44,721	-	-
National Foundation for Youth Music	14,038	-	14,038	-	-
National Lottery Women & Girls	49,341	-	49,341	-	-
NHS SV Covid Emergency	28,945	-	28,945	-	-
Postcode Community Trust	469	-	469	-	-
Small Covid Emergency Grants	7000	-	7000	-	-
BHCC Housing IDVA	-	15,000	1,658	-	13,342
BHCC Third Sector Investment Programme	-	50,000	50,000	-	-
BHCC: LGBT Contain Outbreak	-	11,910	11,910	-	-
Charles Hayward	-	16,667	9,855	-	6,812
Dodgson Foundation	-	1,500	1,500	-	-
Ernest Hecht Charitable Trust	-	50,000	25,149	-	24,851
MHCLG Wellbeing & LGBT Refuge	-	49,981	34,822	-	15,159
National Lottery Community Fund	-	189,147	124,621	-	64,526
OPCC Safe Space	-	51,438	50,901	-	537
Rosa Fund: Women Thrive	-	49,081	14,134	-	34,947
Surviving Economic Abuse	-	11,980	11,980	-	-
Volant Trust	-	45,000	5,053		39,947
Total Restricted Funds	132,295	769,811	645,097	-	257,009

Restricted Funds 20-21 for comparison

	Balance at 31/03/2020	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers between funds	Balance at 31/03/2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Ask Me	1,853	-	1,853	-	-
National Lottery Women & Girls	60,041	99,104	109,804	-	49,341
National Lottery Community Fund	-	99,243	99,243	-	-
CCG Therapy	5,398	91,628	96,486	-	540
Children In Need	7,655	40,637	41,170	-	7,122
VAWG B&H Portal Contract	65,986	1,504,269	1,570,255	-	-
MHCLG Dispersed Refuge	5,000	74,769	60,010	-	19,759
OPCC Safe Space	10,638	-	10,638	-	-
Nationwide	26,820	-	26,820	-	-
BHCC Assertive Outreach	13,213	35,452	43,584	-	5081
Postcode Community Trust	12,693	-	12,224	-	469
Higgedy Pies	-	5,000	5,000	-	-
National Foundation for Youth Music	-	24,106	10,068	-	14,038
Small Covid Emergency Grants	-	30,922	23,922	-	7,000
NHS SV Covid Emergency	-	72,767	43,822	-	28,945
MHCLG Covid Emergency	-	34,164	34,164	-	-
MOJ/PCC Covid Emergency	-	152,158	152,158	-	-
The Julia and Hans Rausing Trust	-	70,000	70,000	-	-
Total Restricted Funds	209,297	2,334,219	2,411,221	-	132,295

DESIGNATED FUNDS

	Balance at 31/03/2021	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers between Funds	Balance at 31/03/2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Buildings maintenance	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
Total Designated Funds	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
Total Unrestricted Funds	587,035	376,700	393,402	-	570,333
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	729,330	1,146,511	1,038,499	-	837,342

RESTRICTED FUNDS - PROVIDER AND PURPOSE

Provider	Purpose
Brighton & Hove City Council	Assertive outreach to the homeless community
Brighton & Hove City Council	Housing IDVA (Independent Domestic Violence Advisor)
BHCC Third Sector Investment Programme	Family, Children and Young People's Service
BHCC: LGBT Contain Outbreak	Additional LGBT refuge service
Charles Hayward	Family Court Advocacy
Children In Need	Children's worker
Clinical Commissioning Group	Therapy service
Dodgson Foundation	Older person support
Ernest Hecht Charitable Trust	Housing Support
Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	Continuation of Complex Need dispersed refuge
Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	Wellbeing and LGBT dispersed refuge
National Foundation for Youth Music	Music therapy for young people
National Lottery – Women and Girls Initiative	Outreach and therapeutic work
National Lottery – Community Fund	Community engagement and development
NHS via the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner	Uplift to sexual violence support services during Covid-19 pandemic
Office of the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner	Safe Space Sussex & Regroup
Postcode Community Trust	Therapeutic Gardening Project
Rosa Fund: Women Thrive	BME Specialist Support
Surviving Economic Abuse	Secondment of worker
Volant Trust	Helpline and Casework

16. Notes to the Cash Flow Statement

Reconciliation of Net Movement in Funds to Net Cash Flow from Operating Activities

	2022 £	2021 £
Net surplus (deficit)	108,012	285,938
Depreciation charges	4,732	4,732
Interest	(595)	(593)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	168,654	(106,291)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(178,163)	122,904
Increase/(decrease) in provisions	(37,905)	37,905
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	64,735	344,595

Analysis of changes in net funds

	At 1 April 2021 £	Cash flows £	At 31 March 2022 £
Cash at bank and in hand	807,710	65,330	873,040
Overdrafts/loans falling due within 1 year.	-	-	-
	807,710	65,330	873,040

17. Provisions

	2022 £	2021 £
Provision for redundancy costs	-	24,487
Provision for dilapidation costs	-	13,418
Total Provisions	-	37,905

18. Other Expenditure

	2022 General Fund £	2022 Designated Fund £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Provision for redundancy costs	-	-	-	24,487
Provision for dilapidation costs	-	-	-	13,418
Onerous lease payments	-	-	-	12,000
	-	-	-	49,905

Rise

freedom from abuse & violence

RISE
Community Base,
113 Queens Road,
Brighton,
BN1 3XG

Helpline 01273 622 822
www.riseuk.org.uk
@riseuk
RiseUK

R.I.S.E. (REFUGE, INFORMATION, SUPPORT AND EDUCATION)

England & Wales - Charity number 1065846

Accounts

Rise

freedom from abuse & violence

Trustees Report and Financial Statements

31st March 2021

Helpline 01273 622828
www.rise.org.uk
@riseuk
RiseUK

R.I.S.E. (Refuge, Information, Support and Education) is a registered charity (No.1065846)
R.I.S.E. is a Company Limited by Guarantee registered in England No. 3425008.

RISE, PO Box 889, Brighton, BN2 1GH 01273 622828

R.I.S.E (Refuge, Information, Support and Education)

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R.I.S.E (Refuge, Information, Support and Education)

Legal and Administrative Information

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER	1065846	COMPANY NUMBER	03425008
PRINCIPAL ADDRESS	PO Box 889 Brighton BN2 1GH	REGISTERED OFFICE	Community Base 113 Queens Road Brighton BN1 3XG
TRUSTEES	Patricia Wass Angie Uglow Piyali Mendiratta Jean Spray Jeanette Ashton Calliope Farsides Kim Turnbull James	Chair Treasurer	
	Beverley Sawyers Sandra Fortescue Helen Carpenter Nicole Lawton Alison Jeremy	Resigned 11th July 2020 Resigned 5th December 2020 Resigned 31st March 2021 Resigned 9th April 2021 Resigned 2nd November 2021	
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	Jo Gough	SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM	Kate Dale Azaria Munro Alison Gray Wook Hamilton
BANKERS	Santander Bootle Merseyside L30 4GB		CAF 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ
REGISTERED AUDITORS	Carpenter Box Amelia House Crescent Road Worthing West Sussex BN11 1RL	SOLICITORS	Fitzhugh Gates 3 Pavilion Parade Brighton BN2 1RY

TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2021

RISE Board of Trustees are pleased to present their annual trustees' report, together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31st March 2021. These are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies House.

Significant Activities and Project Areas

History and Charitable Purpose

RISE was established in 1994 as The Women's Refuge Project, and renamed in 2008 to reflect its growth in provision of services. We deliver:

- Refuge and resettlement support in Brighton & Hove.
- Helpline and chat facilities, providing access to services, support and advice by phone.
- Crisis support for high-risk clients, through the criminal justice process (IDVA - Independent Domestic Violence Advice).
- Longer term support in the community, including drop in sessions, therapy, and group work programmes that help people to recover from the effects of domestic abuse.
- Specialist support for children and young people.
- Embedded support in universal services alongside partners in police, health (A&E at the Royal Sussex County Hospital), LGBTQ+ community services and other partner agencies as appropriate.
- Training and consultancy services to statutory, voluntary and private sector partners and customers.

RISE has grown from focusing on refuge accommodation in its early days to delivering responsive wrap around services that support survivors from crisis and early intervention, through to recovery and onwards into safe and healthy futures. Alongside this we work to prevent domestic violence and abuse (DVA) in new generations through education and awareness with children, young people, their families and other professionals involved in their support.

RISE is a key partner in the local Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG), Domestic and Sexual Violence Strategy in Brighton and Hove and across Sussex, playing a key role in providing expertise, guidance, and response to emerging needs. As lead partner for the delivery of Portal services between 2015 and 2021 we receive substantial funding from the Strategic Commissioner of the Joint Domestic, Sexual Violence & Abuse and VAWG Unit, Brighton & Hove and East Sussex. We also receive various grants from charitable trusts such as Big Lottery, Children in Need and smaller local or specialist trusts as well as a contract from the local Clinical Commissioning Group (NHS) for delivering therapy services as part of a Trauma Pathway.

The organisation plays a pivotal role in the VAWG Care Pathway in the city, providing a first point of contact to survivors, initial assessment and onward referral to the appropriate support service to meet their needs. RISE is a key partner in the Multi-Agency Referral and Assessment Conference (MARAC), Chairing the conference and representing the experience and needs of high-risk survivors and contributing to plans for their support and safety.

Public Benefit

The Trustees have had due regard for the guidance on the public benefit requirement published by the Charities Commission, as required by the Charities Act 2011.

General Financial Position

The operating results for the year ended 31st March 2021 show that RISE achieved its highest ever income at £3,139,424 (2020: £2,562,642), while total expenditure increased to £2,853,486 (2020: £2,748,721). This gave rise to a surplus of £285,938 (2020: deficit £186,079).

There was an in-year deficit on restricted income less expenditure of £77,002 (2020: deficit £118,620), which represented a planned use of surpluses carried forward from previous years. General income less expenditure produced an in-year surplus of £382,940 (2020: deficit £67,459) which put us in a robust position to face the challenges currently facing the charity and the sector

The closing year balance on reserves show an increase to £729,330, (2020: £443,392) of which £587,035 (2020: £181,095) is held as general unrestricted reserves, £10,000 (2020: £53,000) as designated reserves and £132,295 (2020: £209,297) as restricted reserves.

The fundraising team have exceeded their target this year bringing RISE into a much stronger position going forward into 2021/22. Two new major donors came on board and core funding from trusts to replace lost event income due to COVID-19 enabled smooth running of our services in a difficult climate. The senior managers and fundraising team reacted quickly at the start of the financial year to adapt our fundraising approach and communicated with supporters keeping them engaged. Remote community fundraising events raised significant funds with little costs in the first part of the year alongside community based crisis funds. Later in the year COVID-19 funds from central government and other funders brought additional stability.

The sector continues to experience a challenging economic environment, with cuts in funding as a result of reduced public sector budgets. There is strong competition from the third sector for available funding, but we have been successful in securing additional funding from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government for a continuation of the dispersed refuge provision, an extension from Children in Need (CIN) to continue the work of the children

and families team until the new CIN grants process is released, and have secured funding for the therapy team for a further year from the Clinical Commissioning Group.

Key Strategic Aims

2020-21 was the charity's 26th year in operation, and the 2nd year of our 2019-24 strategic plan.

Our key strategic aims are:

1) **Excellence:** RISE will be a centre of excellence for domestic violence and abuse knowledge and expertise, building on existing knowledge and creating a new evidence basis for our work and achieving recognised quality standards appropriate to our work and sector.
2) **Community Focused:** RISE will broaden our reach, take a community approach and increase our role in a community response to domestic violence and abuse by collaborating with professional partners, communities of interest and working in neighbourhoods to make sure DVA is everyone's business.
3) **Voice & Leadership:** RISE will be a recognised leading voice on domestic abuse and violence in the context of VAWG and come alongside survivors to amplify their voices to inform provision and bring social change.
4) **Secure, Sustainable and Future-Proofed:** RISE will diversify and grow income streams to decrease reliance on public funds; commit to good governance principles and practice including robust management of risk; exploit new technology for service delivery, to improve accessibility and modernise our service offer.

Key achievements during the year

It was an unusual start to this financial year with the start of lockdown in late March 2020 due to COVID-19. This unexpected crisis tested our resilience proving that we have strong business continuity plans. RISE acted quickly to put in place onsite skeleton staff, observing all government advice, alongside remote working. We immediately communicated that our service remained open and moved rapidly to use remote technology. We prioritised Refuge, Helpline and our work with survivors most at risk of serious harm, redeploying staff to meet the most urgent need and to reach out into our communities. We established new community relations and connected our Ask Me Ambassadors into the emerging Community Hubs to ensure survivors could find us.

At the same time, we spoke to our funders and commissioners to agree flexibilities in funding use and reporting requirements. Our largest funding sources (Council Contract, Children In

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Need, CCG and Big Lottery) were due to end mid-2020. We secured a 6-month roll-over for all of the above. We successfully sourced help (food, household essentials, care packages, IT equipment) for clients through supporter donations, major funders and COVID-19 crisis funds. The promised government COVID-19 funds for domestic violence services were delayed and only available short term, but they allowed us to purchase essential items and bring in extra staff to deal with the huge increases in our demand levels.

Demand for our services remained high this year. Across all areas of our work 6,302 adult referrals (24 per day) received in 2020-21, translated into 3,279 adult clients, an 18% increase on the previous year. Of this number 92% were female and 89% heterosexual. 126 child referrals this year translated to 102 child clients in service (53% male, 25% aged 5 and under). This service remains under-resourced given that we saw 1,541 clients with a total of 3,095 children.

Despite the high demand, feedback from those using our services was excellent. 89% would recommend RISE to family / friends if they needed help and 93% agree the service met their needs effectively. Of 1,496 clients exiting the service and responding 86% said their safety had improved after intake into RISE services with 43% of this total saying this had improved significantly. Of the 1,148 clients exiting the service and responding, 80% saw a reduction or cessation of emotional / psychological abuse with 30% of this total indicating that this abuse type had ceased.

Our successful fundraising efforts in 2020-21 have ensured the sustainability of RISE, so that we have kept going during the pandemic and can continue to support women and children. Having now established our digital and regular giving more firmly this income began to show increases in this financial year. The plans to develop our Corporate Giving were delayed and rolled into the plans for the following year.

Towards the end of 2020-21 we were notified of our success in securing National Lottery Reaching Communities funding (£792,839) for a three-year project to launch in August 2021. Communities Rising will create a diverse physical and digital community hub for female survivors and community members to address violence and abuse. This project will work with marginalised women (older, disabled and multiple disadvantaged women), black and minoritised communities, as well as enterprising women who have made a difference in other sectors from across Brighton and Hove. It will build on survivor strengths to create a coordinated community response to domestic abuse.

To help us respond well to the challenges of the pandemic, we prioritised investment in our infrastructure and secured funding from The Julia and Hans Rausing Trust to improve our premises, IT infrastructure, safety features and communication.

We also piloted and launched a new training platform for both internal, external and professional training to raise awareness and generate a new income stream.

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Other events in 2020-21

Alongside the devastating impact of the pandemic, RISE was informed that the extension to our largest statutory funded contract (DVA/SVA Contract to deliver 'The Portal' services) would end on 31st March 2021. RISE was required by the local authority to submit a tender to continue to deliver the service. Despite our hope that the process would be delayed until COVID-19 responses were stable and also until the long-awaited Domestic Abuse Bill came into statute, the decision of the local authority was not in line with our expectations. On 6th January 2021 RISE were informed that we were unsuccessful in our tender.

During this period until the year end 31st March 2021 our Board of Trustees and management team concentrated on ensuring the sustainability of the charity, to ensure our ability to continue to support women and children throughout the isolation of lockdown and the threat of our services discontinuing. They focused on the following:

- Challenging the decision of the commissioning bodies
- Agreeing a budget for the year
- Communicating the decision to survivors, partners and stakeholders
- Reviewing our strategic priorities and operational strengths and weaknesses
- Exiting and handing over to the new providers including TUPE arrangements
- Exiting significant contracts such as our premise lease
- Fundraising to secure operation of strategic priorities
- Beginning a consultation to inform delivery of our services

Following the decision not to recommission our service we received an abundance of support from our community, who lobbied the local authority and organised a survivor-led petition, which achieved 30,000 signatures, was presented to Brighton and Hove council and debated at a council meeting in March 2021.

The COVID-19 impact on RISE demonstrated a need for our helpline and so we prioritised its continuation. Following the news of our decommissioning the Board agreed to prioritise allocation of reserves to delivery of the Helpline. We began bidding to sustain the Helpline Coordinator role, to recruit and retain volunteers and to improve our helpline offer by adding more online resources and Live Chat.

We want to thank our Board and Sub Group members, in particular those who stood down this year (Beverley Sawyers, Sandra Fortescue Helen Carpenter) for bringing their expertise to RISE and helping us successfully steer through the challenges of the year. We want to make a special mention of our external advisor to the income generation group, Robert Griffiths, who

has a wealth of fundraising expertise that he voluntarily provides to our team and he also represents our work through a range of local networks.

Plans for the Future

RISE ended this financial year with a renewed commitment to our charitable objectives of supporting women and children who have been affected by domestic abuse and violence, and making a difference to their lives. The initial insecurity of the loss of a large contract soon moved to feeling free to progress priorities in line with our plans that had previously been hampered by a restrictive contract. This sense of freedom has motivated RISE to focus closely on our main strategic aims of excellence, community focus and voice and leadership, and to strengthen our holistic approach.

After a strategy day in April 2021 the CEO updated the High Level delivery plan and delivered an insights presentation to the Board and Managers as well as providing an update via our internal RISE Bulletin.

The following key priorities for 2021/22 are:

- Sustainable funding – long term
- Premises – a RISE Home
- Relationships with funders and commissioners
- Capital assets – property / housing for survivors
- Products for income generation & Brand security
- Access statement on single sex and self-ID and development of EDI plans (Race & Disability)
- Consistency in training and development
- Review Quality Standards / Accreditation
- Governance – audit of governance and recruit to Board
- Fundraising & Communications new team & new strategy
- New collaborative governance structure with survivors central to this

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Plans

- We will focus on developing Corporate Giving with the introduction of a new Corporate Fundraising Pack and training programme.
- We have committed to invest in developing our helpline and we want to enable it to continue. We will be bidding for funds to sustain the Helpline Coordinator role, to recruit and retain volunteers and to improve our helpline offer by adding more online resources and Live Chat.
- We will focus our delivery on prevention, recovery and wellbeing with the roll-out of new group work sessions and drop-ins in community settings.
- We plan to grow our services for children and families including a Family Court Advocate role and early years support as well as focused support in school settings.
- Building on our current expertise in housing, homelessness and safe housing we will take a 'Whole Housing' approach to domestic abuse by expanding our housing advocacy.
- In 2021-22, we plan to launch external training offers through our new training platform including 'Being an Ally'. This will enable RISE to provide professional training through an online portal to raise awareness and generate a new income stream.
- We will further strengthen our offer by ensuring our staff have the best training, support and supervision and are valued and rewarded for their work.

Staffing and Structure

A new RISE Leadership Team (RLT) will set the tone for a more collaborative approach. The RLT will work to improve staff and survivor involvement across RISE governance.

Since downsizing all Central team staff have new job descriptions reflecting the changing needs of the organisation. We have also reviewed the Fundraising and Communication team and have recruited to the expanded Fundraising and Engagement Manager role. We will recruit a second role to this team to take forward our fundraising aspirations.

We will refresh our governance and recruit new Board members to fill identified skill and representation gaps.

We are making progress with the development of a stronger structure for survivor involvement and have developed an Expert by Experience volunteer role that has been commented on by some key staff and current survivors engaged with RISE. Along with our 'Get Ready for Volunteering' assessment process this will enable a safe a supportive expansion of opportunities for survivors to engage more fully in RISE.

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COVID-19 Response

The COVID-19 pandemic has been very disruptive to the organisation but has also led to some opportunities and new ways of working. The measures taken by the government to contain COVID-19 have had an impact on the delivery of and demand for our activities, and on our income and expenditure.

Service delivery

While ensuring that our service remained open to support our clients, we immediately implemented home working for most of our staff. A skeleton staff operated from our main premises, while the refuge remained operational and staffed throughout the period. We had to provide IT support for home-working staff, and rapidly adopt remote applications for team meetings and staff support.

Service demand

Lockdown inevitably saw an increase in demand for support for women suffering from the effects of domestic abuse. The number of calls to the helpline has increased, as has the complexity of cases we are dealing with and the level of distress.

Recognising that there has been an increase in the need for support for women around sexual violence, we have secured funding for one year from NHS England to increase the capacity in the therapy team.

Fundraising

The fundraising team also had to respond rapidly to the changing situation, as they were unable to put on the challenge events that provide a large proportion of our fundraising income. They have focused on digital and corporate fundraising and on communicating the message about our work through social media and other channels. Along with the high profile of Domestic Abuse in the media, this seems to have been a successful strategy, as fundraising income and donations substantially increased in 2020-21 to £437,330 (2019-20 £186,404).

Expenditure and Income generation

Providing IT and other equipment to enable home working was a huge expense for us, but we secured enough funding to cover our immediate needs. We successfully bid for emergency funding from a variety of small funders alongside larger government grants to pay for additional staffing to support the helpline and case workers, a £10k hardship fund to help women in immediate need, and PPE, cleaning and safety measures to be provided in our premises.

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Fundraising

RISE receives voluntary donations and gifts from individual and corporate donors. As a member of the Institute of Fundraising, we adhere to their guidelines in our fundraising activity as well as following the Charity Commission advice on best practice. We have an Ethical Fundraising policy to ensure clarity and openness to all our stakeholders. All personal data is processed in line with the General Data Protection Regulations and Data Protection Act 2018. RISE will only process data of supporters and donors if they have given opt-in consent.

RISE organise all our fundraising internally and do not engage third parties to seek donations from individuals. We are mindful of people's privacy and do not exert undue pressure on potential donors. Our preferred approach is that 'it is not about making people feel bad for not giving, it is about making people feel good for giving'. There have been no complaints about fundraising.

Reserves Policy

In accordance with the advice of the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales, we aim to hold unrestricted reserves at levels sufficient to ensure the long-term financial stability of the charity.

The areas highlighted to meet this requirement are wind up costs; unforeseen emergency; unforeseen running costs to include maternity and sickness, designated funds for buildings maintenance and furniture renewal, and seed funding to initiate projects for expansion into new areas. The amounts held to cover each financial risk within the tiers are to be defined and reviewed every 2 years or more frequently if the charity's income or liabilities should change drastically.

Surplus unrestricted funding should be built into the annual budget where possible to build up the free reserves. As long as these are at the required level, these can be used to support the charitable aims of RISE at the discretion of the CEO and board of trustees. Free reserves should not be allowed to drop below 7% of turnover except in a wind up situation.

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Reserve Tiers

FINANCIAL RISKS	2019-20 At March 2020	2020-21 At March 2021	
WIND UP FUNDING			
Redundancy payments	90,000	40,000	
Key staff	30,000	30,000	Wind up costs - 3 months
Lease commitments	36,000	9,000	Marina Box 4.5 years
	156,000	**79,000**	
DESIGNATED FUNDS			
Buildings Maintenance	15,000	10,000	
Furniture replacement	18,000		No longer necessary
Shaftesbury Court refurbishment per lease requirement	20,000		Spent in 2020-21
	53,000	**10,000**	
UNFORESEEN EMERGENCY			
Tribunal / Complaints costs	5,000	10,000	
	5,000	**10,000**	
UNFORESEEN RUNNING COSTS			
Short term capacity issues in Central Services	5,000	5,000	
Disability support, sickness or maternity cover	10,000	10,000	Based on 12 weeks' pay + 6 months SSP for a frontline worker
	15,000	**15,000**	
PLANNED COMMITMENT			
Use of reserves to support 2020-21 budget plan		220,000	Agreed by board July 2021
Free reserve	5,095	263,035	To be used in 22-23 & 23-24 budgets
	5,095	483,035	
GRAND TOTAL	**£234,095**	**£597,035**	

	2020	**2021**
General Reserve held at 31st March	£181,095	£587,035
Designated fund held at 31st March	£53,000	£10,000
	£234,095	**£597,035**
Restricted Reserve held at 31st March	**£209,297**	**£132,295**
Total Reserves	**£443,392**	**£729,330**

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Structure, Governance and Management

Incorporation

RISE is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity. It was first registered as a charity on 9th May 1994, and then re-registered on 17th November 1997, having been incorporated as a company on 26th August 1997. On 28th October 2008, the company changed its name to R.I.S.E. (Refuge, Information, Support and Education). The charitable company is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association which were updated in July 2014.

RISE is governed by a board of trustees, whose principal responsibilities are the setting and monitoring of the strategic direction of the organisation and the establishment of policy. The trustees are also directors for the purposes of company law.

The board meets formally once every 3 months.

The board delegates the day-to-day operation of the organisation to the CEO and senior managers.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

Law applicable to charitable companies in England and Wales requires the trustees, who are also the directors of the company, to prepare financial statements for each year, which give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year.

In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view the trustees should:

1) follow best practice and select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
2) make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
3) state whether applicable United Kingdom accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
4) prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the company will continue its operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

We aim to have between 10 and 15 Board Members to ensure a quorum at meetings of 5. Recruitment is based on diversity of experience. We carry out regular skills audits to identify any existing or possible gaps in the knowledge and expertise on the Board, and to fill these gaps appropriately. Candidates for Board membership will be recruited either through recommendation as defined in RISE Articles of Association, or through open recruitment in line with our Governance Board Recruitment, Selection and Review Policy.

Trustee Induction and Training

All new board members are introduced to current board members, and receive an induction pack, which includes a Statement of Aims, and Management Committee Ground Rules.

Visits to the refuges, RISE Services and open mornings are coordinated when appropriate.

Free training is available for roles and responsibilities, and governance. The CEO is the permanent representative of the staff on the board and other senior staff members of RISE management team and the service teams attend board meetings where possible. All board members are required to attend board meetings, the annual strategic planning day, team building days, staff meetings and other social events with staff as coordinated.

The board is undergoing on-going development and attend a number of governance training days throughout the year.

Trustee Working Groups

The board has set up specific sub-groups to undertake detailed work in the following areas, Income Generation, Human Resources and Equalities, Finance and Risk Management, Clinical Governance and Strategic Management.

Risk Management

The trustees review the major risks that the charity faces on a regular basis and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks. Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of policies and procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects, and to ensure consistent quality of delivery for all operational aspects of the charitable company. These procedures are periodically reviewed to ensure that they still meet the needs of the charity. A working group consisting of staff and trustees has been set up to monitor risk and to review and prepare business recovery processes. There is a Business Continuity Plan for crisis management.

The key risks are:

1) Risk of death of a service user or client on waiting list due to restrictions in levels of service.

2) Risk in loss of key staff, to include staff burn out, sickness and loss due to restrictions in remuneration packages.
3) Risk of loss of key income streams and associated services reducing our needs-led and trauma-focused holistic service model.
4) Risk of fraud/theft of charity funds.
5) Risk of a health pandemic causing disruption to the service

Auditors

Each of the Trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditors are aware of such information.

A resolution proposing that MHA Carpenter Box be reappointed as auditors of the company will be put to the members.

The trustees have paid due regard to the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

The trustees have complied with their duty under section 17(5) of the 2011 Charities Act to have due regard to guidance published by the charitable commission.

The trustees have prepared this report in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The trustees present their report for the year in compliance with the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

At the time of approving the accounts, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts. Going concern is considered further at note 1(a).

Approved by the trustees on 4th December 2021

Signed on their behalf by

Patricia Wass

Chair

Angie Uglow

Treasurer

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of R.I.S.E. (Refuge, Information, Support and Education) for the year ended 31 March 2021

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of R.I.S.E. (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2021 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

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

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the trustees' report, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees, who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purpose of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

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

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- Obtaining an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework in which the charitable company operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the financial statements and operations;
- Obtaining an understanding of the charitable company's policies and procedures on fraud risks, including knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;
- Discussing among the engagement team how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements, and any potential indicators of fraud through our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and our sector-specific experience.

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the charitable company for fraud. We are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override. As a result of performing the above, we identified the following areas as those most likely to have an impact on the financial statements: health & safety, employment law, compliance with the UK Companies Act and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS 102).

In addition to the above, our procedures to respond to risks identified included the following:

- Making enquiries of management about any known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of the Board and senior management;
- Assessment of matters recorded on the charitable company's incident reporting register;
- Reading correspondence with regulators;
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in their significant accounting estimates; and
- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness.

Due to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that some material misstatements in the financial statements may not be detected, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with the ISAs (UK). For instance, the further removed non-compliance is from the vents and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the auditor is to become aware of it or to recognise the non-compliance.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

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

Robi Evans

Robin Evans BA FCA CTA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Carpenter Box
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor

14/12/2021

Amelia House

Crescent Road

Worthing

West Sussex

BN11 1RL

Carpenter Box is a trading name of Carpenter Box Limited

R.I.S.E (Refuge, Information, Support and Education)

Statements of Financial Activities Including Income and Expenditure Accounts 31st March 2021

	Notes	General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
		2021				2020			
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS									
Donations and Legacies	4	437,330			437,330	176,404		10,000	186,404
Other Trading Activities	4	82,633			82,633	70,510			70,510
Income from Investments		593			593	2,628			2,628
Incoming from charitable activities									
Residential, Casework and Group Work		277,823		2,169,823	2,447,646	248,814		1,940,313	2,189,127
Therapeutic				164,396	164,396			112,785	112,785
Other Incoming Resources		6,826			6,826	1,188			1,188
Total Income and Endowments		805,205		2,334,219	3,139,424	499,544		2,063,098	2,562,642
RESOURCES EXPENDED									
Expenditure on Raising Funds	5	115,910			115,910	150,621			150,621
Expenditure on Charitable Activities	6								
Residential, Casework and Group Work		256,587	16,529	2,270,912	2,544,028	405,564		2,036,484	2,442,048
Therapeutic		3,334		140,309	143,643	10,818		145,234	156,052
Sub-Total		259,921	16,529	2,411,221	2,687,671	416,382		2,181,718	2,598,100
Other Expenditure	18	46,434	3,471		49,905				
Total Expenditure		422,265	20,000	2,411,221	2,853,486	567,003		2,181,718	2,748,721
Net income/ (expenditure) for the year	3	382,940	(20,000)	(77,002)	285,938	(67,459)		(118,620)	(186,079)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS									
Total funds brought forward		181,095	53,000	209,297	443,392	252,554	49,000	327,917	629,471
Transfer between funds		23,000	(23,000)			(4,000)	4,000		
Total funds carried forward		587,035	10,000	132,295	729,330	181,095	53,000	209,297	443,392

The statement of financial activities has been prepared on the basis that all activities are continuing

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Balance Sheet at 31st March 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	10	18,926	-
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	11	195,359	89,068
Cash at bank and in hand	16	807,710	486,180
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		1,003,069	575,248
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	12	254,760	131,856
NET CURRENT ASSETS		748,309	443,392
PROVISIONS	17	37,905	-
NET ASSETS		729,330	443,392
ACCUMULATED FUNDS			
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	15	587,035	181,095
Designated funds	15	10,000	53,000
Restricted funds	15	132,295	209,297
		729,330	443,392

Approved by the trustees on 4th December 2021

Patricia Wass

Chair

Angie Uglow

Treasurer

R.I.S.E (Refuge, Information, Support and Education)

Cash Flow Statement Accounts Ending 31st March 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Net cash used in operating activity	16	**344,595**	**(131,277)**
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Interest received		593	2,628
Purchase of Tangible Fixed Assets		(23,658)	-
Net cash provided by investment activities		**(23,065)**	**2,628**
Cash flows from financing activities			
Net cash provided by(used in) financing activities		-	-
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		321,530	(128,649)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		486,180	614,829
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		**807,710**	**486,180**

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ending 31st March 2021

1. Accounting Policies

a) Basis of Preparation

RISE is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Community Base, 113 Queens Road, Brighton, BN1 3XG.

The charity has no share capital. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the charity.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with "Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" issued on 16 July 2014, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006. The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 12.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

The accounts have been prepared under historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

Going Concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The trustees have considered relevant information, including the annual budget, forecast future cash flows and the impact of subsequent events in making their assessment. In January 2021 RISE learned that the tender for the new VAWG commissioned contract was not successful which resulted in a significant drop in income from 1st April 2021. The COVID-19 pandemic and ensuing economic shutdown caused an increase in demand on the service while at the same time providing short term funding opportunities as well as a good response from the public and local organisations in terms of donations and support. As a result RISE ended the year with significantly increased unrestricted reserves, which are being used to support a 3 year budget plan, keeping a smaller central and management team in place while we seek new funding. In order to save money we have left our main office and are continuing the remote working that was set up at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. We are focusing on retaining our core Helpline and Specialist Case Worker functions i.e. Housing, Children and Families Support, LGBT+ support. We also have our Therapy and Wellbeing teams which are currently expanding provision, with new group provision plus new specialist provision for BME women,

and are funded by both local commissioners (health and police and crime commissioner), and trusts and funds. Our Communities Project which supports disadvantaged communities and survivors to build on their strengths and grow beyond their experiences continues to develop and has recently been boosted by continuation funding from The National Lottery.

Based on these assessments and having regard to the resources available to the entity, the trustees have concluded that there is no material uncertainty in relation to the appropriateness of continuing to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and accounts.

b) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation.

Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful life at the following rate:

Fixtures and fittings 20% straight line basis per annum

Purchase of tangible fixed assets to a value of less than £500 are not capitalized.

c) Donations

Donations are accounted for on a received basis and are grossed up for any income tax recoverable.

Donated items are accounted for when received and are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value.

d) Grants receivable

Grants received are treated in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting Reporting by Charities". Grant income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that the income will be received. In the event that a grant is subject to the fulfilment of performance conditions before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

e) Legacies

Pecuniary legacies are recognised as receivable once probate has been granted and notification has been received. Residuary legacies are recognised as receivable once probate has been granted, provided that sufficient information has been received to enable valuation of the Charity's entitlement. Amounts receivable are included at 90% of their valuation to reflect uncertainty inherent in the administration of estates. Residuary legacies are subject to further

reduction to reflect the impact on the valuation of unrealised estate assets of subsequent adverse movements in property and investment markets. Reversionary interests involving a life tenant are not recognised due to the intrinsic uncertainties in valuing them.

f) Trustees

All the trustees donate their time spent running the charity on a voluntary basis and do not receive any remuneration. Indemnity Insurance is provided for the trustees.

g) Allocation of expenditure

Resources are analysed as follows:

Costs of generating funds includes fundraising and publicity costs as well as a proportion of salaries and staff costs based on allocation of staff time spent raising and funding applications.

Charitable activities expenditure include the direct running costs of the charity's projects together with the support costs incurred that enable these activities to be undertaken.

Governance costs relate to statutory costs in connection with the general running of the charity, such as audit fees, AGM and trustee expenses and legal and professional fees. They also include an allocation of staff salaries.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

h) Taxation

The charitable company is registered as a charity and is exempt from taxation (except for Value Added Tax) on its income and capital gains applied for charitable purposes.

i) Employee Benefits

The charity operates a defined contribution group personal pension scheme, which is available to all employees. The amount charged against expenditure represents the contributions payable to the scheme in respect of the year.

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the company is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

j) Leasing

Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

k) Fund Accounting

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

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with a specific purpose, as explained in note 15.

l) Designated Funds

Designated funds are set up in order to put aside funds for future large expenditure. As laid out in the reserves policy, a designated fund for building maintenance is defined.

Any transfers from general to designated reserves is agreed by the Board of Trustees and minuted.

The reserves policy is to be reviewed every two years.

m) Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial 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.

n) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the charitable company has a legal or constructive present obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable that the company will be required to settle that obligation, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the reporting date, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation.

2. Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3. Net Incoming Resources

Net incoming resources for the year are stated after charging:

	2021 £	2020 £
Auditors remuneration - audit services	7,853	6,600
Trustees' expenses	-	14
Operating lease payments	48,000	48,000

4. Voluntary Income

	2021 £	2020 £
CORE GRANT, DONATIONS AND LEGACIES		
B&H Core Grant	80,000	86,600
Major Donors	252,655	41,344
Unrestricted Donations	85,839	18,619
Restricted Donations	-	10,000
Legacies	50	364
Gift Aid	18,786	29,477
	437,330	186,404
OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES		
Training and student fees Income	12,463	2,900
Membership	150	110
Fundraising Events		
Race Income	27,940	52,652
Collections and Events	42,080	14,848
	82,633	70,510
TOTAL VOLUNTARY INCOME	519,963	256,914

5. Expenditure on Raising Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Fund	Restricted Funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Salaries and staff costs	69,111	-	-	69,111	68,655
Fundraising	24,699	-	-	24,699	57,690
Support costs and overheads	22,100	-	-	22,100	24,276
TOTAL	115,910	-	-	115,910	150,621

6. Expenditure on Charitable Activity

	Staff Costs	Direct Service Costs	Support and Governance Costs	Total 2021	Total 2020
Residential	£	£	£	£	£
Casework/ Group work	1,178,831	989,295	375,902	2,544,028	2,442,048
Therapeutic	96,883	20,101	26,659	143,643	156,052
TOTAL	1,275,714	1,009,396	402,561	2,687,671	2,598,100

7. Analysis of Support and Governance Costs

	Support	Governance	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
Salaries and Staff Costs	278,187	14,069	292,256	310,407
Audit and Accountancy Fees	-	7,853	7,853	6,600
Management Committee, Trustee expenses and AGM	-	1,409	1,409	2,563
Support Overheads	101,043	-	101,043	70,957
TOTAL	379,230	23,331	402,561	390,527

8. Employees and Trustees

During the year there were no reimbursements to trustees (2020: £14).

There was no remuneration paid to any of the trustees or any persons connected to them.

	2021	2020
Salary costs:	£	£
Wages and salaries	1,477,073	1,485,221
Social security costs	124,636	126,219
Pensions - Employer contribution	34,918	36,840
SMP	454	704
	1,637,081	1,648,984

No employee earned at a rate of greater than £60,000 per annum.

The Key Management Personnel Remuneration	2021 £	2020 £
Senior Managers	173,844	198,142

The average number of employees, analysed by function, was:

	2021	2020
Raising Funds	4	4
Charitable Activities	57	58
Management and administration of the charity	6	6
	67	68

9. Related Party Transactions

There were no related party transactions in the period.

The aggregate donations received from trustees during the period was £190 (2020: £160)

10. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment
COST	**£**
At 1 April 2020	15,154
Additions	23,658
Disposals	-
At 31 March 2021	38,812
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 April 2020	15,154
Disposals	-
Charge for year	4,732
At 31 March 2021	19,886
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2020	-
At 31 March 2021	18,926

11. Debtors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade debtors	18,835	37,857
Prepayments	3,470	43,601
Accrued income	10,232	7,610
Other debtors	162,822	-
	195,359	89,068

12. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade creditors	177,870	64,150
Deferred income	-	2,417
Accruals	25,779	10,949
Accrued annual leave	6,811	6,000
Taxation/pensions	44,300	46,908
Other creditors	-	1,432
	254,760	131,856

All the deferred income at 31 March 2020 was released into the Statement of Financial Activities during the year ended 31 March 2021.

13. Pensions

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme.

Contributions made by the company amounted to £34,918 (2020 £36,916) and the amount of contributions underpaid at the year end and included in creditors was £13,467 (2020 £13,408).

14. Operating Lease Commitments

The following operating lease payments are committed to be paid:

Land and buildings		2021	2020
		£	£
Expiring:	Within one year	2,000	36,000
	In two to five years	7,000	-
		9,000	36,000

Note – the charitable company left its main office at the break point of the lease in June 2021, and included the final rent payment in other expenditure (Note 18) as it was an onerous lease at the reporting date.

15. Funds

ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Tangible Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds	-	132,295	132,295	209,297
General funds	18,926	568,109	587,035	181,095
Designated Funds	-	10,000	53,000	53,000
	18,926	710,404	729,330	443,392

RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance at 31/03/2020	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers between funds	Balance at 31/03/2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Ask Me	1,853	-	1,853	-	-
Big Lottery	60,041	99,104	109,804	-	49,341
National Lottery Community Fund	-	99,243	99,243	-	-
CCG Therapy	5,398	91,628	96,486	-	540
Children In Need	7,655	40,637	41,170	-	7,122
VAWG B&H Portal Contract	65,986	1,504,269	1,570,255	-	-
MHCLG Dispersed Refuge	5,000	74,769	60,010	-	19,759
OPCC Safe Space	10,638	-	10,638	-	-
Nationwide	26,820	-	26,820	-	-
BHCC Assertive Outreach	13,213	35,452	43,584	-	5081
Postcode Community Trust	12,693	-	12,224	-	469
Higgedy Pies	-	5,000	5,000	-	-
National Foundation for Youth Music	-	24,106	10,068	-	14,038
Small Covid Emergency Grants	-	30,922	23,922	-	7,000
NHS SV Covid Emergency	-	72,767	43,822	-	28,945
MHCLG Covid Emergency	-	34,164	34,164	-	-
MOJ/PCC Covid Emergency	-	152,158	152,158	-	-
The Julia and Hans Rausing Trust	-	70,000	70,000	-	-
Total Restricted Funds	209,297	2,334,219	2,411,221	-	132,295

R.I.S.E (Refuge, Information, Support and Education)

RESTRICTED FUNDS 19-20 for comparison

	Balance at 31/03/2019	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers between funds	Balance at 31/03/2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Ask Me	4,162	-	2,309	-	1,853
Big Lottery	78,280	199,003	217,242	-	60,041
CCG	23,773	91,629	110,004	-	5,398
Children In Need	11,019	40,637	44,001	-	7,655
Comic Relief	4,073	21,157	25,230	-	-
GBT Refuge	9,250	5,000	14,250	-	-
GSK	19,584	49	19,633	-	-
VAWG B&H Portal Contract	78,529	1,439,267	1,451,810	-	65,986
Dodgson Foundation - Choir	-	2,200	2,200	-	-
MHCLG Dispersed Refuge	55,213	38,050	88,263	-	5,000
OPCC Safe Space	8,555	39,368	37,285	-	10,638
Garfield Weston	19,587	-	19,587	-	-
Make a Change - Women's Aid	15,892	53,963	69,855	-	-
Nationwide	-	49,971	23,151	-	26,820
BHCC Assertive Outreach	-	57,910	44,697	-	13,213
Chalk Cliff Trust	-	2,125	2,125	-	-
Postcode Community Trust	-	12,769	76	-	12,693
Other restricted funds	-	10,000	10,000	-	-
Total Restricted Funds	327,917	2,063,098	2,181,718	-	209,297

DESIGNATED FUNDS

	Balance at 31/03/2020	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers between Funds	Balance at 31/03/2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Buildings maintenance	15,000	-	-	(5,000)	10,000
Furniture replacement	18,000	-	-	(18,000)	-
Shaftesbury Court Refurbishment per lease requirement	20,000	-	20,000	-	-
Total Designated Funds	53,000	-	20,000	(23,000)	10,000
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
Removed furniture designated fund and reduced maintenance	-	-	-	23,000	23,000
Total Unrestricted Funds	181,095	805,205	422,265	23,000	587,035
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	443,392	3,139,424	2,853,486	-	729,330

R.I.S.E (Refuge, Information, Support and Education)

RESTRICTED FUNDS - PROVIDER AND PURPOSE

Provider	Purpose
Ask Me	"Ask Me" community ambassador training
B&HCC PCST	Frontline staff for IDVA, DAPRS and Helpline to include LGBT workers
Brighton & Hove City CCG	Family, Children and Young People's Service
B&HCC funding for GBT Refuge	Provision of support for the LGBT refuge
B&HCC funding for Outreach Navigator	Assertive Outreach to homeless community
Big Lottery - Reaching Communities	Outreach and therapeutic work and a volunteer coordinator
Break4Change	Delivery of Break for Change Service
Children In Need	Children's Worker
Dodgson Foundation	Choir
East Sussex County Council & Sussex Police	Additional funding to support domestic and sexual violence provision
Higgedy Pies	Vegetable plot at refuge
Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	Continuation of LGBT+ & Complex Need refuge
Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	Emergency funding during Covid-19 pandemic
Ministry of Justice via OPCC	Emergency funding during Covid-19 pandemic
National Foundation for Youth Music	Music therapy for young people
Nationwide	Support for clients to move on from Refuge
NHS via the OPCC	Uplift to sexual violence support services during Covid-19 pandemic
Postcode Community Trust	Therapeutic Gardening Project
Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner	Safe Space Sussex, Regroup and Economic Abuse workers
The National Lottery Community Fund	Coronavirus Community Support Fund
The Julia and Hans Rausing Trust	Core support during Covid-19 pandemic
VAWG B&H/ES Portal contract	Delivery of the Portal service to include helpline, high risk, prevention and recovery and residential across Brighton and Hove and East Sussex in partnership with CGL and Survivors Network.
Women's Aid Federation of England	Make a Change Perpetrator response

16. Notes to the Cash Flow Statement

Reconciliation of Net Movement in Funds to Net Cash Flow from Operating Activities

	2021	2020
	£	£
Net surplus (deficit)	285,938	(186,079)
Depreciation charges	4,732	-
Interest	(593)	(2,628)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(106,291)	(8,589)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	122,904	66,019
Increase/(decrease) in provisions	37,905	-
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(344,595)	(131,277)

Analysis of changes in net funds

	At 1 April 2020	Cash flows	At 31 March 2021
	£	£	£
Cash at Bank and in hand	486,180	321,530	807,710
Overdrafts/Loans falling due within 1 year.	-	-	-
	486,180	321,530	807,710

17. Provisions

	2021 £	2020 £
Provision for redundancy costs	24,487	-
Provision for dilapidation costs	13,418	-
Total Provisions	37,905	-

18. Other Expenditure

	2021 General Fund £	2021 Designated Fund £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Provision for redundancy costs	24,487	-	24,487	-
Provision for dilapidation costs	9,947	3,471	13,418	-
Onerous lease payments	12,000	-	12,000	-
	46,434	3,471	49,905	-

Rise

freedom from abuse & violence

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