

VOLUNTARY ACTION NORTH SOMERSET

England & Wales · Charity number 1065916

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [03466492](#)

Registered 1997-11-19

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Grove House
Grove Park
Weston-Super-Mare
North Somerset
BS23 2QJ

Phone 01934416486

Email info@vansmail.org.uk

Website www.vansweb.org.uk

Activities

Objects: The promotion of the voluntary sector, primarily but not exclusively in North Somerset for the public benefit by: 1. Liaising between charities, voluntary organisations, government agencies and other groups on relevant issues; 2. Providing training, conferences and seminars on subjects relevant to the efficiency of the voluntary sector; 3. Identifying needs in the voluntary sector and establishing projects or policies to address them; 4. Providing advice and information on fund-raising techniques appropriate for voluntary organisations and charities; 5. Advising businesses on charitable giving and encouraging employees to participate in voluntary work 6. Promoting volunteering and community involvement
In this clause, 'the voluntary sector' means charities and voluntary organisations defined as follows: 'Charities' are organisations, which are established for exclusively charitable purposes in accordance with the law of England and Wales. 'Voluntary organisations' are independent organisations, which are established for purposes that add value to the community as a whole, or a significant section of the community, and which are not permitted by their constitution to make a profit for private distribution. Voluntary organisations do not include local government or other statutory authorities.

Activities: VANS is the local infrastructure support organisation for voluntary and community groups and for volunteers across North Somerset. We provide a range of funding, development, training and networking activities to those groups. We also run the Volunteer Centre which provides information on volunteering

opportunities and provides information and support to people wishing to volunteer.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** LOCAL GOVERNMENT DISTRICT NORTH SOMERSET
- North Somerset

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£685,951	£592,067	£689,530	16
2024-03-31	£606,184	£603,150	£595,646	14
2023-03-31	£791,401	£623,986	£592,612	14
2022-03-31	£733,713	£415,981	£425,197	10
2021-03-31	£280,180	£183,921	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Delyth Lloyd-Evans	Chair	2017-10-16
Christopher James Best		2025-10-14
Helen Ailsa Greer		2025-10-14
Jade Danielle Moore-Dixon		2025-10-14
John David Klinker		2025-10-14
Ken Beecham		2024-09-30
Marie Davies		2026-02-23
Sally Quigg		2024-09-30

VOLUNTARY ACTION NORTH SOMERSET

England & Wales - Charity number 1065916

Accounts

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited
(A Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Company Number: 03466492
Charity Registered in England and Wales Number: 1065916

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Contents

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	<u>Page</u>
Reference and Administrative Details	2
Trustee Directors' Report	3 – 9
Independent Examiners' Report	10
Statement of Financial Activities	11
Balance Sheet	12
Statement of Cashflows	13
Notes to the Financial Statements	14 – 28

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Reference and Administrative Details

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Charity Name Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors
K Beecham
A Costes
D Lloyd-Evans
S Quigg
N Salter
S Shillabeer

Chief Executive M Gardner

Registered Office
Weston Court
Oldmixon Crescent
Weston-Super-Mare
North Somerset
BS24 9AU

Independent Examiner
Michelle Ferris FCA DChA
Albert Goodman LLP
Goodwood House
Blackbrook Park Avenue
Taunton
Somerset
TA1 2PX

Bankers
CAF Bank
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Introduction

The Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of the Companies Act, present their annual report and unaudited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The charity (hereinafter referred to by its commonly known name as 'VANS') is controlled by its governing document, dated 17 November 1997 and amended on 21 June 2017, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006. In the event of the company being wound up, member' liability is restricted to £10. VANS is a registered charity number 1065916 and a company limited by guarantee number 03466492.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's memorandum and articles of association, the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP FRS 102 – implemented 1 January 2019) and are in accordance with the special provision relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Trustees

The names of trustees who served during the financial year are:

D Lloyd Evans

N Salter

S Shillabeer

L Sweeney (Resigned 9th June 2025)

L Bowen (Resigned 14th April 2025)

K Beecham (Appointed 31st September 2024)

S Quigg (Appointed 31st September 2024)

A. Costes (Co-opted 30th October 2024)

E Wormald-Kelly (Resigned 4th April 2024)

Public Benefit

VANS as an organisation meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of citizenship and community development headings. All projects delivered by VANS are designed by funders to deliver specific public benefit.

The trustees state that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the commissions public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which guidance is relevant. The trustees also confirm that they have complied with section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Strategic Report

Strategic Aims

Our central mission is to champion, support and strengthen the role of the non-profit sector, including volunteer, community, faith and social enterprise organisations, in addressing the needs of people in our communities.

We achieve this mission pursuing four key objectives:

1. To advocate and develop leadership that empowers non-profits to lead and thrive
2. To encourage and develop partnerships and collaborations
3. To create, develop, and strengthen a dynamic non-profit-making sector
4. To develop and grow volunteering

We know that our work is more crucial than ever, and at the heart of what we do is building strong partnerships, that are truly making a difference in our community.

Achieving the Key Objectives

1. To advocate and develop leadership that empowers non-profits to lead and thrive

VANS works to amplify the non-profit-making sector's voice and influence key decision-makers and funders to deliver policies that promote social justice, equality, and community impact. For example:

- VANS commissioned 'The State of Ageing Report in North Somerset'. This report provides evidence and data to support advocacy efforts focused on the needs of older people.
- Sitting on strategic boards provides VANS with direct access to decision-making processes and enables VANS to promote the work of the sector and its leaders.
- VANS has been involved with the development of The Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Sector Alliance. The Alliance is a direct mechanism for collective advocacy and influencing decision-making in health.

2. To encourage and develop partnerships and collaborations

VANS brings together networks of local organisations with a shared purpose to drive effective and impactful joint working. For example:

- VANS facilitates the Children and Young People Network which unites providers, the voluntary sector, statutory partners, and funders to collaboratively develop and influence the commissioning of services for children and young people. Through building trusted relationships, the Network works together to understand the issues affecting young people, identify service gaps, and develop action plans.
- VANS leads the Senior Leaders Forum. This provides a space for senior leaders from various organisations to connect and share insights.
- VANS leads the Ageing Well Forum which specifically focuses on bringing together service providers and decision-makers to address the challenges and opportunities of ageing well in North Somerset.

3. To create, develop, and strengthen a dynamic non-profit-making sector

VANS works to create a diverse, thriving and sustainable sector, through providing training, guidance, and supporting capacity-building initiatives. For example:

- VANS has supported non-profit making organisations with grant applications and bid writing. This has enhanced the financial capacity of voluntary organisations by improving their ability to secure funding.
- VANS has developed policy developments with organisations to strengthen their internal governance, operational efficiency, and strategic planning, contributing to a more robust organisational capacity.
- VANS has delivered training sessions on co-production and engaging with communities to build the capacity of organisations to develop more relevant, effective, and sustainable services by ensuring they are rooted in community needs and have strong local support.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

4. To develop and grow volunteering

VANS recognises the significant contributions of volunteers who play a critical role in creating positive change within the community.

- Being an accredited volunteering centre establishes VANS as a trusted and recognised hub for volunteering. This accreditation provides credibility, assures potential volunteers of quality opportunities and support, and signals to organisations that VANS adheres to best practices in volunteer management, thereby encouraging more people and organisations to engage with volunteering through VANS.
- VANS has designed a toolkit for Children and Young People (CYP) volunteering. The toolkit helps to break down barriers and provides resources tailored to engaging CYP in volunteering. This targeted approach makes volunteering more accessible and appealing to younger individuals, fostering a pipeline of future volunteers.
- VANS runs the Step Forward programme which is designed to encourage individuals to take the first step into volunteering. By lowering the initial barriers to entry and showcasing the benefits, Step Forward aims to attract individuals who may not have considered volunteering before.
- VANS also manages its own groups of volunteers. VANS utilises volunteers in many different roles which include: delivering supplies to new families, the Good Neighbour Scheme and Community Resilience Volunteers. These volunteer roles directly demonstrate the impact of volunteering and offer diverse opportunities for people to get involved with their communities.

Financial Review

With the support of our key funders, VANS remains in a financially stable position. Overall, the funding landscape remains difficult for all charities and whilst VANS has been successful in attracting new grant funding, this is often short-term. During the year, VANS moved premises and whilst this is already yielding significant benefits to the organisation, in working processes and efficiency, and some opportunity to generate income from meeting rooms, nevertheless it is a more expensive location and, along with other rises in costs, existing contracts are still not reflecting the rise in organisational costs.

A breakdown of the charity's income streams and expenditure is set out within these accounts, together with the Independent Examiner's positive report.

Fundraising

The VANS team has continued to work with our key stakeholders and partners to demonstrate our impact on non-profit-making organisations and our communities. VANS is seen as an innovative, 'can do' organisation that delivers results, when funding opportunities become available.

VANS has not utilised the services of professional fundraisers during this financial year. VANS runs the North Somerset Lottery in conjunction with Gatherwell; VANS holds the Licence with North Somerset Council and complies with all Lottery regulations. There have been no complaints about VANS fundraising activities this year.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Reserves Policy

The Trustees annually review the reserves policy with the aim of ensuring VANS' sustainability and to protect the organisation and delivery of its charitable programmes, thus providing time to adjust to changing financial circumstances.

Unrestricted general reserves are needed to deal with unexpected short-falls or expenditures, arising because of a significant loss of income or not provided for in the annual budgeting process.

Whilst VANS trustees consider that the organisation is on a firm financial footing, the trustees are conscious that pressures on funders, political changes, or an economic crisis, could lead to financial pressure for the organisation in the coming years. Therefore, it is considered a prudent objective to hold Contingency reserves at the level of 12 months of charitable expenditure to cover VANS non-project costs and 6 months of project funding as set out in the budget for the forthcoming year.

Investment Policy

VANS does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer-term investments such as stocks and shares. The Organisation has adopted a low-risk strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies. Reserves and funding received in advance for projects are held in an interest-bearing deposit account with our bankers, Charities Aid Foundation Bank.

Future Plans

In an increasingly uncertain environment VANS continues to look to the future to find new ways to champion, support and strengthen the non-profit sector and serve our community.

Strategy & Plans

VANS responded well and made a major contribution to the community through the Covid epidemic and its aftermath. The organisation had to grow to successfully meet the new demands being placed upon it. Over the last two years, VANS has faced significant challenges to meet new and changing demands while sustaining this larger, more broadly-based, organisation. It has done so, achieving modest surpluses while delivering in many exciting areas, and is now looking ahead. In a period of political change and economic uncertainty, with funders facing financing challenges, we have embarked on a comprehensive strategic review to ensure we have a clear focus and direction that will enable us to continue meet ever more of the emerging priorities and needs of the non-profit community.

For the coming year, Vans' priorities will include:

- Completing our governance review with our new objects and updated documentation.
- Launching our updated website and communications strategy
- Refreshing the Senior Leaders Forum to make it a place for strategic discussions and future planning.
- Building stronger links with local businesses, with a focus on pro bono support and corporate volunteering.
- Continuing to develop links and joint work with Weston College

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Specific plans will include:

- Installing an accessible toilet in Grove House
- Setting up a Fundraising Forum to support local organisations to access more funding to enable them to deliver their services to the community.
- Delivering Technology and AI workshops to the sector
- VANS Domestic Abuse Recovery Service launching new pattern changing courses to support survivors of domestic abuse.
- Increasing VANS support for Children and Young People with the development of the Children and Young Person Network of organisations and North Somerset Council.
- Working with Citizen's Panel in the Arts – a forum made up of local people who are working together to support community art projects in North Somerset.

Structure, Governance, and Management

Organisation and Decision-making

Voluntary Action North Somerset is overseen by the Board of Trustees. As charity trustees, they are responsible for complying with all relevant legislation applicable to charities. This includes registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate. The Board meets a minimum of four times a year to review performance and key risks, plus two Trustee 'Away Days' for in-depth consideration of key matters, with additional ad-hoc meetings being held if required. In addition, we have Trustee-led Task & Finish Groups (often limited in time to address a specific issue), e.g. in Finance, Governance, Brand, Premises.

Day-to-day responsibility for the running of the organisation is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer and the team of paid employees. Rewards and remunerations of the team are discussed and agreed at a Board Meeting in line with VANS Rewards Policy.

Trustee Recruitment, Selection & Induction

VANS' Trustees are normally appointed for a three-year term which is renewable. Processes for the election of the trustees are covered by the Articles and there is a policy and procedures for the co-option of the trustees.

VANS aims to have a board of trustees which has a good understanding of the non-profit making sector and a broad range of relevant business experience to ensure that we are meeting the needs of the sector, managing the organisation effectively, and compliant with our fiduciary responsibilities. Trustee positions are advertised externally. Trustees can be co-opted and elected at the AGM. No external body has the right to appoint trustees.

To help Trustees understand their role and responsibilities an induction pack has been developed that supports trustees new to the role. The Chair conducts an annual review with each trustee and holds trustee briefings covering relevant issues. Trustees are encouraged to keep themselves up to date with Charity legislation, through relevant third-party websites and through attending training when required.

Risk Management

The Board of Trustees has identified the major risks to which they believe the organisation may be exposed. These are reviewed dependent on need, and procedures implemented to mitigate against them. A Risk Register is held by VANS and key risks are reviewed at each quarterly Board meeting.

The main areas of risk that have been identified are:

- Failure to achieve long-term financial sustainability – mitigated by the continuation of ongoing contracts, a pipeline of projects aligning to the charity's strategic ambitions, regularly monitored by trustees; and by establishing a Contingency reserve.
- Inability to meet the changing needs and expectations of funders, clients, and the public – mitigated by regular CEO reviews and through monitoring individual and team performance. Relationship management and regular feedback from relevant stakeholders enables the charity to monitor quality and visibility of its services.
- Financial mismanagement, inaccuracies, or non-compliance with regulatory standards, which could lead to financial losses, legal penalties, and damage to the company's reputation – mitigated by employing a specialist bookkeeping company to prepare complete & accurate records, having a Finance Trustee Lead to oversee internal financial management, and appointing an independent examiner from Albert Goodman to review the Annual Report and Financial Statements.
- Reputational risk, arising from negative publicity, misconduct, or financial irregularities, leading to decreased confidence of key stakeholders and the VCFSE sector – mitigated by strong governance processes around financial management. A local Media organisation has been employed to develop our external messaging; website and social media to ensure that stakeholders are confident in working with VANS. A Task and Finish Group, including Trustees has been established to develop our team's use of digital media and communications. VANS' reputation is built on trust and is our most valuable asset.
- Non-compliance with legal frameworks – mitigated by an in-year internal evaluation of all systems, processes, and policies to ensure adherence.
- Inadequate and non-compliant governance and policies – mitigated by maintaining an effective Board and a regular flow of additional trustees or associate advisors with the skills and experience to support the strategic direction of the charity. Alongside this, we ensure that governance and policy reviews ensure that the charity demonstrates best practice in all VANS does.
- Technological risk, arising from increasing reliance on digital systems exposes VANS to cyberattacks, data breaches, and system failures, leading to the loss of sensitive information, financial data, or critical operational systems, disrupting services, damaging trust, and incurring substantial financial costs – mitigated by employing RTIM to manage our IT systems and support VANS with cybersecurity measures and system updates. VANS is also utilising a new CRM system and undergoing staff training to mitigate these risks.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also directors of Voluntary Action North Somerset for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report (incorporating the directors' report) and the financial statements in accordance with 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).

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, and of the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

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

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

This report has been prepared in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Approved by order of the Board on 13 October 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

D Lloyd-Evans
Trustee

N Salter
Trustee

Independent examiners report to the Trustees of Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited ("the Company") for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the 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 the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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

Michelle Ferris BSc (Hons) FCA DChA
Albert Goodman LLP
Goodwood House
Blackbrook Park Avenue
Taunton
Somerset
TA1 2PX

Date: 22 October 2025

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Statement of Financial Activities (including an Income and Expenditure account)

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrest- ricted Funds £	Rest- ricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Unrest- ricted Funds £	Rest- ricted Funds £	Total 2024 £
Income from:							
Donations and general grants	2	10,229	7,718	17,947	14,302	6,654	20,956
Charitable activities	3	32,494	621,935	654,429	27,465	549,887	577,352
Investment income	4	13,575	-	13,575	7,876	-	7,876
Total income		56,298	629,653	685,951	49,643	556,541	606,184
Expenditure on:							
Charitable expenditure	5	16,045	576,022	592,067	83,162	519,988	603,150
Total expenditure		16,045	576,022	592,067	83,162	519,988	603,150
Net income/(expenditure) before transfers		40,253	53,631	93,884	(33,519)	36,553	3,034
Transfer between funds	11	(3,656)	3,656	-	26,205	(26,205)	-
Net movement in funds		36,597	57,287	93,884	(7,314)	10,348	3,034
Reconciliation of funds							
Fund balances at 01 April 2024		352,138	243,508	595,646	359,452	233,160	592,612
Fund balances at 31 March 2025	11	388,735	300,795	689,530	352,138	243,508	595,646

The results for the year derive from continuing activities and there are no gains or losses other than those shown above.

The statement of financial activities incorporates the income and expenditure account.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited - Company Registration Number: 03466492

Balance Sheet

As at 31 March 2025

	Notes	2025	2024
		£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	7	-	-
Current assets			
Debtors	8	9,845	139,079
Cash at bank and in hand	9	762,519	543,377
		<u>772,364</u>	<u>682,456</u>
Creditors			
Amounts falling due within one year	10	(82,834)	(86,810)
		<u>689,530</u>	<u>595,646</u>
Net current assets		<u>689,530</u>	<u>595,646</u>
Net assets		<u><u>689,530</u></u>	<u><u>595,646</u></u>
Funds			
Unrestricted funds			
General funds	11	59,305	15,990
Designated funds	11	329,430	336,148
		<u>388,735</u>	<u>352,138</u>
Restricted funds	11	300,795	243,508
		<u>689,530</u>	<u>595,646</u>
Net assets		<u><u>689,530</u></u>	<u><u>595,646</u></u>

These accounts have been prepared and delivered in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

For the year in question, the charitable company was entitled to exemption from an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The trustees/directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

Approved by the Board of Trustees for issue on 13 October 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

D Lloyd-Evans
Trustee

N Salter
Trustee

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited
Statement of Cashflows
For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net movements in funds for the year		93,884	3,034
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items			
Finance income	4	(13,575)	(7,876)
		<u>80,309</u>	<u>(4,842)</u>
Working capital adjustments			
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	8	129,234	132,843
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	10	(3,976)	18,835
		<u>205,567</u>	<u>146,836</u>
Net cash flow from operations			
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received	4	13,575	7,876
		<u>219,142</u>	<u>154,712</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents			
Reconciliation of net debt			
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		543,377	388,665
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		<u>219,142</u>	<u>154,712</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u>762,519</u>	<u>543,377</u>

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting Policies

1.1 General information and basis of accounting

Voluntary Action North Somerset is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in the United Kingdom under the Companies Act. The maximum liability of each member is limited to £10. The address of the registered office is given on page 2. The nature of the charity's operations and its principal activities are set out in the Trustees report on pages 3-9.

The financial statements have been prepared in £ sterling on the historical cost basis and in accordance with accounting and reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)- (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

1.2 Going concern

The trustees assess whether the use of the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate, i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements and have concluded that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting when preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Income

All income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income. The valuation of donated services is not quantified within the Statement of Financial Activities.

Donation income is received by way of general grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Income from grants, relating to specifically the provision of goods or services as part of charitable activities or services to clients are included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable and in the period in which they relate to. Grants are deferred when the monies have been received in advance of the period in which they relate to.

Other trading activities income includes income relating to fundraising and is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.

Investment income is included when receivable.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

1.4 Government grants

Government grants are accounted for when unconditionally due and reasonable assurance can be gained that it will be received. Where funds are received in advance, for a specified period, these funds are deferred and recognised in the period to which they relate. Where funds have not been received in a specified period, these funds will be accrued in debtors and recognised in the period to which they relate. Not all grants received have conditions and performance indicators attached, where this is the case, the income is included within donations. Performance related grants are included within Charitable Activities income.

1.5 Donated services

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), unpaid volunteer time is not recognised in the financial statements. Where services have been donated to the charity, these are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity, with a corresponding entry in both donations income and the relevant expenditure line.

1.6 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. All expenditure is gross of VAT which cannot be recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services to its clients. Direct costs are allocated to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them are shown as contributions to core expenditure.

Other support costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity.

1.7 Fixed assets

Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets over their estimated useful lives at the following rate:-

Fixtures and fittings – 20% per annum straight line basis

Fixed assets are valued at cost less depreciation.

1.8 Debtors

Accrued income is recognised at the settlement amount due and prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

1.9 Cash at bank and in hand

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

1.10 Creditors

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

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

1.11 Taxation

The organisation is a registered charity and is therefore not liable to corporation tax to the extent that income and gains are applied to the charitable objectives of the charity.

1.12 Pension contributions

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The scheme and its assets are held by independent managers. Contributions are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

1.13 Allocation of costs

A pre-determined amount of overhead expenditure on each project is calculated and transferred from the project to overheads as a contribution.

1.14 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds receivable or generated for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds assigned for specific purposes by the trustees.

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets this criterion is charged to the fund, together with a fair allocation of management and support costs.

1.15 Operating leases

Leases in which substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases. Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as incurred over the term of the lease.

1.16 VAT

The charity is not VAT registered and therefore all costs are inclusive of VAT.

1.17 Financial instruments

The charity only holds basic financial instruments as defined in FRS 102. The financial assets and liabilities of the charity and their measurement are as follows:

Financial assets – trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

Cash at bank and deposit accounts – these are classified as basic financial instruments and are measured at face value.

Financial liabilities – trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are basic financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost. Taxation and social security creditors are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

2 Donations and general grants

	Unre- stricted funds	Rest- ricted funds	Total 2025	Unre- stricted funds	Rest- ricted funds	Total 2024
Donations						
Donations & gifts	10,229	7,718	17,947	14,302	6,654	20,956
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	10,229	7,718	17,947	14,302	6,654	20,956
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
The income above is made up of:						
Received in year	10,229	7,718	17,947	14,302	6,654	20,956
Deferred income carried forward	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	10,229	7,718	17,947	14,302	6,654	20,956
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Where grants are received in advance, for a specified period, these funds are deferred and recognised in the period to which they relate.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

3 Incoming resources from charitable activities

	Unre- stricted funds	Rest- ricted funds	Total 2025	Unre- stricted funds	Rest- ricted funds	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Grants:						
Ageing Well	-	4,000	4,000	-	95,188	95,188
Befriending	-	-	-	-	45,833	45,833
Big Lottery Fund / Reclaim	-	-	-	-	58,605	58,605
Community Resilience	-	-	-	6,025	-	6,025
Community Researchers*	-	-	-	-	3,500	3,500
Community Transport	-	74,543	74,543	-	-	-
Equalities	-	22,500	22,500	-	57,930	57,930
Infrastructure Development*	32,447	-	32,447	17,398	-	17,398
IANS	-	134,915	134,915	-	-	-
C&YP Volunteering*	-	6,500	6,500	-	25,000	25,000
NSC Childrens Centre*	-	20,115	20,115	-	19,324	19,324
Mental Health Grants*	-	-	-	-	56,000	56,000
DARS	-	70,750	70,750	-	-	-
DARS C&YP	-	40,874	40,874	-	-	-
DACP*	-	79,395	79,395	-	83,395	83,395
SPF	-	-	-	-	4,500	4,500
Sequoia Project*	-	-	-	-	10,200	10,200
Step Forward*	-	31,000	31,000	-	11,413	11,413
Bristol University Project	-	-	-	-	5,000	5,000
Wellbeing Collective	-	16,392	16,392	-	-	-
Volunteer Management	-	20,000	20,000	-	10,200	10,200
NSOD	-	40,000	40,000	-	-	-
VCFSE Locality Lead Partnership	-	46,000	46,000	-	60,000	60,000
Other grants < £5,000*	(244)	14,951	14,707	2,812	3,799	6,611
Other charitable activities:			-			
Consultation, events & training	291	-	291	1,230	-	1,230
	32,494	621,935	654,429	27,465	549,887	577,352
The income shown above is made up of:						
Received in year	32,494	624,035	656,529	27,465	564,788	592,253
Deferred income brought forward	-	57,998	57,998	-	43,097	43,097
Deferred income carried forward	-	(60,098)	(60,098)	-	(57,998)	(57,998)
	32,494	621,935	654,429	27,465	549,887	577,352

Where grants are received in advance, for a specified period, these funds are deferred and recognised in the period to which they relate.

* denotes amounts received from government. See note 14 for more information.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

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

4 Investment income

	Unre- stricted funds £	Rest- stricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Unre- stricted funds £	Rest- stricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Bank interest	13,575	-	13,575	7,876	-	7,876

5 Charitable expenditure

	Unres- tricted £	Res- stricted £	Total 2025 £	Unres- tricted £	Res- stricted £	Total 2024 £
Staff costs						
Staff salaries	80,458	293,067	373,525	96,325	261,320	357,645
Counsellors	-	46,276	46,276	-	-	-
Consultancy	(5,075)	31,102	26,027	-	87,888	87,888
Training	1,157	741	1,898	6,350	818	7,168
Travel	343	4,803	5,146	577	5,889	6,466
HR service	5,569	-	5,569	2,350	-	2,350
Other staff costs	3,729	3,355	7,084	1,455	2,671	4,126
Infrastructure costs						
Insurance	1,351	-	1,351	867	-	867
Office expenses	16,317	833	17,150	6,098	1,354	7,452
IT costs	4,742	4,326	9,068	2,883	2,268	5,151
Postage, printing and stationery	2,511	1,611	4,122	2,789	1,156	3,945
Rent and services charges	3,137	-	3,137	2,457	-	2,457
Telephone	8,368	541	8,909	9,305	133	9,438
Direct project costs						
Project costs	3,939	52,206	56,145	3,763	68,339	72,102
Grants provided	-	1,500	1,500	112	16,289	16,401
Finance and governance costs						
Accountancy fees	16,682	-	16,682	12,845	-	12,845
Independent Examination fees	1,800	-	1,800	1,680	-	1,680
Bank charges	60	-	60	60	-	60
Membership	1,118	-	1,118	4,809	300	5,109
	146,206	440,361	586,567	154,725	448,425	603,150
Contributions to core expenditure	(130,161)	135,661	5,500	(71,563)	71,563	-
	16,045	576,022	592,067	83,162	519,988	603,150

All grants provided were to institutions (partner organisations) as part of the funding conditions (2024 – all).

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

6 Employees and employment costs

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	351,668	328,846
Employer's NI	15,264	22,860
Pension contributions	6,593	5,939
	<u>373,525</u>	<u>357,645</u>

Defined contribution pension scheme.

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the company to the scheme and amounted to £6,593 (2024: £5,939). Contributions totalling £1,626 (2024: £1,389) were payable to the scheme at the end of the year and are included in creditors.

No individual employee was paid over £60,000 (2024: none).

No remuneration was paid to any Trustees during the year (2024: none). No expenses were reimbursed to the Trustees by the charity during the year (2024: none).

The key management personnel of the charity is considered to be the Chief Executive. The total costs to the charity of employee benefits (including employers national insurance but not employer pension contributions) for the key management personnel were £51,363 (2024: £49,955).

The average monthly head count was 16 staff (2024: 14 staff).

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

7 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures & Fittings £	Total £
Cost		
As at 01 April 2024	35,332	35,332
Additions	-	-
Disposals	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
As at 31 March 2025	35,332	35,332
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Depreciation		
As at 01 April 2024	35,332	35,332
Elimination on disposal	-	-
Charge for year	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
As at 31 March 2025	35,332	35,332
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net book value		
As at 31 March 2025	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
As at 31 March 2024	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>

8 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	9,845	139,079
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	9,845	139,079
	<hr/>	<hr/>

9 Cash at bank and in hand

	2025 £	2024 £
Bank balances	762,519	543,377
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	762,519	543,377
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

10 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	7,990	10,016
Other creditors	8,745	17,175
Accruals & deferred income	66,099	59,619
	<u>82,834</u>	<u>86,810</u>

Deferred income

	2025	2024
	£	£
Deferred income at 01 April 2024	57,998	43,097
Released from previous years	(25,900)	(24,999)
Resources deferred in the year	28,000	39,900
Deferred income at 31 March 2025	<u>60,098</u>	<u>57,998</u>

Where grants are received in advance, for a specified period, these funds are deferred and recognised in the period to which they relate.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

11 Statement of funds

	Balance				Balance
	01.04.24	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	31.03.25
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General unrestricted funds	15,990	52,209	(8,106)	(788)	59,305
Designated funds:					
Integrated care	22,868	-	-	(22,868)	-
Community Resilience North					
Somerset (CRNS)	16,613	-	(7,939)	-	8,674
Community lottery	6,667	4,089	-	-	10,756
Designated contingency reserve	290,000	-	-	20,000	310,000
Total unrestricted funds	352,138	56,298	(16,045)	(3,656)	388,735
Restricted funds					
					-
Ageing Well	81,373	4,000	(61,373)	-	24,000
Befriending	15,745	-	(15,745)	-	-
Community Researchers	3,500	6,497	(7,622)	-	2,375
Community Transport	-	54,543	(19,476)	-	35,067
Children & Young People's Group	27,045	6,500	(14,510)	-	19,035
Community Learning	980	-	(980)	-	-
Domestic Abuse and Chronic Pair	-	79,395	(57,336)	-	22,059
Domestic Abuse Referral Service					
(adult)	2,336	70,983	(66,372)	-	6,947
Domestic Abuse Referral Service					
(children and young people)	-	40,874	(26,581)	-	14,293
Physical Activity	-	22,500	(24,927)	2,427	-
Equalities	9,202	11,253	(25,049)	4,594	-
Improving Ageing in North					
Somerset (IANS)	-	154,915	(84,495)	-	70,420
NSC children centre volunteer					
co-ordinator	-	20,115	(20,115)	-	-
North Somerset Online Directory					
(NSOD)	-	40,000	(32,814)	-	7,186
Pulse	1,494	-	(1,494)	-	-
Mental Health Grants	56,000	-	(5,520)	-	50,480
Sequoia Project	10,200	(10,200)	-	-	-
Step Forward / Recovery	15,633	31,000	(29,498)	-	17,135
Volunteering in Health (VIH)	-	9,320	(5,868)	-	3,452
Volunteer Management	10,000	25,500	(17,326)	-	18,174
VCFSE Locality Lead Partnership	10,000	46,000	(47,635)	(3,365)	5,000
Wellbeing Collective	-	16,458	(11,286)	-	5,172
Total restricted funds	243,508	629,653	(576,022)	3,656	300,795
Total funds	595,646	685,951	(592,067)	-	689,530

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

11 Statement of funds- prior year

	Balance 01.04.23 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31.03.24 £
Unrestricted funds					
General unrestricted funds	336,584	49,643	(83,162)	(287,075)	15,990
Designated funds:					
Integrated care	22,868	-	-	-	22,868
Community Resilience North Somerset	-	-	-	16,613	16,613
Community lottery	-	-	-	6,667	6,667
Designated contingency reserve	-	-	-	290,000	290,000
Total unrestricted funds	359,452	49,643	(83,162)	26,205	352,138
Restricted funds					
Reclaim Project	53,829	58,788	(110,449)	168	2,336
Ageing Well	54,800	95,213	(56,073)	(12,567)	81,373
Ageing Well - Care Homes	29,300	-	(29,930)	630	-
Befriending	18,667	45,833	(33,933)	(14,822)	15,745
Capacity Builders	18,100	-	-	(18,100)	-
Community Researchers	-	3,500	-	-	3,500
Children & Young People's Group	2,692	25,000	(647)	-	27,045
Community Learning	980	-	-	-	980
Domestic Abuse and Chronic Pain	-	83,395	(86,276)	2,881	-
Physical Activity	-	56,500	(64,360)	7,860	-
Equalities	1,100	6,155	(14,358)	11,000	3,897
NSC children centre volunteer co-ordinator	-	19,324	(17,333)	(1,991)	-
NHS BNSSG	1,494	-	-	-	1,494
Pulse	5,000	-	(5,000)	-	-
Refugees	3,080	5,197	(7,390)	4,418	5,305
Mental Health Grants	-	56,000	-	-	56,000
Sequoia Project	-	10,200	-	-	10,200
Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF)	138	4,500	(2,095)	(2,543)	-
Step Forward / Recovery	33,631	11,413	(28,727)	(684)	15,633
Bristol University Project	-	5,000	(2,408)	(2,592)	-
Ukraine Relief	10,245	-	-	(10,245)	-
VCFSE Locality Lead Partnership	104	60,000	(36,960)	(13,144)	10,000
Volunteer Management	-	10,200	(12,795)	12,595	10,000
Wellbeing Collective	-	323	(11,254)	10,931	-
Total restricted funds	233,160	556,541	(519,988)	(26,205)	243,508
Total funds	592,612	606,184	(603,150)	-	595,646

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Unrestricted funds

- The **General Unrestricted** fund represents the unrestricted funds of the charity at the year end.
- The **Integrated Care** Fund was designated to develop and support volunteering across the Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Integrated Care Board. The Trustees have agreed to undesignate this fund and move it to general unrestricted funds, enabling it to be used to support current VANS projects.
- **Community Resilience North Somerset** (CRNS) is a designated fund that has been set up to support the development of the Community Resilience Volunteer Network.
- The **Community Lottery** Fund has been designated as a fund to be used to benefit North Somerset community. There are plans to start to distribute these funds in 2025-2026.
- The **Designated Contingency Reserve** Fund level has been agreed by the Board of Trustees to be funded with surplus unrestricted operating funds. To maintain the fund at the agreed level, the organisation will seek to maintain investment from project delivery, as well as undertake fundraising campaigns, increasing earned income through the development of internal revenue streams and ensuring that expenditure is kept to a reasonable level. The VANS' Trustees consider it a prudent objective to hold contingency reserves at the current level of 12 months of charitable expenditure to cover VANS operating costs and 6 months of project funding as set out in the budget for the forthcoming year.

Restricted funds

- **Ageing Well** is a restricted fund from Weston, Worle and Villages Locality to provide an Ageing Well Lead to champion the work of and support the growth of the non-profit making sector providing services and support to older people.
- The **Befriending** Alliance is a restricted fund, funded through Health and North Somerset Council to establish a single point of access for Befriending referrals and to raise the profile of befriending with service providers.
- The **Community Researchers** Project is funded by the National Institute for Health and Care Research. The project trains young people at Weston College to engage their peers in Health Research.
- **Community Transport** is a restricted grant from Westlocal and North Somerset Council to support new bus routes in the Nailsea and Weston super Mare areas. There is an additional grant to support VANS to commission a report to explore the current community transport provision in the rural areas of North Somerset.
- The **Children and Young People's Group** is a restricted fund to address key challenges being faced by children and young people and to provide mental health events and a non-profit sector Children and Young Person's Network to support this work.
- **Community Learning** is a consultancy project working directly with a community organisation to provide 1:1 support with their Constitution and policies.
- **Domestic Abuse and Chronic Pain** is a restricted fund, funded by North Somerset Council. This is a specialist trauma service for survivors of domestic abuse with disabilities and chronic conditions. The service also offers training to statutory services.
- **Domestic Abuse Referral Service (adult)** provides free courses and counselling sessions to survivors of domestic abuse. Note: this was previously the **Reclaim Project** that has been renamed the Domestic Abuse Referral Service in 2025 with funds transferred.
- **Domestic Abuse Referral Service (children and young people)** provides free courses and counselling sessions to children and young people who have experienced domestic abuse.
- **Physical Activity** is a North Somerset Council funded restricted fund to provide free physical activity sessions to those who are not currently engaged in physical activity.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Restricted funds (cont...)

- The **Equalities** Programme is a series of projects which focus on working directly with minoritised groups living within North Somerset to promote inclusion and celebrate diversity. A balance of £5,305 was transferred from the Refugees Project.
- **Improving Ageing in North Somerset** (IANS) is a restricted grant from the National Lottery and the Weston Worle and Villages and Woodspring Health Localities to work with seldom heard groups of older people in North Somerset to promote healthy ageing and age-friendly communities.
- **NSC Children Centre Volunteer Co-ordinator** is a restricted fund from North Somerset Council to manage their Children Centre Volunteer programme.
- **North Somerset Online Directory** (NSOD) – A grant from North Somerset Council to update and populate non-profit sector data for their on-line directory.
- The **Pulse** project is a project which provided research and a measure for the state of the non-profit-making organisations in North Somerset.
- The **Mental Health Grants** Project is a restricted fund, funded by Woodspring Locality to provide small grants to Peer support groups working in the Woodspring Locality.
- **Sequoia Project** is a restricted grant from AWP to manage community spaces in the Woodspring Locality for Mental Health and Well-being Support groups.
- The **Step Forward / Recovery** Fund is a restricted fund from North Somerset Council Shared Prosperity Fund to support people who have experiences challenges to access volunteering as a route to gaining employment. Shown in 2024 funds as Shared Prosperity Fund.
- **Volunteering in Health** (VIH) – A grant from Quartet to fund volunteers to distribute essential baby products to new families.
- The **Volunteer Management** Project is funded by the Quartet Community Foundation to provide Good Neighbour volunteers to support people living in rural areas of North Somerset.
- **VCSE Locality Lead Partnership** is funding from Sirona Care, to provide input and leadership for the Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) programme as part of the Health and Wellbeing Programme for the NHS.
- The **Wellbeing Collective** is a purposeful collaboration of people from the non-profit-making sector, Local Authority, and Health which aims to improve the wellbeing of everyone in North Somerset.

Restricted funds, prior year completed

- **Ageing Well - Care Homes** was a restricted fund from North Somerset Council. The project provided volunteers to visit residents in Care Homes.
- **Capacity Builders** was a restricted fund to provide additional support to the non-profit sector.
- **Domestic Abuse and Chronic Pain** was a restricted fund, funded by North Somerset Council. This is a specialist trauma service for survivors of domestic abuse with disabilities and chronic conditions. The service also offers training to statutory services. It was commenced again in the current year.
- **Physical Activity** was a North Somerset Council funded restricted fund to provide free physical activity sessions to those who are not currently engaged in physical activity. It was commenced again in the current year.
- **NSC Children Centre Volunteer Co-ordinator** was a restricted fund from North Somerset Council to manage their Children Centre Volunteer programme. It was commenced again in the current year.
- The **Pulse** project was a project which provided research and a measure for the state of the non-profit-making organisations in North Somerset.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

- The **Refugees** Project provided sporting activities and outings for refugees and asylum seekers in North Somerset. The balance was transferred to the Equalities Programme.
- The **Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF)** provided bid writing sessions and webinars to community organisations, funded by North Somerset Council
- **The University of Bristol Project** was a restricted fund to provide additional support to the coastal community's grief project.
- **Ukraine Relief** was a restricted fund to support Ukrainian families moving to the UK.
- The **Wellbeing Collective** is a purposeful collaboration of people from the non-profit-making sector, Local Authority, and Health which aims to improve the wellbeing of everyone in North Somerset. It was commenced again in the current year.

Note – transfers have been made where funds have been released to general unrestricted funds. These are either within the terms of the grant agreements/contracts or with the agreement of funders. Funds have been transferred from unrestricted reserves to cover the losses made by two projects: Physical Activities and Equalities.

12 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unre- stricted funds £	Rest- stricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Unre- stricted funds £	Rest- stricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Tangible assets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Current assets	439,471	332,893	772,364	255,942	426,514	682,456
Current liabilities	(50,736)	(32,098)	(82,834)	(28,812)	(57,998)	(86,810)
	388,735	300,795	689,530	352,138	243,508	595,646
	388,735	300,795	689,530	352,138	243,508	595,646

13 Financial commitments

At 31 March 2025 the charity was committed to making the following payments under non-cancellable operating leases:

	2025		2024	
	Land and buildings £	Other £	Land and buildings £	Other £
Less than 1 year	-	-	-	1,512
1 – 5 years	-	-	-	378
Greater than 5 years	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	1,890
	-	-	-	1,890

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

14 Government grants

Income from government grants comprise grants made by local authorities to fund the principal activities and objectives of the charity via core funding and funding for specific restricted projects. No performance related grants recognised in income have had any unfulfilled conditions or any other contingencies attaching to them. See note 3 for more information.

15 Company limited by guarantee

The company was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The guarantee to the company is £10 per member on the winding up of the company. At 31 March 2025 the company had six members and the total amount guaranteed is therefore £60.

VOLUNTARY ACTION NORTH SOMERSET

England & Wales - Charity number 1065916

Accounts

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited
(A Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Company Number: 03466492
Charity Registered in England and Wales Number: 1065916

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Contents

For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	<u>Page</u>
Reference and Administrative Details	2
Trustee Directors' Report	3 – 11
Independent Examiners' Report	12
Statement of Financial Activities	13
Balance Sheet	14
Statement of Cashflows	15
Notes to the Financial Statements	16 – 30

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Reference and Administrative Details

For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Charity Name Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors
L Bowen
D Lloyd-Evans
N Salter
S Shillabeer
L Sweeney
L Wormald-Kelly

Chief Executive M Gardner

Registered Office
Weston Court
Oldmixon Crescent
Weston-Super-Mare
North Somerset
BS24 9AU

Independent Examiner
Michelle Ferris FCA
Albert Goodman LLP
Goodwood House
Blackbrook Park Avenue
Taunton
Somerset
TA1 2PX

Bankers
CAF Bank
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

The Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of the Companies Act, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's memorandum and articles of association, the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP FRS 102- implemented 1 January 2019) and are in accordance with the special provision relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, dated 17th November 1997 and amended on the 21st June 2017, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006. In the event of the company being wound up, members' liability is restricted to £10. The charity, commonly known as VANS, is a registered charity number 1065916 and a company limited by guarantee number 03466492.

Recruitment and appointment of new Voluntary Action North Somerset (VANS) Trustees

The Directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law. The following trustees served during the year and since the year end:

D Lloyd-Evans

N Salter

S Shillabeer

L Wormald Kelly (Resigned 4th April 2024)

M Harriott (Resigned 30th August 2023)

L Sweeney (Appointed at AGM 25th Sept. 2023)

L Bowen (Appointed at AGM 25th Sept. 2023)

Trustees are normally appointed for a three-year term which is renewable. Processes for the election of the VANS Trustees are covered by the Articles and there is a policy and procedures for the co-option of the trustees.

VANS seeks to appoint a Board of Trustees which has a good understanding of the voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise sector (VCFSE), is representative of its diverse membership and with relevant business experience to ensure compliance with fiduciary responsibilities. Trustees can be co-opted or elected at the AGM. No external body has the right to appoint trustees.

Induction and training of new VANS Trustees

Trustees have a planned and bespoke induction to understand their roles and responsibilities and opportunities for ongoing training and development. The Chair conducts an annual conversation with each VANS Trustee and encourages open dialogue and discussions during the year. Trustees are encouraged to keep themselves up to date with Charity legislation, through relevant third-party websites and through attending training when required.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Organisational structure

Voluntary Action North Somerset is overseen by the Board of Trustees. As VANS Trustees, they are responsible for complying with all relevant legislation applicable to charities. This includes keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate. The VANS Board meets a minimum of four times a year to review performance and key risks. There are Board seminars and briefings covering relevant issues and two Trustee Away Days. Additional Board meetings are held if required to meet the needs of the charity.

Day-to-day responsibility for the running of the organisation is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and the team of paid employees.

Wider network

Whilst maintaining its independence, VANS works together with many other organisations - local, regional, and national - to achieve its objectives. These include but are not exclusive to non-profit-making organisations, North Somerset Leaders Forum, BNSSG Integrated Care Partnership, North Somerset Health and Wellbeing Board, town and parish councils in North Somerset, Sirona Care, Avon and Somerset Police and North Somerset Wellbeing Collective. VANS as an organisation is viewed as a champion for meaningful collaborative partnership working.

Related parties

The charity is a member of The National Association for Voluntary and Community Action (NAVCA) and the National Association of Voluntary Organisations (NCVO), incorporating Volunteer England.

As agreed by the Board of Trustees, the Chief Executive holds the position of Director of the North Somerset Wellbeing Collective.

Risk Management

VANS Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate mitigations are in place to provide reasonable assurance against malpractice and error. The Board of Trustees has identified the major risks to which they believe the organisation may be exposed. These are reviewed on at least a quarterly basis and dependent on need and systems implemented to mitigate against them.

The main areas of risk that have been identified are:

- Failure to achieve long-term financial sustainability – although much of this is determined by the continuation of ongoing contracts, a pipeline of projects aligning to the charity's strategic ambitions is regularly monitored by trustees.
- Inability to meet the changing needs and expectations of funders, clients, and the public – this is a continual risk, reviewed regularly with sense checks undertaken by the CEO and through individual and team performance reviews and reported to the Board. Relationship management and regular feedback from relevant stakeholders enables the charity to monitor quality and visibility of its services.
- Technological Risk - Increasing reliance on digital systems exposes VANS to cyberattacks, data breaches, and system failures. The loss of sensitive information, financial data, or critical operational systems can disrupt services, damage trust, and incur substantial financial costs. VANS employs DLIT to manage IT systems and support VANS with cybersecurity measures and system updates. VANS is utilising a CRM system and offers team training to mitigate these risks.
- Reputational Risk, - VANS' reputation is built on trust and is the charity's most valuable asset. Any negative publicity, misconduct, or financial irregularities would severely damage public perception, leading to decreased confidence of key stakeholders and the VCFSE sector and loss of volunteers.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

- Non-compliance with legal frameworks – as an accredited Volunteer Centre, VANS ability to meet the requirements of its awarding body and the opportunity for re-accreditation are vital to maintain such status. In-year internal evaluations are undertaken of all systems, processes, and policies to ensure adherence.
- Financial mismanagement, inaccuracies, or non-compliance with regulatory standards, which could lead to financial losses, legal penalties, and damage to the company's reputation - a bookkeeping company is employed to oversee internal financial management alongside its treasurer. An independent examiner from Albert Goodman has been appointed to perform the examination in this financial year.
- Inadequate and non-compliant governance and policies – to maintain a functional board, there is at least an annual review of the skills required and additional trustees recruited with suitable skills and experience to support the strategic direction of the charity. Governance and policy reviews ensure the charity demonstrates best practice.
- Global pandemics – Having learnt from COVID-19 the VANS Board has consistently taken steps to consider mitigations against the known and potential risks stemming from any ongoing challenges of a Global pandemic.

Objectives and Activities

The non-profit-making landscape has changed greatly since COVID-19 and the ensuing cost-of-living crisis. VANS' key stakeholders have faced financial constraints and reorganisations, including changes to key personnel. This has created challenges and opportunities for Voluntary Action North Somerset (VANS).

This financial year VANS has consolidated its work and refined its vision and values. The Board of Trustees and the VANS Team have worked together to ensure sustainability and drive the organisation forward with four key objectives. These objectives will allow VANS to continue to serve its stakeholders and the wider non-profit-making organisations that VANS champions.

Vision, Aims and Objectives

VANS work towards the "Vision" of:

'A world where individuals and organisations are empowered, and everyone feels connected and engaged.'

VANS mission is:

"To inspire, lead, support, advocate and influence people to take positive action in creating a more connected, inclusive, and thriving community for everyone."

Public benefit

VANS as an organisation meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of citizenship and community development headings. All projects delivered by VANS are designed by funders to deliver specific public benefit.

The trustees state that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the Commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which guidance is relevant. The trustees also confirm that they have complied with section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Achievement and Performance

Charitable objectives

As the champion of the Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise (VCFSE) or non-profit-making sector, VANS plays a crucial role in supporting charitable, community interest, and unconstituted groups to address the needs of people in its communities. VANS has four key purposes:

- To advocate and develop leadership within non-profit-making organisations.
VANS works to amplify the non-profit-making sector's voice and influence key decision-makers and funders to deliver policies that promote social justice, equality, and community impact.
- To encourage and develop partnerships and collaborations.
VANS brings together networks of local organisations with a shared purpose to drive effective and impactful joint working.
- To create, develop, and strengthen a dynamic non-profit-making sector.
VANS works to create a diverse, thriving and sustainable sector, through providing training, guidance, and supporting capacity-building initiatives.
- To develop and grow volunteering.
VANS recognises the significant contributions of volunteers who play a critical role in creating positive change within the communities we serve.

Key achievements

This year VANS has worked hard to diversify its funding streams and seek longer-term funding opportunities. VANS received funding from 13 different sources to enable the delivery of services to communities and non-profit-making organisations. VANS is a non-specific cause-driven charity and gets little financial support from public fundraising.

The cost-of-living crisis and cuts to statutory funding through the local authority, the police and health in 2023-24 have created a difficult funding climate for charities. VANS has maintained the support of its key stakeholders. However, due to the cessation of the Mass Vaccination Volunteers Programme to South Gloucestershire, Bristol and North Somerset (BNSSG) VANS have lost a major revenue stream.

The VANS team is currently at 15 (12.4 FTE). VANS is extremely proud of its ability to attract and retain skilled and committed individuals who believe in the power of communities. These key roles enable VANS to provide support to the non-profit-making organisations for example, providing fundraising workshops and running the on-line Volunteer Centre etc. The team works hard to make lives better for the organisations that deliver directly to its communities,

The impact that VANS has had this year against its four key objectives is outlined below and the Impact Report 2023-2024 provides more examples and details

To advocate and develop leadership within non-profit-making organisations.

Providing a collective voice for the non-profit-making sector entails championing the sector's role in addressing societal challenges. VANS has continued to influence key local and regional decisions and policies, ensuring that the contributions of the sector are recognised and valued. This involves representing the collective interests of non-profit-making organisations through co-producing policy with statutory organisations, influencing policy decisions, and building partnerships with government, businesses, and other stakeholders.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

VANS plans and initiatives are aligned with the non-profit-making sector's priorities. Through VANS State of the Sector Report, it has identified key issues, challenges, and opportunities, and has worked with stakeholders to develop policies and initiatives that align with the non-profit-making sector's priorities. VANS has worked with St Monica's Trust to develop its new funding strategy focussed on reducing loneliness and isolation. VANS, through the strategic guidance of its Senior Leaders Forum, has successfully pivoted its focus towards shaping the trajectory of future policy.

This year, through VANS' role on the Integrated Care Partnership and as Locality Lead within Weston, Worle and villages, VANS, with its non-profit-making partners, has been active in helping to shape the relationship between health and the voluntary sector. VANS has worked with the VCSE Alliance to bring organisations together to access Integrated Care Board funding. VANS has run three online workshops to provide key updates to the sector on developments within the Alliance and Health.

VANS plays a pivotal role in identifying and addressing critical gaps in service provision within the community. VANS manages the Reclaim Project, providing free counselling to survivors of Domestic Abuse. VANS identified a need for additional support for Domestic Abuse (DA) survivors experiencing disability and chronic pain. VANS has worked closely with North Somerset Council to develop a programme of trauma-informed support for DA survivors with Disability and Chronic Pain and a training programme for medical and support staff. This work has been recognised nationally by the Domestic Abuse Commissioner. The Domestic Abuse Commissioner provides public leadership on domestic abuse issues and plays a key role in overseeing and monitoring the provision of domestic abuse services in England and Wales.

To encourage and develop partnerships and collaborations.

By working together, pooling resources and expertise, the sector can create a greater positive impact. VANS has continued to foster collaborations between non-profit-making organisations. These collaborations foster innovation, shared learning, and increased efficiency, helping the sector to tackle complex societal issues and build stronger communities. VANS has worked with other infrastructure organisations across the West of England, academic institutions, local and regional government and health, to explore how collectively we can demonstrate the impact and range of non-profit-making organisations operating across the region.

VANS has worked closely with its local partners to write a State of Ageing Report for North Somerset. This will be published in September 2024. The report will provide a comprehensive snapshot of the experiences and challenges faced by its ageing population. By analysing demographic trends, health outcomes, economic security, social participation, and living environments, this report will serve as an essential tool for policymakers, service providers, and communities to develop an age-friendly North Somerset.

VANS runs the Senior Leaders Forum for leaders of non-profit-making organisations in North Somerset. This provides the sector with a platform for strategic thinking, collaboration, and advocacy. By bringing together key decision-makers, the forum helps to foster a shared vision for the sector's future facilitating knowledge exchange, identifying emerging challenges and opportunities, and strengthening relationships. By supporting leaders, VANS ensures a robust pipeline of skilled individuals dedicated to driving positive change in North Somerset.

VANS' Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Lead works closely with community groups to understand and respect the unique experiences, perspectives, and needs of different groups within a community. This knowledge is used to bring community groups together with statutory services to involve them directly in decision-making processes and help to tailor services to meet their specific needs.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

To create, develop, and strengthen a dynamic non-profit-making sector.

Creating, developing, and strengthening a dynamic non-profit-making sector remains core to VANS work. This involves cultivating an environment that fosters innovation, collaboration, and demonstrating impact. By empowering non-profit organisations to thrive, VANS can harness the non-profit-making organisations' potential to address complex societal challenges, strengthen communities, and drive positive change.

Funding remains a core concern for non-profit-making organisations. VANS has organised six grant writing for UKSPF funding and Meet the Funder workshops. These events provide a platform for non-profit-making organisations to learn about funders' priorities, application processes, and eligibility criteria. Grant funders have been able to share insights into what kinds of projects they support, while grant-seekers could ask questions and build relationships.

Training empowers individuals and organisations to achieve their full potential by developing essential skills and knowledge. In June 2023 during Volunteer Week VANS held five events across North Somerset. Free sessions were offered covering: environmental issues, young people volunteering, racism, and inclusion to thirty-seven individuals.

Supporting an organisation's ability to achieve its mission by developing its resources, skills, and knowledge is one of VANS most important roles. VANS offers advice and support to over 30 individual non-profit-making organisations, whether this is support with writing funding applications, bringing like-minded organisations together, mentoring or business support.

To develop and grow volunteering.

In September 2023 VANS was very proud to be awarded the Volunteer Centre Quality Accreditation (VCQA) awarded by NAVCA. The VCQA is designed for organisations providing Volunteer Centre services in their local communities. The award assesses how VANS leads the strategic development of volunteering, including good practice development, developing volunteer opportunities, brokerage and the voice of volunteering. VANS is one of only 26 accredited centres nationally.

Volunteering remains at the heart of VANS' work. VANS continues to work to connect volunteers with opportunities with 658 enthusiastic volunteers and 201 non-profit-making organisations registered on its Online Volunteer Centre. VANS secured funding to continue with the Step Forward Programme which is designed for individuals experiencing barriers to employment and offers support into volunteering as a step towards longer-term employment. From January to March 2024, Step Forward supported 15 individuals into volunteering.

Non-profit-making organisations in North Somerset have highlighted the need to attract more volunteers. This year VANS has developed a Volunteer Strategy and Action Plan for North Somerset, highlighting the power of volunteering to address local needs and a plan to recruit volunteers from diverse communities. VANS organised a Volunteer Strategy Workshop in November with 30 participants, key concerns and goals for volunteering were discussed and a working group was established to drive the strategy forward.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Financial Review

VANS has actively worked to bring more diverse funding into the organisation this year. This has meant working with new grant funders like the Medlock Foundation and bidding from national funders. With the support of VANS key funders the financial position of the organisation remained in a stable position. As expected, the reduction in funding for COVID-19 volunteering has meant that VANS had less overall income this year. Overall, the funding landscape has been difficult for all charities this year and whilst VANS has been successful in attracting new grant funding this is often short-term and existing contracts have not reflected the rise in organisational costs. VANS continues to work with existing stakeholders and develop new relationships to attract new long-term funding streams.

The VANS team has continued to work with its key stakeholders and partners to demonstrate its impact on non-profit-making organisations and its communities. This has been critical in ensuring that VANS is seen as an organisation that is innovative and delivers, when funding opportunities become available.

A full breakdown of the charity's income streams, and expenditure is set out with the accounts.

Reserves policy

In line with the VANS Reserve Policy, the VANS Trustees annually reviews the amount of reserves that VANS holds and continue to plan to hold reserves to protect the organisation and delivery of its charitable objectives by providing time to adjust to changing financial circumstances.

Unrestricted general reserves are needed to deal with expenditures which could arise, and which is not provided for either in the annual budgeting process or as a result of a significant loss of revenue income.

VANS trustees consider that the organisation is on a firm financial footing. However, the trustees are conscious that pressures on funders, both contracts and grant givers, along with key risks such as an economic crisis or global pandemic could lead to financial pressure for the organisation in the coming years.

The current level of reserves meets the Contingency Reserve Fund level that has been agreed by the Board of Trustees and the aim will be to maintain the Contingency Reserve Fund to the agreed level. The Contingency Reserve Fund is funded with surplus unrestricted operating funds. To maintain the Contingency Reserve Fund at the agreed level, the organisation will seek to maintain investment from project delivery, as well as undertake fundraising campaigns, increasing earned income through the development of internal revenue streams and ensuring that expenditure is kept to a reasonable level. The VANS Trustees consider it a prudent objective to hold Contingency reserves at the current level of 12 months of charitable expenditure to cover VANS operating costs and 6 months of project funding as set out in the budget for the forthcoming year - circa £290k.

Investment Policy

VANS Income and Expenditure is small and as a consequence, the organisation does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer-term investments such as stocks and shares. The Organisation has therefore adopted a low-risk strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies. Reserves and funding received in advance for projects are held in an interest-bearing deposit account with its bankers, Charities Aid Foundation Bank.

Principle Funding Sources

The principal funding sources for the charity were commissions from North Somerset Council, Sirona Care, the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Integrated Care System. The funding from these bodies was for the delivery of services. Additional income was generated from the range of projects undertaken by the charity throughout the year.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

There are no related party transactions and all principal funding sources are shown in the notes of the financial activities.

Plans for future periods

VANS Strategic Plan for 2024-25 is focussed on delivering its mission, maintaining a pipeline of projects to meet the charity's overall objectives and addressing demand where need is identified. VANS' underlying principle is to work in partnership and source investment to build a thriving non-profit-making sector for North Somerset.

VANS' team is its main asset, and VANS will continue to develop its people, trustees and volunteers to achieve positive outcomes for the individuals and organisations that it represents.

VANS strategic focus for the coming year will be to:

- Champion the non-profit-making sector in North Somerset to key stakeholders and funders.
- Through a co-designed approach, enable residents to have a strong voice and meet the needs of individuals locally.
- Continue to strengthen the support offered to the non-profit-making sector, working in partnership and collaboration to identify sector needs and provide support to help address these.
- Delivering the Volunteering Strategy for North Somerset, setting out key actions and demonstrating the importance of volunteering.
- Be the catalyst for change by helping to maximise the potential of longer-term funding to the sector.
- Develop partnerships and collaborations to amplify the sector's collective voice and build networks of local organisations to drive effective and impactful joint working.
- Move to new premises in Weston-Super-Mare to enable VANS to offer a space that the non-profit-making community can utilise at an affordable rate.
- Launch the State of Ageing Report and Improving Ageing in North Somerset Project that focuses on meeting the needs of older people, amplifying their voice and supporting seldom-heard groups. The IANS project and the Report focus on making North Somerset an age-friendly community.
- Launch the Children's and Young People's (CYP) Forum – bringing together non-profit-making organisations that work to meet the needs of CYP in North Somerset.

VANS continues to play a critical strategic role in fostering a thriving and resilient non-profit-making sector and a compassionate community. By serving as a crucial link between volunteers, community groups, and statutory organisations, VANS ensures that vital services and support are delivered to those in need. VANS' work strengthens the non-profit-making sector, enabling it to address local challenges and enhance the quality of life for residents. VANS works to grow and sustain the non-profit-making sector in North Somerset, empowering individuals and groups to make a positive impact.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Statement of Trustees Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also directors of Voluntary Action North Somerset for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report (incorporating the directors' report) and the financial statements in accordance with 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).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

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

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

This report has been prepared in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Approved by order of the board on 09 September 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

D Lloyd-Evans
Trustee

N Salter
Trustee

Independent examiners report to the Trustees of Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited ("the Company") for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the 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 the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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

Michelle Ferris BSc (Hons) FCA DChA

Albert Goodman LLP
Goodwood House
Blackbrook Park Avenue
Taunton
Somerset
TA1 2PX

Date: 30 October 2024

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Statement of Financial Activities (including an Income and Expenditure account)

For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrest- ricted Funds £	Rest- ricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Unrest- ricted Funds £	Rest- ricted Funds £	Total 2023 £
Income from:							
Donations and general grants	2	14,302	6,654	20,956	10,025	8,088	18,113
Charitable activities	3	27,465	549,887	577,352	207,596	564,546	772,142
Investment income	4	7,876	-	7,876	1,146	-	1,146
Total income		49,643	556,541	606,184	218,767	572,634	791,401
Expenditure on:							
Charitable expenditure	5	83,162	519,988	603,150	87,828	536,158	623,986
Total expenditure		83,162	519,988	603,150	87,828	536,158	623,986
Net income/(expenditure) before transfers		(33,519)	36,553	3,034	130,939	36,476	167,415
Transfer between funds	11	26,205	(26,205)	-	76,953	(76,953)	-
Net movement in funds		(7,314)	10,348	3,034	207,892	(40,477)	167,415
Reconciliation of funds							
Fund balances at 01 April 2023		359,452	233,160	592,612	151,560	273,637	425,197
Fund balances at 31 March 2024	11	352,138	243,508	595,646	359,452	233,160	592,612

The results for the year derive from continuing activities and there are no gains or losses other than those shown above.

The statement of financial activities incorporates the income and expenditure account.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited - Company Registration Number: 03466492

Balance Sheet

As at 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024	2023
		£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	7	-	-
Current assets			
Debtors	8	139,079	271,922
Cash at bank and in hand	9	543,377	388,665
		<u>682,456</u>	<u>660,587</u>
Creditors			
Amounts falling due within one year	10	(86,810)	(67,975)
Net current assets		<u>595,646</u>	<u>592,612</u>
Net assets		<u><u>595,646</u></u>	<u><u>592,612</u></u>
Funds			
Unrestricted funds			
General funds	11	15,990	336,584
Designated funds	11	336,148	22,868
		<u>352,138</u>	<u>359,452</u>
Restricted funds	11	243,508	233,160
Net assets		<u><u>595,646</u></u>	<u><u>592,612</u></u>

These accounts have been prepared and delivered in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

For the year in question, the charitable company was entitled to exemption from an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The trustees/directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

Approved by the Board of Trustees for issue on 09 September 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

D Lloyd-Evans
Trustee

N Salter
Trustee

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Statement of Cashflows

For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

		Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
	Notes		
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net movements in funds for the year		3,034	167,415
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items			
Depreciation and amortisation	7	-	-
Finance income	4	(7,876)	(1,146)
		<u>(4,842)</u>	<u>166,269</u>
Working capital adjustments			
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	8	132,843	(45,844)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	10	18,835	(24,571)
		<u>146,836</u>	<u>95,854</u>
Net cash flow from operations			
		146,836	95,854
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received	4	7,876	1,146
		<u>7,876</u>	<u>1,146</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		<u>154,712</u>	<u>97,000</u>
Reconciliation of net debt			
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		388,665	291,665
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		<u>154,712</u>	<u>97,000</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u>543,377</u>	<u>388,665</u>

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1 Accounting Policies

1.1 General information and basis of accounting

Voluntary Action North Somerset is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in the United Kingdom under the Companies Act. The maximum liability of each member is limited to £10. The address of the registered office is given on page 2. The nature of the charity's operations and its principal activities are set out in the Trustees report on pages 3-11.

The financial statements have been prepared in £ sterling on the historical cost basis and in accordance with accounting and reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)- (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

1.2 Going concern

The trustees assess whether the use of the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate, i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements and have concluded that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting when preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Income

All income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income. The valuation of donated services is not quantified within the Statement of Financial Activities.

Donation income is received by way of general grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Income from grants, relating to specifically the provision of goods or services as part of charitable activities or services to clients are included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable and in the period in which they relate to. Grants are deferred when the monies have been received in advance of the period in which they relate to.

Other trading activities income includes income relating to fundraising and is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.

Investment income is included when receivable.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1.4 Government grants

Government grants are accounted for when unconditionally due and reasonable assurance can be gained that it will be received. Where funds are received in advance, for a specified period, these funds are deferred and recognised in the period to which they relate. Where funds have not been received in a specified period, these funds will be accrued in debtors and recognised in the period to which they relate. Not all grants received have conditions and performance indicators attached, where this is the case, the income is included within donations. Performance related grants are included within Charitable Activities income.

1.5 Donated services

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), unpaid volunteer time is not recognised in the financial statements. Where services have been donated to the charity, these are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity, with a corresponding entry in both donations income and the relevant expenditure line.

1.6 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. All expenditure is gross of VAT which cannot be recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services to its clients. Direct costs are allocated to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them are shown as contributions to core expenditure.

Other support costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity.

1.7 Fixed assets

Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets over their estimated useful lives at the following rate:-

Fixtures and fittings – 20% per annum straight line basis

Fixed assets are valued at cost less depreciation.

1.8 Debtors

Accrued income is recognised at the settlement amount due and prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

1.9 Cash at bank and in hand

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

1.10 Creditors

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

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1.11 Taxation

The organisation is a registered charity and is therefore not liable to corporation tax to the extent that income and gains are applied to the charitable objectives of the charity.

1.12 Pension contributions

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The scheme and its assets are held by independent managers. Contributions are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

1.13 Allocation of costs

A pre-determined amount of overhead expenditure on each project is calculated and transferred from the project to overheads as a contribution.

1.14 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds receivable or generated for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds assigned for specific purposes by the trustees.

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets this criterion is charged to the fund, together with a fair allocation of management and support costs.

1.15 Operating leases

Leases in which substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases. Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as incurred over the term of the lease.

1.16 VAT

The charity is not VAT registered and therefore all costs are inclusive of VAT.

1.17 Financial instruments

The charity only holds basic financial instruments as defined in FRS 102. The financial assets and liabilities of the charity and their measurement are as follows:

Financial assets – trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

Cash at bank and deposit accounts – these are classified as basic financial instruments and are measured at face value.

Financial liabilities – trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are basic financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost. Taxation and social security creditors are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

2 Donations and general grants

	Unre- stricted funds	Rest- ricted funds	Total 2024	Unre- stricted funds	Rest- ricted funds	Total 2023
Donations						
Donations & gifts	14,302	6,654	20,956	10,025	8,088	18,113
	<u>14,302</u>	<u>6,654</u>	<u>20,956</u>	<u>10,025</u>	<u>8,088</u>	<u>18,113</u>
	<u><u>14,302</u></u>	<u><u>6,654</u></u>	<u><u>20,956</u></u>	<u><u>10,025</u></u>	<u><u>8,088</u></u>	<u><u>18,113</u></u>
The income above is made up of:						
Received in year	14,302	6,654	20,956	10,025	8,088	18,113
Deferred income carried forward	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>14,302</u>	<u>6,654</u>	<u>20,956</u>	<u>10,025</u>	<u>8,088</u>	<u>18,113</u>
	<u><u>14,302</u></u>	<u><u>6,654</u></u>	<u><u>20,956</u></u>	<u><u>10,025</u></u>	<u><u>8,088</u></u>	<u><u>18,113</u></u>

Where grants are received in advance, for a specified period, these funds are deferred and recognised in the period to which they relate.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

3 Incoming resources from charitable activities

	Unre-stricted funds £	Rest- ricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Unre- stricted funds £	Rest- ricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Grants:						
Ageing Well	-	95,188	95,188	-	76,800	76,800
Befriending	-	45,833	45,833	-	29,167	29,167
Big Lottery Fund / Reclaim	-	58,605	58,605	-	133,116	133,116
Capacity Builders*	-	-	-	-	7,000	7,000
Care Homes*	-	-	-	-	29,300	29,300
Community Hubs*	-	-	-	-	41,417	41,417
Community Resilience	6,025	-	6,025	21,694	-	21,694
Community Researchers*	-	3,500	3,500	-	-	-
Equalities	-	57,930	57,930	-	10,000	10,000
Infrastructure Development*	17,398	-	17,398	27,598	-	27,598
C&YP Volunteering*	-	25,000	25,000	-	-	-
North Somerset Community Directory*	-	-	-	10,000	-	10,000
NSC Childrens Centre*	-	19,324	19,324	-	19,324	19,324
Mass Vaccination Centre	-	-	-	134,360	-	134,360
Mental Health Grants*	-	56,000	56,000	-	-	-
DACP*	-	83,395	83,395	-	-	-
Sirona Care	-	-	-	-	30,860	30,860
SPF	-	4,500	4,500	-	6,000	6,000
Sequoia Project*	-	10,200	10,200	-	-	-
Step Forward*	-	11,413	11,413	-	56,900	56,900
Bristol University Project	-	5,000	5,000	-	-	-
Ukraine Relief	-	-	-	-	48,122	48,122
Volunteer Management	-	10,200	10,200	-	-	-
Flax Bourton Hub	-	-	-	200	-	200
VCFSE Locality Lead Partnership	-	60,000	60,000	-	60,000	60,000
Other grants < £5,000*	2,812	3,799	6,611	6,220	16,479	22,699
Other charitable activities:						
Advertising services	-	-	-	1,150	-	1,150
Consultation, events & training	1,230	-	1,230	6,374	61	6,435
	27,465	549,887	577,352	207,596	564,546	772,142

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

The income shown above is made up of:

Received in year	27,465	564,788	592,253	204,596	534,800	739,396
Deferred income brought forward	-	43,097	43,097	3,000	72,843	75,843
Deferred income carried forward	-	(57,998)	(57,998)	-	(43,097)	(43,097)
	<u>27,465</u>	<u>549,887</u>	<u>577,352</u>	<u>207,596</u>	<u>564,546</u>	<u>772,142</u>

Where grants are received in advance, for a specified period, these funds are deferred and recognised in the period to which they relate.

* denotes amounts received from government. See note 14 for more information.

4 Investment income

	Unre- stricted funds £	Rest- ricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Unre- stricted funds £	Rest- ricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Bank interest	7,876	-	7,876	1,146	-	1,146

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

5 Charitable expenditure

	Unres- tricted	Res- tricted	Total 2024	Unres- tricted	Res- tricted	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs						
Staff salaries	96,325	261,320	357,645	65,468	280,280	345,748
Consultancy	-	87,888	87,888	-	10,000	10,000
Training	6,350	818	7,168	739	560	1,299
Travel	577	5,889	6,466	983	6,406	7,389
HR service	2,350	-	2,350	2,727	-	2,727
Other staff costs	1,455	2,671	4,126	5,917	5,389	11,306
Infrastructure costs						
Insurance	867	-	867	827	-	827
Office expenses	6,098	1,354	7,452	-	-	-
IT costs	2,883	2,268	5,151	10,472	25,096	35,568
Postage, printing and stationery	2,789	1,156	3,945	2,884	13	2,897
Rent and services charges	2,457	-	2,457	2,376	-	2,376
Telephone	9,305	133	9,438	6,951	-	6,951
Subscriptions	-	-	-	257	-	257
Direct project costs						
Project costs	3,763	68,339	72,102	4,580	125,323	129,903
Grants provided	112	16,289	16,401	1,580	50,401	51,981
Finance and governance costs						
Accountancy fees	14,525	-	14,525	11,667	-	11,667
Independent Examination fees	-	-	-	-	-	-
Legal and professional fees	-	-	-	35	-	35
Bank charges	60	-	60	72	-	72
Membership	4,809	300	5,109	1,174	-	1,174
Other costs						
Advertising & recruitment	-	-	-	1,416	-	1,416
Sundry expenses	-	-	-	373	20	393
	154,725	448,425	603,150	120,498	503,488	623,986
Contributions to core expenditure	(71,563)	71,563	-	(32,670)	32,670	-
	83,162	519,988	603,150	87,828	536,158	623,986

All grants provided were to institutions (partner organisations) as part of the funding conditions (2023 – none).

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

6 Employees and employment costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	328,846	313,069
Employer's NI	22,860	27,715
Pension contributions	5,939	4,964
	<u>357,645</u>	<u>345,748</u>

Defined contribution pension scheme.

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the company to the scheme and amounted to £5,939 (2023: £4,964). Contributions totalling £1,389 (2023: £1,096) were payable to the scheme at the end of the year and are included in creditors.

No individual employee was paid over £60,000 (2023: none).

No remuneration was paid to any Trustees during the year (2023: none). No expenses were reimbursed to the Trustees by the charity during the year (2023: none).

The key management personnel of the charity is considered to be the Chief Executive. The total costs to the charity of employee benefits (including employers national insurance but not employer pension contributions) for the key management personnel were £49,955 (2023: £59,754). This varied due to the handover period to a new CEO.

The average monthly head count was 14 staff (2023: 14 staff).

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

7 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures & Fittings £	Total £
Cost		
As at 01 April 2023	35,332	35,332
Additions	-	-
Disposals	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
As at 31 March 2024	35,332	35,332
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Depreciation		
As at 01 April 2023	35,332	35,332
Elimination on disposal	-	-
Charge for year	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
As at 31 March 2024	35,332	35,332
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net book value		
As at 31 March 2024	-	-
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
As at 31 March 2023	-	-
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

8 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	139,079	271,922
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	139,079	271,922
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

9 Cash at bank and in hand

	2024 £	2023 £
Bank balances	543,377	388,665
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	543,377	388,665
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

10 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	10,016	1,802
Other creditors	17,175	16,056
Accruals & deferred income	59,619	50,117
	<u>86,810</u>	<u>67,975</u>

Deferred income

	2024	2023
	£	£
Deferred income at 01 April 2023	43,097	75,843
Released from previous years	(24,999)	(57,745)
Resources deferred in the year	39,900	24,999
Deferred income at 31 March 2024	<u>57,998</u>	<u>43,097</u>

Where grants are received in advance, for a specified period, these funds are deferred and recognised in the period to which they relate.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

11 Statement of funds

	Balance 01.04.23 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31.03.24 £
Unrestricted funds					
General unrestricted funds	336,584	49,643	(83,162)	(287,075)	15,990
Designated funds:					
Integrated care	22,868	-	-	-	22,868
CRNS	-	-	-	16,613	16,613
Community lottery	-	-	-	6,667	6,667
Designated contingency reserve	-	-	-	290,000	290,000
Total unrestricted funds	359,452	49,643	(83,162)	26,205	352,138
Restricted funds					
Reclaim Project	53,829	58,788	(110,449)	168	2,336
Ageing Well	54,800	95,213	(56,073)	(12,567)	81,373
Ageing Well - Care Homes	29,300	-	(29,930)	630	-
Befriending	18,667	45,833	(33,933)	(14,822)	15,745
Capacity Builders	18,100	-	-	(18,100)	-
Community Researchers	-	3,500	-	-	3,500
Children & Young People's Group	2,692	25,000	(647)	-	27,045
Community Learning	980	-	-	-	980
Domestic Abuse and Chronic Pain	-	83,395	(86,276)	2,881	-
Physical Activity	-	56,500	(64,360)	7,860	-
Equalities	1,100	6,155	(14,358)	11,000	3,897
NSC children centre volunteer co-ordinator	-	19,324	(17,333)	(1,991)	-
NHS BNSSG	1,494	-	-	-	1,494
Pulse	5,000	-	(5,000)	-	-
Refugees	3,080	5,197	(7,390)	4,418	5,305
Mental Health Grants	-	56,000	-	-	56,000
Sequoia Project	-	10,200	-	-	10,200
Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF)	138	4,500	(2,095)	(2,543)	-
Step Forward / Recovery	33,631	11,413	(28,727)	(684)	15,633
Bristol University Project	-	5,000	(2,408)	(2,592)	-
Ukraine Relief	10,245	-	-	(10,245)	-
VCFSE Locality Lead Partnership	104	60,000	(36,960)	(13,144)	10,000
Volunteer Management	-	10,200	(12,795)	12,595	10,000
Wellbeing Collective	-	323	(11,254)	10,931	-
Total restricted funds	233,160	556,541	(519,988)	(26,205)	243,508
Total funds	592,612	606,184	(603,150)	-	595,646

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

11 Statement of funds- prior year

	Balance				Balance
	01.04.22	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	31.03.23
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General unrestricted funds	128,692	218,767	(87,828)	76,953	336,584
Designated fund - integrated care	22,868	-	-		22,868
Total unrestricted funds	151,560	218,767	(87,828)	76,953	359,452
Restricted funds					
Healing Hearing:					
Reclaim Project	14,459	133,575	(78,745)	(15,460)	53,829
Bangladeshi Association	-	2,500	(2,500)	-	-
Ageing Well	-	76,800	(47,227)	25,227	54,800
Befriending	-	29,167	(8,386)	(2,114)	18,667
Bereavement - Bristol Uni	-	5,000	(1,731)	(3,269)	-
Capacity Builders	113,012	7,000	(40,640)	(61,272)	18,100
Community Hubs	33,555	41,417	(70,714)	(4,258)	-
Children & Young People's Group	2,692	-	-	-	2,692
Care Homes	-	29,300	-	-	29,300
Community Learning	-	980	-	-	980
Equalities	-	11,500	(32,480)	22,080	1,100
NAVCA - Cost of Living	-	5,000	(5,111)	111	-
NS children centre volunteer co-ordinator	-	19,324	(14,997)	(4,327)	-
NHS BNSSG	1,494	-	-	-	1,494
Pulse	5,000	-	-	-	5,000
Refugees	-	4,999	(1,744)	(175)	3,080
Mental Health Grants	63,181	-	(60,001)	(3,180)	-
Sirona Care	-	30,860	(24,595)	(6,265)	-
Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF)	-	6,000	(5,352)	(510)	138
St Modwens	895	-	(486)	(409)	-
Step Forward / Recovery	26,031	56,900	(40,988)	(8,312)	33,631
Ukraine Relief	3,318	52,209	(36,462)	(8,820)	10,245
VCFSE Locality Lead Partnership (LLP)	10,000	60,103	(63,999)	(6,000)	104
Total restricted funds	273,637	572,634	(536,158)	(76,953)	233,160
Total funds	425,197	791,401	(623,986)	-	592,612

- The general unrestricted fund represents the unrestricted funds of the charity at the year end.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

- The Contingency Reserve Fund level has been agreed by the Board of Trustees. The Contingency Reserve Fund is funded with surplus unrestricted operating funds. To maintain the Contingency Reserve Fund at the agreed level, the organisation will seek to maintain investment from project delivery, as well as undertake fundraising campaigns, increasing earned income through the development of internal revenue streams and ensuring that expenditure is kept to a reasonable level. The VANS Trustees consider it a prudent objective to hold contingency reserves at the current level of 12 months of charitable expenditure to cover VANS operating costs and 6 months of project funding as set out in the budget for the forthcoming year.
- The Integrated Care Fund has been designated to develop and support volunteering across the Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Integrated Care Board.
- Community Resilience North Somerset (CRNS) is a designated fund that has been set up to support the development of the Community Resilience Volunteer Network.
- The Community Lottery Fund has been designated as a fund to be used to benefit the members of the North Somerset Community Lottery.
- The Reclaim fund provides restricted funding for two self-employed counselling co-ordinators, together with a contribution towards the running costs for this project.
- Ageing Well is a restricted fund from Weston, Worle and Villages Locality to provide an Ageing Well Lead to champion the work of and support the growth of the non-profit making sector providing services and support to older people. The fund also allocated small grants to non-profit-making organisations and groups to develop services for and led by older people.
- The Befriending Alliance is a restricted fund, funded through Health and North Somerset Council to establish a single point of access for Befriending referrals and to raise the profile of befriending with service providers.
- Care Homes - Volunteering in Care Homes is a restricted fund from North Somerset Council. The project provided volunteers to visit residents in Care Homes.
- Community Learning was a consultancy project working directly with a community organisation to provide 1:1 support with their Constitution and policies.
- Domestic Abuse and Chronic Pain is a restricted fund, funded by North Somerset Council. This is a specialist trauma service for survivors with disabilities or chronic conditions.
- The Equalities Programme is a series of projects which focus on working directly with minoritised groups living within North Somerset to promote inclusion and celebrate diversity.
- The Pulse project is a project which provides research and a measure for the state of the non-profit-making organisations in North Somerset.
- The Resettlement Project focuses on working with new communities in North Somerset.
- The Refugees Project provides sporting activities and outings for refugees and asylum seekers in North Somerset.
- Sequoia Project is a restricted grant from AWP to manage community spaces in the Woodspring Locality for Mental Health and Well-being Support groups.
- The Shared Prosperity Fund provided bid writing sessions and webinars to community organisations, funded by North Somerset Council.
- The Ukraine Relief Project provides additional support to Ukrainian families coming to North Somerset.
- The Bristol University Good Grief Project focused on researching into bereavement and death in coastal communities.
- The Community Researchers Project was funded by the National Institute for Health and Care Research. The project trained young people at Weston College to engage their peers in Health Research.
- The Mental Health Small Grants Project is a restricted fund, funded by Woodspring Locality to provide small grants to Peer support groups working in the Woodspring Locality.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

- The Volunteer Management Project is funded by the Quartet Community Foundation to provide Good Neighbour volunteers to support people living in rural areas of North Somerset.
- The North Somerset Wellbeing Collective is a purposeful collaboration of people from the non-profit-making sector, Local Authority, and Health which aims to improve the wellbeing of everyone in North Somerset.
- Capacity Builders fund is used to enable growth to build on and develop areas of the community to meet the needs identified.
- Community Hub funding was received from North Somerset Council to help with problems caused by Covid-19 pandemic and are to be spent on either investment on skills, local businesses, communities or supporting people into employment.
- The Children and Young People's Group Fund, and Mental Health Fund, represent restricted funding to identify and address key challenges being faced in this sector.
- The Children's Centre Co-ordinator represent restricted funding for the employment of a volunteer co-ordinator, and to provide volunteering opportunities in Children's Centres across North Somerset.
- North Bristol NHS Trust funding is for the delivery of the vaccination volunteers programme across Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire (BNSSG) from April 2021.
- Sirona Care is funding received for the coordination of the Sirona care and health community health volunteers programme.
- The Step forward fund, is a restricted fund from North Somerset Council to be spent on employing someone to support people with substance misuse problems.
- VCFSE Locality Lead Partnership is funding from Sirona Care, to provide input and leadership for the Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) programme as part of the Health and Wellbeing Programme for the NHS.

Note – transfers have been made where funds have been released to core. These are either within the terms of the grant agreements/contracts or with the agreement of funders.

12 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unre- stricted funds £	Rest- ricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Unre- stricted funds £	Rest- ricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Tangible assets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Current assets	255,942	426,514	682,456	234,073	426,514	660,587
Current liabilities	(28,812)	(57,998)	(86,810)	(24,878)	(43,097)	(67,975)
	<u>352,138</u>	<u>243,508</u>	<u>595,646</u>	<u>209,195</u>	<u>383,417</u>	<u>592,612</u>

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

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

13 Financial commitments

At 31 March 2024 the charity was committed to making the following payments under non-cancellable operating leases:

	2024		2023	
	Land and buildings £	Other £	Land and buildings £	Other £
Less than 1 year	-	1,512	-	1,512
1 – 5 years	-	378	-	1,890
Greater than 5 years	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,890</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,402</u>

14 Government grants

Income from government grants comprise grants made by local authorities to fund the principal activities and objectives of the charity via core funding and funding for specific restricted projects. No performance related grants recognised in income have had any unfulfilled conditions or any other contingencies attaching to them. See note 3 for more information.

15 Company limited by guarantee

The company was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The guarantee to the company is £10 per member on the winding up of the company. At 31 March 2024 the company had six members and the total amount guaranteed is therefore £60.

VOLUNTARY ACTION NORTH SOMERSET

England & Wales - Charity number 1065916

Accounts

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited
(A Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Company Number: 03466492
Charity Registered in England and Wales Number: 1065916

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Contents

For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	<u>Page</u>
Reference and Administrative Details	2
Trustee Directors' Report	3 – 10
Independent Examiners' Report	11
Statement of Financial Activities	12
Balance Sheet	13
Statement of Cashflows	14
Notes to the Financial Statements	15 – 28

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Reference and Administrative Details

For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Charity Name Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors
D Lloyd-Evans
N Salter
S Shillabeer
L Sweeney
L Wormald Kelly
L Bowen

Chief Executive M Gardner

Registered Office
Weston Court
Oldmixon Crescent
Weston-Super-Mare
North Somerset
BS24 9AU

Independent Examiner
Michelle Ferris FCA
Albert Goodman LLP
Goodwood House
Blackbrook Park Avenue
Taunton
Somerset
TA1 2PX

Bankers
CAF Bank
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of the Companies Act, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's memorandum and articles of association, the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP FRS 102- implemented 1 January 2019), and are in accordance with the special provision relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, dated 30th November 1997, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006. In the event of the company being wound up, members liability is restricted to £10. The charity, commonly known as VANS, is a registered charity number 1065916 and a company limited by guarantee number 03466492.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law. The following trustees served during the year and since the year end:

D Lloyd-Evans

N Salter

K Scott

(Resigned 24 September 2022)

S Shillabeer

M Harriott

(Appointed 26 September 2022 at AGM & resigned 30 August 2023)

L Sweeney

(Co-opted 21 November 2022)

L Wormald Kelly

(Appointed 26 September 2022 at AGM)

L Bowen

(Co-opted 17 October 2022)

Trustees are normally appointed for a three-year term which is renewable. Processes for the election of the trustees are covered by the Articles and there is a policy and procedures for the co-option of the trustees.

We seek to have a board of trustees which has a good understanding of the voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise sector (VCFSE) and is representative of our diverse membership. In addition, we seek to have trustees with relevant business experience to ensure that we are compliant with our fiduciary responsibilities. Trustees can be co-opted or elected at the AGM. No external body has the right to appoint trustees.

Induction and training of new trustees

To help Trustees understand their role and responsibilities an induction pack has been developed that supports trustees new to the role. The Chair conducts an annual 'conversation' with each trustee and holds trustee seminars covering relevant issues and two Trustee Away Days. Trustees are encouraged to keep themselves up to date with Charity legislation, through relevant third-party websites and through attending training when required.

Organisational structure

Voluntary Action North Somerset is overseen by the Board of Trustees. As charity trustees, they are responsible for complying with all relevant legislation applicable to charities. This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate. The Committee meets a minimum of four times a year to review performance and key risks with additional ad-hoc meetings being held if required.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Day-to-day responsibility for the running of the organisation is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer and the team of paid employees.

Wider network

Whilst maintaining its independence, VANS works together with many other organisations - local, regional, and national to achieve its objectives. These include but are not exclusive to North Somerset Leaders Forum, North Somerset Wellbeing Collective, BNSSG Integrated Care Partnership, North Somerset Council and Sirona Care and Health. VANS as an organisation is viewed as a champion for meaningful collaborative partnership working.

Related parties

The charity is a member of The National Association for Voluntary and Community Action (NAVCA) and the National Association of Voluntary Organisations (NCVO), incorporating Volunteer England.

As agreed by the board of trustees, the Chief Executive holds the position of Director of the North Somerset Wellbeing Collective.

Risk Management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review risk to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate mitigations are in place to provide reasonable assurance against malpractice and error. The Board of Trustees has identified the major risks to which they believe the organisation may be exposed, these are reviewed dependent on need and systems implemented to mitigate against them.

The main areas of risk that have been identified are:

- Failure to achieve long-term financial sustainability – although much of this is determined by the continuation of ongoing contracts, a pipeline of projects aligning to the charity's strategic ambitions is regularly monitored by trustees.
- Inability to meet the changing needs and expectations of funders, clients, and the public – this is a continual risk, reviewed regularly with sense checks undertaken on CEO and through individual and team performance. Relationship management and regular feedback from relevant stakeholders enables the charity to monitor quality and visibility of its services.
- Non-compliance with legal frameworks – as an accredited volunteer centre, our ability to meet the requirements of our awarding body and the opportunity for re-accreditation are vital to maintain such status. An in-year internal evaluation is undertaken of all systems, processes, and policies to ensure adherence.
- Financial mismanagement, inaccuracies, or non-compliance with regulatory standards, which could lead to financial losses, legal penalties, and damage to the company's reputation - an in-house bookkeeper is employed to oversee internal financial management alongside our treasurer. An independent examiner from Albert Goodman has been appointed to perform the examination in this financial year.
- Inadequate and non-compliant governance and policies – to maintain a functional board, additional trustees will be recruited with suitable skills and experience to support the strategic direction of the charity. Alongside this, governance and policy reviews will ensure that the charity demonstrates best practice in all we do.
- Global pandemics – Having learnt from COVID-19 the board has consistently taken steps to consider mitigations against the known and potential risks stemming from any ongoing challenges of a Global pandemic.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Objectives and Activities

Vision, Aims and Objects

VANS work towards the "Vision" that:

Everyone in North Somerset will be encouraged and supported **to engage in** some form of **volunteering**, supporting people in communities around them, whilst enhancing their own health and well-being.

Our "Mission Statement":

To **represent, develop** and **empower** the voluntary, community, faith, and social enterprise sector in North Somerset, to be at the forefront of positive social change and development.

The charity's objects and principal activities are to:

Promote any charitable purposes for the benefit of the community in the area and in particular the advancement of education, the protection of health and the relief of poverty sickness and distress. Promote and organise co-operation in the achievement of the above purposes and to that end:

- a) to advise and support persons willing to volunteer.
- b) to promote volunteering and community involvement.
- c) to promote advise and support voluntary and community organisations.
- d) to bring together representatives of voluntary and community organisations and statutory authorities within the area of benefit.
- e) to cooperate and work in partnership with other organisations and statutory authorities.
- f) to represent the interests of voluntary and community organisations.

Public benefit

VANS as an organisation meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of citizenship and community development headings. All projects delivered by VANS are designed by funders to deliver specific public benefit.

The trustees state that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the commissions public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which guidance is relevant. The trustees also confirm that they have complied with section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Achievement and Performance

Charitable activities

As the umbrella or infrastructure organisation for the Voluntary, Community, Faith, and Social Enterprise (VCFSE) sector in North Somerset, VANS plays a crucial role in supporting charitable, community interest, and unconstituted groups to address the needs of people in our communities. VANS has four key purposes:

- Advocating for the VCFSE sector and nurturing strong leadership within the VCFSE sector through strengthening the VCFSE voice and influencing key decision-makers and funders to deliver policies that promote social justice, equality, and community impact.
- Developing partnerships and collaborations to amplify the sector's collective voice and build networks of local organisations to drive effective and impactful joint working.
- Enhancing the capabilities and sustainability of VCFSE organisations and individuals, through providing training, guidance, and supporting capacity-building initiatives.
- Promoting and facilitating volunteering opportunities, recognising the significant contributions of volunteers who play a pivotal role in creating positive change within the North Somerset communities we serve.

Key achievements

This year VANS said goodbye to Chief Executive, Paul Lucock and welcomed Mandy Gardner as the new Chief Executive in October 2022. Paul was instrumental in leading VANS through the very difficult years of COVID-19 and was hugely successful at forming partnerships and collaborations enabling VANS to grow as an organisation and play a larger role in supporting the VCFSE sector in North Somerset. Paul's leadership has put VANS in a strong position to support and build a sustainable and thriving VCFSE sector in North Somerset.

This year saw successes with funding achieved from multiple sources to build and develop volunteer provision throughout Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire (BNSSG), alongside achieving funding to enable VANS to better support communities through our Capacity Builders programme, supporting Equalities, Diversity and Physical activity, Ageing Well and Volunteering. The charity also delivered bid writing sessions to 59 individuals representing the VCFSE sector through the Shared Prosperity Fund.

VANS received funding from 15 different sources to enable the delivery of services to communities across North Somerset and further afield. VANS team is currently at 11.8 FTE. These roles enable VANS to meet demand on directly delivered volunteer services and to provide additional direct support to further enable the empowerment of the VCFSE sector in North Somerset.

The pipeline of projects for 2022-23 has strengthened the position of the VANS to further secure its position through the next financial year.

Please see our Impact Report for more examples of the impact that VANS has had this year. Here is a flavour of the impact that VANS has had this year against our four key purposes.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Leadership and Advocacy

By providing a collective voice for the sector, VANS has influenced key local and national decisions and policies, ensuring that the contributions of VCFSE organisations are recognised and valued. VANS has actively participated in cross-sector initiatives, advocating for a collaborative approach to addressing complex social issues and promoting sustainable development. VANS has identified key issues, challenges, and opportunities, and has worked with stakeholders to develop plans and initiatives that align with the VCFSE sector's priorities. VANS has worked directly with commissioners, funders and the VCSE sector to expand provision to meet changing demand and identified new opportunities where possible.

This year, through our role on the Integrated Care Board and as Locality Lead within Weston, Worle and villages, VANS, with our VCFSE partners, has been active in helping to shape the relationship between health and the voluntary sector.

Partnerships and Collaborations

VANS has fostered collaborations among VCFSE organisations. VANS has facilitated knowledge sharing, resource pooling, and joint project development, leading to increased impact and positive outcomes for North Somerset communities. Working in collaboration with academic institutions has enabled evidence-based practices, ensuring that initiatives are guided by research and data. VANS continues to actively participate in regional and national networks, contributing to collective efforts to address pressing societal challenges.

This year VANS has led on the formation of the Befriending Alliance and the Ageing Well Forum, to bring together VCFSE partners to further support and promote the development of their services across North Somerset.

Capacity Building

Capacity building remains a core objective for VANS, through enhancing the capabilities and sustainability of VCFSE organisations and individuals within the sector. VANS' workshops and forums have helped equip individuals with valuable skills and knowledge, enabling them to lead and manage their organisations effectively. We have provided guidance and support to strengthen the governance structures and of VCFSE organisations, promoting best practices and accountability. By supporting leaders, VANS ensures a robust pipeline of skilled individuals dedicated to driving positive change in North Somerset.

This year as part of the UK Community Renewal Fund, North Somerset received government funding to focus on the development of community hubs across North Somerset. VANS working in partnership with VCFSE colleagues enabled the development of four physical community hubs driven by the needs of the communities around them.

Volunteering

Volunteering remains at the heart of VANS' work. VANS has connected enthusiastic volunteers with meaningful opportunities, aligning their skills with the needs of VCFSE organisations. VANS commitment to recognition has helped to foster a positive and rewarding volunteering experience, attracting more individuals to engage in community service. VANS acknowledges the significance of volunteering as a pathway to employment, and supporting employability through volunteering has opened new possibilities for residents seeking to build their skills and gain experience.

This year VANS has invested in a new online Volunteer Centre. This has enabled both volunteers and VCFSE organisations to have easier access to opportunities and has added a new volunteer bank that VCFSE organisations can draw from.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Financial Review

Financial performance through 2022-23 financial year was significantly improved through the delivery of new volunteer contracts across North Somerset and further afield. VANS has been successful in recruiting skilled individuals to deliver these contracts throughout the year. The flexibility of the whole VANS team together with that of our key contract funders has continued to enable delivery to be effective, high quality and with VANS remaining as the main focal point for infrastructure in North Somerset.

A breakdown of the charity's income streams, and expenditure is set out within the accounts and explained within the Impact Report for 2022-2023.

Overall, with the support of our key contract funders and the continued growth in volunteer service delivery, the financial position of the organisation remained in a stable position.

Reserves policy

The Trustees annually review the reserves policy and continue to plan to hold reserves to protect the organisation and delivery of its charitable programmes by providing time to adjust to changing financial circumstances.

Unrestricted general reserves are needed to deal with expenditure which could arise, and which is not provided for either in the annual budgeting process or as a result of a significant loss of revenue income.

Whilst VANS is able to report an improved financial position and the trustees consider that the organisation is now on firm financial footing, the trustees are conscious that pressures on funders, both contracts and grant givers, along with key risks such as a global pandemic could lead to financial pressure for the organisation in the coming years.

The trustees, therefore consider it a prudent objective that the aim, long term, should be to hold Operating reserves at the current level of 12 months of charitable expenditure as set out on the budget for the forthcoming year – circa £400k.

Investment Policy

VANS Income and Expenditure is small and as a consequence, the organisation does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer-term investments such as stocks and shares. The Organisation has therefore adopted a low-risk strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies. Reserves and funding received in advance for projects are held in an interest-bearing deposit account with our bankers, Charities Aid Foundation Bank.

Principle Funding Sources

The principal funding sources for the charity were commissions from North Somerset Council, North Bristol NHS Trust and Sirona Care and Health. The funding from these bodies was for delivery of services. Additional income was generated from the range of projects undertaken by the charity throughout the year.

There are no related party transactions and all principal funding sources are shown in the notes of the financial activities.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Plans for future periods

VANS Strategic Plan for 2023-24 is focussed on our role in capacity building, whilst maintaining a pipeline of projects which meet the charity's overall objectives and/or address demand where need is identified. VANS' aim, as always, is to work in partnership and source investment to build a thriving VCFSE sector for North Somerset.

VANS' team is its main asset, in line with this VANS will continue to develop its people, trustees and volunteers to achieve positive outcomes for the individuals and organisations that it represents.

As with last year, VANS focus for the coming year in line with our current strategic plan will be to:

- Advocate for the VCFSE sector in North Somerset to key stakeholders and funders.
- Through a person-centred approach, enable residents to have a strong voice, ensuring the needs of individuals are met locally.
- Strengthen the infrastructure offer, providing VCFSE's with timely support and guidance.
- Further VANS outreach through capacity building, proactive communications and asset-based community development.
- Expand VANS project base and partnership opportunities to raise the profile of volunteers.
- Be the catalyst for change by helping to maximise the potential of longer-term funding to the sector.
- Develop partnerships and collaborations to amplify the sector's collective voice and build networks of local organisations to drive effective and impactful joint working.

As the VCFSE infrastructure body for North Somerset VANS continues to work directly with commissioners, funders and the VCFSE sector to expand provision to meet changing demand and identify new opportunities where possible.

Our strategic role in influencing will be vital to stabilising, securing and strengthening opportunities for the sector as we move through the next year.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Statement of Trustees Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also directors of Voluntary Action North Somerset for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report (incorporating the directors' report) and the financial statements in accordance with 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).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

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

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

This report has been prepared in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Approved by order of the board on 11 September 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

D Lloyd-Evans
Trustee

N Salter
Trustee

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited
Independent Examiners' Report to the Members and Trustees
For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Independent examiners report to the Trustees of Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited ("the Company") for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the 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 the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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

Michelle Ferris BSc (Hons) FCA DChA
Albert Goodman LLP
Goodwood House
Blackbrook Park Avenue
Taunton
Somerset
TA1 2PX

Date: 4 December 2023

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Statement of Financial Activities (including an Income and Expenditure account)

For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrest- ricted Funds £	Rest- ricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Unrest- ricted Funds £	Rest- ricted Funds £	Total 2022 £
Income from:							
Donations and general grants	2	10,025	8,088	18,113	-	466	466
Charitable activities	3	207,596	564,546	772,142	188,512	544,717	733,229
Investment income	4	1,146	-	1,146	18	-	18
Total income		218,767	572,634	791,401	188,530	545,183	733,713
Expenditure on:							
Charitable expenditure	5	87,828	536,158	623,986	147,724	268,257	415,981
Total expenditure		87,828	536,158	623,986	147,724	268,257	415,981
Net income/(expenditure) before transfers		130,939	36,476	167,415	40,806	276,926	317,732
Transfer between funds	11	76,953	(76,953)	-	25,651	(25,651)	-
Net movement in funds		207,892	(40,477)	167,415	66,457	251,275	317,732
Reconciliation of funds							
Fund balances at 01 April 2022		151,560	273,637	425,197	85,103	22,362	107,465
Fund balances at 31 March 2023	11	359,452	233,160	592,612	151,560	273,637	425,197

The results for the year derive from continuing activities and there are no gains or losses other than those shown above.

The statement of financial activities incorporates the income and expenditure account.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited - Company Registration Number: 03466492

Balance Sheet

As at 31 March 2023

	Notes	2023	2022
		£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	7	-	-
Current assets			
Debtors	8	271,922	226,078
Cash at bank and in hand	9	388,665	291,665
		<u>660,587</u>	<u>517,743</u>
Creditors			
Amounts falling due within one year	10	(67,975)	(92,546)
Net current assets		<u>592,612</u>	<u>425,197</u>
Net assets		<u><u>592,612</u></u>	<u><u>425,197</u></u>
Funds			
Unrestricted funds			
General funds	11	336,584	128,692
Designated funds	11	22,868	22,868
		<u>359,452</u>	<u>151,560</u>
Restricted funds	11	233,160	273,637
Net assets		<u><u>592,612</u></u>	<u><u>425,197</u></u>

These accounts have been prepared and delivered in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

For the year in question, the charitable company was entitled to exemption from an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The trustees/directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

Approved by the Board of Trustees for issue on 11 September 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

D Lloyd-Evans
Trustee

N Salter
Trustee

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Statement of Cashflows

For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

		Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
	Notes		
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net movements in funds for the year		167,415	317,732
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items			
Depreciation and amortisation	7	-	-
Finance income	4	(1,146)	(18)
		<u>166,269</u>	<u>317,714</u>
Working capital adjustments			
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	8	(45,844)	(166,199)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	10	(24,571)	(63,541)
		<u>95,854</u>	<u>87,974</u>
Net cash flow from operations			
		95,854	87,974
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received	4	1,146	18
		<u>97,000</u>	<u>87,992</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents			
		<u>97,000</u>	<u>87,992</u>
Reconciliation of net debt			
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		291,665	203,673
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		<u>97,000</u>	<u>87,992</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u>388,665</u>	<u>291,665</u>

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

1 Accounting Policies

1.1 General information and basis of accounting

Voluntary Action North Somerset is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in the United Kingdom under the Companies Act. The maximum liability of each member is limited to £10. The address of the registered office is given on page 2. The nature of the charity's operations and its principal activities are set out in the Trustees report on pages 3-10.

The financial statements have been prepared in £ sterling on the historical cost basis and in accordance with accounting and reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)- (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

1.2 Income

All income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income. The valuation of donated services is not quantified within the Statement of Financial Activities.

Donation income is received by way of general grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.

Income from grants, relating to specifically the provision of goods or services as part of charitable activities or services to clients are included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable and in the period in which they relate to. Grants are deferred when the monies have been received in advance of the period in which they relate to.

Other trading activities income includes income relating to fundraising and is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.

Investment income is included when receivable.

1.3 Government grants

Government grants are accounted for when unconditionally due and reasonable assurance can be gained that it will be received. Where funds are received in advance, for a specified period, these funds are deferred and recognised in the period to which they relate. Where funds have not been received in a specified period, these funds will be accrued in debtors and recognised in the period to which they relate. Not all grants received have conditions and performance indicators attached, where this is the case, the income is included within donations. Performance related grants are included within Charitable Activities income.

1.4 Donated services

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), unpaid volunteer time is not recognised in the financial statements. Where services have been donated to the charity, these are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity, with a corresponding entry in both donations income and the relevant expenditure line.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. All expenditure is gross of VAT which cannot be recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services to its clients. Direct costs are allocated to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them are shown as contributions to core expenditure.

Other support costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity.

1.6 Fixed assets

Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets over their estimated useful lives at the following rate:-

Fixtures and fittings – 20% per annum straight line basis

Fixed assets are valued at cost less depreciation.

1.7 Debtors

Accrued income is recognised at the settlement amount due and prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

1.8 Cash at bank and in hand

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

1.9 Creditors

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

1.10 Taxation

The organisation is a registered charity and is therefore not liable to corporation tax to the extent that income and gains are applied to the charitable objectives of the charity.

1.11 Pension contributions

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The scheme and its assets are held by independent managers. Contributions are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

1.12 Allocation of costs

A pre-determined amount of overhead expenditure on each project is calculated and transferred from the project to overheads as a contribution.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

1.13 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds receivable or generated for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds assigned for specific purposes by the trustees.

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets this criterion is charged to the fund, together with a fair allocation of management and support costs.

1.14 Operating leases

Leases in which substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases. Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as incurred over the term of the lease.

1.15 VAT

The charity is not VAT registered and therefore all costs are inclusive of VAT.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

2 Donations and general grants

	Unre- stricted funds	Rest- ricted funds	Total 2023	Unre- stricted funds	Rest- ricted funds	Total 2022
Donations						
Donations & gifts	10,025	8,088	18,113	-	466	466
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	10,025	8,088	18,113	-	466	466
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
The income above is made up of:						
Received in year	10,025	8,088	18,113	-	466	466
Deferred income carried forward	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	10,025	8,088	18,113	-	466	466
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Where grants are received in advance, for a specified period, these funds are deferred and recognised in the period to which they relate.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

3 Incoming resources from charitable activities

	Unre-stricted funds £	Rest- ricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Unre- stricted funds £	Rest- ricted funds £	Total 2022 £
Grants:						
Ageing Well	-	76,800	76,800	-	-	-
Befriending	-	29,167	29,167	-	-	-
Big Lottery Fund / Reclaim	-	133,116	133,116	-	30,176	30,176
Adult Social Care and CCG*	-	-	-	11,040	-	11,040
Capacity Builders*	-	7,000	7,000	-	151,700	151,700
Care Homes*	-	29,300	29,300	-	-	-
Children's Centres*	-	-	-	-	19,324	19,324
Community Hubs*	-	41,417	41,417	-	44,463	44,463
Community Resilience	21,694	-	21,694	-	-	-
Social Lottery*	-	-	-	-	7,000	7,000
Bridging the Gap*	-	-	-	-	12,000	12,000
Equalities	-	10,000	10,000	-	5,000	5,000
Infrastructure Development*	27,598	-	27,598	-	27,598	27,598
C&YP Mental Health*	-	-	-	-	11,667	11,667
North Somerset Community Directory*	10,000	-	10,000	-	-	-
NSC Childrens Centre*	-	19,324	19,324	-	-	-
Mass Vaccination Centre	134,360	-	134,360	151,657	-	151,657
Mental Health Grants*	-	-	-	-	33,181	33,181
PCC for Avon and Somerset*	-	-	-	-	24,124	24,124
Pulse	-	-	-	-	5,000	5,000
Recovery Programme*	-	-	-	-	22,000	22,000
Sirona Care	-	30,860	30,860	-	32,490	32,490
SPF	-	6,000	6,000	-	-	-
St Modwens	-	-	-	-	10,750	10,750
Step Forward*	-	56,900	56,900	-	36,000	36,000
Ukraine Relief	-	48,122	48,122	-	-	-
	193,652	488,006	681,658	162,697	472,473	635,170

Continues Below:

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Unre-stricted funds £	Rest- ricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Unre- stricted funds £	Rest- ricted funds £	Total 2022 £
Continued:						
b/fwd amounts	193,652	488,006	681,658	162,697	472,473	635,170
Flax Bourton Hub	200	-	200	5,794	-	5,794
Long Ashton Community Association	-	-	-	8,300	-	8,300
VCFSE Locality Lead Partnership	-	60,000	60,000	-	60,000	60,000
Wellbeing	-	-	-	-	8,750	8,750
Other grants < £5,000*	6,220	16,479	22,699	10,171	3,494	13,665
Other charitable activities:						
Advertising services	1,150	-	1,150	1,400	-	1,400
Consultation, events & training	6,374	61	6,435	150	-	150
	<u>207,596</u>	<u>564,546</u>	<u>772,142</u>	<u>188,512</u>	<u>544,717</u>	<u>733,229</u>
The income shown above is made up of:						
Received in year	204,596	534,800	739,396	181,512	498,251	679,763
Deferred income brought forward	3,000	72,843	75,843	10,000	119,309	129,309
Deferred income carried forward	-	(43,097)	(43,097)	(3,000)	(72,843)	(75,843)
	<u>207,596</u>	<u>564,546</u>	<u>772,142</u>	<u>188,512</u>	<u>544,717</u>	<u>733,229</u>

Where grants are received in advance, for a specified period, these funds are deferred and recognised in the period to which they relate.

* denotes amounts received from government. See note 14 for more information.

4 Investment income

	Unre- stricted funds £	Rest- ricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Unre- stricted funds £	Rest- ricted funds £	Total 2022 £
Bank interest	1,146	-	1,146	18	-	18

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

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

5 Charitable expenditure

	Unres- tricted	Res- tricted	Total 2023	Unres- tricted	Res- tricted	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs						
Staff salaries	65,468	280,280	345,748	161,631	111,693	273,324
Consultancy	-	10,000	10,000	8,560	1,500	10,060
Training	739	560	1,299	457	-	457
Travel	983	6,406	7,389	1	1,140	1,141
HR service	2,727	-	2,727	2,288	-	2,288
Other staff costs	5,917	5,389	11,306	5,743	1,820	7,563
Infrastructure costs						
Insurance	827	-	827	800	-	800
DBS	-	-	-	402	-	402
IT costs	10,472	25,096	35,568	5,698	1,397	7,095
Postage, printing and stationery	2,884	13	2,897	1,299	-	1,299
Rent and services charges	2,376	-	2,376	2,376	-	2,376
Telephone	6,951	-	6,951	5,292	122	5,414
Subscriptions	257	-	257	257	-	257
Direct project costs						
Project costs	4,580	125,323	129,903	5,897	80,318	86,215
Grants provided	1,580	50,401	51,981	-	-	-
Finance and governance costs						
Accountancy fees	11,667	-	11,667	6,096	-	6,096
Independent Examination fees	-	-	-	360	-	360
Legal and professional fees	35	-	35	35	-	35
Bank charges	72	-	72	95	-	95
Membership	1,174	-	1,174	260	-	260
Other costs						
Advertising & recruitment	1,416	-	1,416	515	50	565
Work wear	-	-	-	1,190	-	1,190
Sundry expenses	373	20	393	330	-	330
Expenses	-	-	-	95	-	95
Team Kinetico	-	-	-	2,676	-	2,676
Volunteer activity	-	-	-	344	-	344
Volunteer travel	-	-	-	5,244	-	5,244
	120,498	503,488	623,986	217,941	198,040	415,981
Contributions to core expenditure	(32,670)	32,670	-	(70,217)	70,217	-
	87,828	536,158	623,986	147,724	268,257	415,981

All grants provided were to institutions (partner organisations) as part of the funding conditions (2022 – none).

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

6 Employees and employment costs

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	313,069	247,698
Employer's NI	27,715	21,131
Pension contributions	4,964	4,495
	<u>345,748</u>	<u>273,324</u>

Defined contribution pension scheme.

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the company to the scheme and amounted to £4,964 (2022: £4,495). Contributions totalling £1,096 (2022: £1,076) were payable to the scheme at the end of the year and are included in creditors.

No individual employee was paid over £60,000 (2022: none).

No remuneration was paid to any Trustees during the year (2022: none). No expenses were reimbursed to the Trustees by the charity during the year (2022: none).

The key management personnel of the charity is considered to be the Chief Executive. The total costs to the charity of employee benefits (including employers national insurance but not employer pension contributions) for the key management personnel were £59,754 (2022: £48,851).

The average monthly head count was 14 staff (2022: 11 staff).

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

7 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures & Fittings £	Total £
Cost		
As at 01 April 2022	35,332	35,332
Additions	-	-
Disposals	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
As at 31 March 2023	35,332	35,332
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Depreciation		
As at 01 April 2022	35,332	35,332
Elimination on disposal	-	-
Charge for year	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
As at 31 March 2023	35,332	35,332
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net book value		
As at 31 March 2023	-	-
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
As at 31 March 2022	-	-
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

8 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	271,922	226,078
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	271,922	226,078
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

9 Cash at bank and in hand

	2023 £	2022 £
Bank balances	388,665	291,665
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	388,665	291,665
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

10 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	1,802	3,564
Other creditors	16,056	11,519
Accruals & deferred income	50,117	77,463
	<u>67,975</u>	<u>92,546</u>

Deferred income

	2023	2022
	£	£
Deferred income at 01 April 2022	75,843	147,407
Released from previous years	(57,745)	(74,564)
Resources deferred in the year	24,999	3,000
	<u>43,097</u>	<u>75,843</u>

Where grants are received in advance, for a specified period, these funds are deferred and recognised in the period to which they relate.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

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

11 Statement of funds

	Balance 01.04.22 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31.03.23 £
Unrestricted funds					
General unrestricted funds	128,692	218,767	(87,828)	76,953	336,584
Designated fund - integrated care	22,868	-	-	-	22,868
Total unrestricted funds	151,560	218,767	(87,828)	76,953	359,452
Restricted funds					
Healing Hearing: Reclaim Project	14,459	133,575	(78,745)	(15,460)	53,829
Bangladeshi Association	-	2,500	(2,500)	-	-
Ageing Well	-	76,800	(47,227)	25,227	54,800
Befriending	-	29,167	(8,386)	(2,114)	18,667
Bereavement - Bristol Uni	-	5,000	(1,731)	(3,269)	-
Capacity Builders	113,012	7,000	(40,640)	(61,272)	18,100
Community Hubs	33,555	41,417	(70,714)	(4,258)	-
Children & Young People's Group	2,692	-	-	-	2,692
Care Homes	-	29,300	-	-	29,300
Community Learning	-	980	-	-	980
Equalities	-	11,500	(32,480)	22,080	1,100
NAVCA - Cost of Living	-	5,000	(5,111)	111	-
NS children centre volunteer co-ordinator	-	19,324	(14,997)	(4,327)	-
NHS BNSSG	1,494	-	-	-	1,494
Pulse	5,000	-	-	-	5,000
Refugees	-	4,999	(1,744)	(175)	3,080
Mental Health Grants	63,181	-	(60,001)	(3,180)	-
Sirona Care	-	30,860	(24,595)	(6,265)	-
Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF)	-	6,000	(5,352)	(510)	138
St Modwens	895	-	(486)	(409)	-
Step Forward / Recovery	26,031	56,900	(40,988)	(8,312)	33,631
Ukraine Relief	3,318	52,209	(36,462)	(8,820)	10,245
VCFSE Locality Lead Partnership (LLP)	10,000	60,103	(63,999)	(6,000)	104
Total restricted funds	273,637	572,634	(536,158)	(76,953)	233,160
Total funds	425,197	791,401	(623,986)	-	592,612

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

11 Statement of funds- prior year

	Balance 01.04.21	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance 31.03.22
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General unrestricted funds	85,103	188,530	(147,724)	2,783	128,692
Designated fund - integrated care	-	-	-	22,868	22,868
Total unrestricted funds	85,103	188,530	(147,724)	25,651	151,560
Restricted funds					
Healing Hearing:					
Big Lottery	-	30,516	(23,981)	7,924	14,459
PCC for Avon & Somerset	-	24,124	(16,200)	(7,924)	-
Big Lottery Covid-19	-	-	(8,655)	8,655	-
Bridging the Gap	10,461	12,000	(15,306)	(7,155)	-
Capacity Builders	-	151,700	(2,438)	(36,250)	113,012
Community Hubs	-	44,463	(8,409)	(2,499)	33,555
Children & Young People's Group	-	11,667	(8,975)	-	2,692
Children's Centres Co-ordinator	-	19,324	(19,324)	-	-
Equalities	-	5,000	(15,361)	10,361	-
ICS Police	500	-	(500)	-	-
Infrastructure development	-	27,598	(27,598)	-	-
N. Som NHS Trust	11,401	-	-	(11,401)	-
Wellbeing	-	-	(23,537)	23,537	-
Social Lottery	-	7,000	(7,000)	-	-
N. Som Together Fund	-	-	(653)	653	-
NHS BNSSG	-	1,494	-	-	1,494
Pulse	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
Quartet CF - Covid Response	-	8,750	-	(8,750)	-
Mental Health Grants	-	33,181	-	30,000	63,181
Recovery Programme	-	22,000	(22,071)	71	-
Sirona Care	-	32,490	(32,490)	-	-
St Modwens	-	10,750	(9,855)	-	895
Step Forward	-	36,000	(9,898)	(71)	26,031
Ukraine Relief	-	2,126	-	1,192	3,318
VCS LLP	-	60,000	(16,006)	(33,994)	10,000
Total restricted funds	22,362	545,183	(268,257)	(25,651)	273,637
Total funds	107,465	733,713	(415,981)	-	425,197

- The general unrestricted fund represents the unrestricted funds of the charity at the year end.
- The Big Lottery Healing Hearing fund provides restricted funding for two self-employed counselling co-ordinators, together with a contribution towards the running costs for this project.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

- Big Lottery Covid19 refers to funding received from The National Lottery Community Fund to maintain the core service offer, to enhance the Reclaim numbers and launch an Autism Family Support pilot through Bridging the Gap Together! during the Covid19 pandemic.
- The Bridging the Gap fund provides restricted funding to provide mentoring opportunities for young people, and to support a minimum of six events through the year for young people and parents/carers, in order to enhance confidence and recognise their positive contribution to society.
- CAF Bank refers to funding received from Charities Aid Foundation from the Coronavirus Emergency Fund to build on the VANS Community Response through Covid19 pandemic.
- Capacity Builders fund is used to enable growth to build on and develop areas of the community to meet the needs identified.
- Community Hub funding was received from North Somerset Council to help with problems caused by Covid-19 pandemic and are to be spent on either investment on skills, local businesses, communities or supporting people into employment.
- The Children and Young People's Group Fund, and Mental Health Fund, represent restricted funding to identify and address key challenges being faced in this sector.
- C&YP Wellbeing funding was received from North Somerset Council to build on the work of the Children, Young People and Families Forum enabling a review of VCSE activity and starting to build a network of Trusted Relationships.
- The Children's Centre Co-ordinator represent restricted funding for the employment of a volunteer co-ordinator, and to provide volunteering opportunities in Children's Centres across North Somerset.
- Infrastructure Development is funds received from North Somerset Council to support infrastructure development against a Service Level Agreement.
- The North Somerset Community Partnership Fund represents restricted funding to support a Community Health Volunteer post and the provision of related services.
- North Bristol NHS Trust funding is for the delivery of the vaccination volunteers programme across Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire (BNSSG) from April 2021.
- The People and Communities fund is amounts from North Somerset Council to support strategic people and communities infrastructure development.
- Quartet CF – Covid Response is funding received from Quartet Community Foundation from the Coronavirus Emergency Fund to enable the development and delivery of the VANS Community Response at the start of the Covid19 pandemic.
- Recovery Programme is a restricted fund from North Somerset Council to be spent on employing someone to support people with substance misuse problems.
- Sirona Care is funding received for the coordination of the Sirona care and health community health volunteers programme.
- The Step forward fund, is a restricted fund from North Somerset Council to be spent on employing someone to support people with substance misuse problems.
- The Wessex Water Money Matters grant provides restricted funding to deliver training which helps people to improve their financial capability and encourage responsible payment behaviour for the services they receive, with the desire to make a long-term difference to the target beneficiaries.
- VCFSE Locality Lead Partnership is funding from Sirona Care, to provide input and leadership for the Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) programme as part of the Health and Wellbeing Programme for the NHS.

Note – transfers have been made where funds have been released to core. These are either within the terms of the grant agreements/contracts or with the agreement of funders.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

12 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unre- stricted funds £	Rest- stricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Unre- stricted funds £	Rest- stricted funds £	Total 2022 £
Tangible assets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Current assets	234,073	426,514	660,587	171,263	346,480	517,743
Current liabilities	(24,878)	(43,097)	(67,975)	(19,703)	(72,843)	(92,546)
	<u>359,452</u>	<u>233,160</u>	<u>592,612</u>	<u>151,560</u>	<u>273,637</u>	<u>425,197</u>

13 Financial commitments

At 31 March 2023 the charity was committed to making the following payments under non-cancellable operating leases:

	2023		2022	
	Land and buildings £	Other £	Land and buildings £	Other £
Less than 1 year	-	1,512	594	1,512
1 – 5 years	-	1,890	-	3,402
Greater than 5 years	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>3,402</u>	<u>594</u>	<u>4,914</u>

14 Government grants

Income from government grants comprise grants made by local authorities to fund the principal activities and objectives of the charity via core funding and funding for specific restricted projects. No performance related grants recognised in income have had any unfulfilled conditions or any other contingencies attaching to them. See note 3 for more information.

15 Company limited by guarantee

The company was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The guarantee to the company is £10 per member on the winding up of the company. At 31 March 2023 the company had five members and the total amount guaranteed is therefore £50.

VOLUNTARY ACTION NORTH SOMERSET

England & Wales - Charity number 1065916

Accounts

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited
(A Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Company Number: 03466492
Charity Registered in England and Wales Number: 1065916

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Contents

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	<u>Page</u>
Reference and Administrative Details	2
Trustee Directors' Report	3 – 9
Independent Examiners' Report	10
Statement of Financial Activities	11
Balance Sheet	12
Notes to the Financial Statements	13 – 27

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Reference and Administrative Details

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Charity Name Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors
S Green
D Lloyd-Evans
N Salter
K Scott
S Shillabeer

Chief Executive P Lucock

Registered Office
Weston Court
Oldmixon Crescent
Weston-Super-Mare
North Somerset
BS24 9AU

Independent Examiner
Michelle Ferris FCA
Albert Goodman LLP
Goodwood House
Blackbrook Park Avenue
Taunton
Somerset
TA1 2PX

Bankers
CAF Bank
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of the Companies Act, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's memorandum and articles of association, the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP FRS 102- implemented 1 January 2019), and are in accordance with the special provision relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, dated 30th November 1997, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006. In the event of the company being wound up, members liability is restricted to £10. The charity, commonly known as VANS, is a registered charity number 1065916 and a company limited by guarantee number 03466492.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law. The following trustees served during the year and since the year end:

S Green (appointed 21 September 2020, resigned 27 July 2021)
K Headdon (resigned 1 September 2020)
D Lloyd-Evans
N Salter
K Scott
S Shillabeer

Processes for the election of the trustees are covered by the Articles and there is a policy and procedures for the co-option of the trustees.

We seek to have a board of trustees which has a good understanding of the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector (VCSE) and is representative of our diverse membership. In addition, we seek to have trustees with relevant business experience to ensure that we are compliant with our fiduciary responsibilities. Trustees can be co-opted or elected at the AGM. No external body has the right to appoint trustees.

Induction and training of new trustees

To help Trustees understand their role and responsibilities an induction pack has been developed that supports trustees new to the role. The Chair conducts an annual 'conversation' with each trustee and holds four trustee seminars per year covering relevant issues. Trustees are encouraged to keep themselves up to date with Charity legislation, through relevant third-party websites and through attending training when required.

Organisational structure

Voluntary Action North Somerset is overseen by the Board of Trustees. As charity trustees they are responsible for complying with all relevant legislation applicable to charities. This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate. The Committee meets a minimum of four times a year to review performance and key risks with additional ad-hoc meetings being held if required.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Day to day responsibility for the running of the organisation is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer and the team of paid employees.

Wider network

Whilst maintaining its independence, VANS works together with many other organisations - local, regional, and national to achieve its objectives. These include the North Somerset Leaders Forum, North Somerset Wellbeing Collective, The West of England Civil Society Partnership, BNSSG Clinical Commissioning Group, North Somerset Council and Sirona care and health. VANS as an organisation is viewed as a champion for meaningful collaborative partnership working.

Related parties

The charity is a member of The National Association for Voluntary and Community Action (NAVCA) and the National Association of Voluntary Organisations (NCVO), incorporating Volunteer England.

As agreed by the board of trustees, the Chief Executive holds the positions of Director of the West of England Civil Society Community Interest Company and Director of the North Somerset Wellbeing Collective.

Risk Management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review risk to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate mitigations are in place to provide reasonable assurance against malpractice and error. The Board of Trustees has identified the major risks to which they believe the organisation may be exposed, these are reviewed dependent on need and systems implemented to mitigate against them.

Covid19 – has had an impact on all areas previously identified and the board has taken steps to consider the mitigations against the known and potential risks stemming from the pandemic. The main areas of risk that have been identified are:

- Achieving long term financial sustainability – although much of this is determined by the continuation of ongoing contracts, a pipeline of projects aligning to the charity's strategic ambitions is regularly monitored by trustees. Additional funding was sought to overcome the short-term challenges of Covid19, with regular in year reviews throughout to continually measure progress.
- Changing needs and expectations of funders, clients, and the public – this is a continual risk, reviewed regularly with sense checks undertaken on CEO and staff performance, relationship management and consistent feedback from relevant stakeholders to monitor perceptions.
- Compliance with legal frameworks – as an accredited volunteer centre, our ability to meet the requirements of our awarding body and re-accreditation are vital to maintain such status. An in year internal evaluation is undertaken of all systems, processes, and policies to ensure adherence.
- Finance and Accounting – an inhouse bookkeeper is employed to oversee internal financial management alongside our treasurer. An independent examiner from Albert Goodman has been appointed to perform the examination in this financial year.
- Governance and Policy – to maintain a functional board, additional trustees will be recruited with suitable skills and experience to support the strategic direction of the charity. Alongside which, a full governance and policy review will be completed to ensure that the charity demonstrates best practice in all we do.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Objectives and Activities

Vision, Aims and Objects

VANS work towards the "Vision" that:

Everyone in North Somerset will be encouraged and supported to engage in some form of volunteering, supporting people in communities around them, whilst enhancing their own health and well-being.

Our "Mission Statement":

To represent, develop and empower the voluntary, community, faith, and social enterprise sector in North Somerset, to be at the forefront of positive social change and development.

The charity's objects and principal activities are to:

Promote any charitable purposes for the benefit of the community in the area and in particular the advancement of education, the protection of health and the relief of poverty sickness and distress. Promote and organise co-operation in the achievement of the above purposes and to that end:

- a) to advise and support persons willing to volunteer.
- b) to promote volunteering and community involvement and provide a centre for volunteering.
- c) to promote advise and support voluntary and community organisations.
- d) to bring together in council representatives of voluntary and community organisations and statutory authorities within the area of benefit.
- e) to cooperate and work in partnership with other organizations and statutory authorities.
- f) to represent the interests of voluntary and community organisations.

Public benefit

VANS as an organisation meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of citizenship and community development headings. All projects delivered by VANS are designed by funders to deliver specific public benefit.

The trustees state that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the commissions public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which guidance is relevant. The trustees also confirm that they have complied with section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Achievement and Performance

Charitable activities

The main areas of charitable activity are the provision of capacity building, strategic development and volunteering related services, to individuals, voluntary, community and social enterprise sector groups and organisations in North Somerset. Another primary role is to act as voluntary sector representatives on a number of strategic forums.

VANS is contracted to deliver volunteer coordination services to Sirona Care and Health and North Somerset Council, alongside volunteer brokerage through the North Somerset Online Volunteer Centre.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Key achievements

As the umbrella organisation for the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector for North Somerset, VANS plays a key role in supporting charitable, community interest and unconstituted groups to meet the needs of people in our communities.

The year saw successes with funding achieved from Quartet Community Foundation and CAF Bank to enable the coordination of a Covid19 Community Response programme, alongside funding provided through North Somerset Council to resource small community organisations to apply for grants focussed on the delivery of mental health provision.

VANS played a key role strategically leading as part of the local emergency response infrastructure supported by a small contribution through our national partners at NAVCA. A second funding pot awarded through the Quartet Express Grant enabled additional small grants to be provided through the North Somerset Together partnership, covering costs for micro and unconstituted groups providing support through the pandemic.

This year saw a refresh of the VANS brand with a new logo commissioned and the redevelopment of the VANS website to modernise its look and functionality. This was enabled through the Government funded small business support grant scheme.

The national Big Lottery Community Fund Covid19 Response fund was instrumental for the charity to build financial resilience with the reinstatement of the charity reserves. In addition, the fund enabled the expansion of the VANS managed Reclaim Domestic Abuse service and the development of an Autism Family Liaison pilot for North Somerset delivered through our partners at Bridging The Gap Together! CIC.

Other project funding included monies received from the Police and Crime Commissioner Domestic Abuse fund to continue the growth of Reclaim and other funds through infrastructure support projects working in partnership with community organisations such as Churchill and Langford Minibus Society and developer St Modwen Homes in Weston-super-Mare.

The pipeline of projects for 2021-22 has strengthened the position of the VANS to further secure its position through the next financial year.

Financial Review

Financial results for the 2020/21 financial year were significantly impacted by the Covid pandemic as a result of the national lockdown put in place by the government to protect its citizens. VANS as an organisation had to quickly reorient its services to meet the new demands placed on volunteering services across the area including putting in place support for the local hubs that were established to provide assistance for local communities to meet the challenges that the pandemic brought. The flexibility of the staff team together with that of our key contract funders enabled this to happen quickly and ensured that VANS as an organisation remained the key focal point for the Voluntary sector during the pandemic.

As a direct result of the Covid pandemic the pipeline of activities planned for 2020/21 were impacted with a number of key contracts either being postponed or cancelled. This necessitated an early and detailed review of the 2020/2021 budget to ensure that VANS as an organisation was in a position to continue to support the voluntary sector across the area.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Applications for emergency COVID funding were successful made to a number of funders including CAF Bank, Quartet, NAVCA and the National Lottery. The funding from the National Lottery providing support that covered the base infrastructure costs of the organisation for a six-month period. The quick turn around and receipt of this emergency funding was key in ensuring the VANS could continue to operate at full capacity throughout the whole of the financial year.

Overall, with the support of our key contract funders and the emergency COVID funding received the financial position of the organisation has been stabilised. As a result, VANS is able to report an improved financial position with operational reserves at circa 85% of the level set by the trustees – 12 months of the charitable expenditure.

Reserves policy

The trustees examine the charity's requirements for reserves in light of the main risks to the organisation. Unrestricted reserves are needed to deal with possible expenditure which could arise, and which is not provided for in the annual budgeting process. This could include emergency repairs or replacement of essential equipment or significant loss of revenue streams.

Given the experience of the Covid pandemic and the impact that such a future event could have on the organisation the Trustees consider it a prudent objective that long term a level of Operating reserves, equal to at least 12 months of charitable expenditure as set out on the budget for the forthcoming year – circa £100k, should be maintained.

As the current level of reserves falls below the Operating Reserve Fund level that has been agreed by the Board of trustees, the aim will be to restore the Operating Reserve Fund to the agreed level over the following two financial years. The Operating Reserve Fund is funded with surplus unrestricted operating funds. In order to restore the Operating Reserve Fund to the agreed level the organisation will look to increase the level of projects undertaken, undertake fund raising, increasing earned income through the development of internal revenue streams and ensure that expenditure is kept to a minimum.

Investment Policy

Voluntary Action North Somerset's Income and Expenditure is small and as a consequence the organisation does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer-term investments such as stocks and shares. The Organisation has therefore adopted a low-risk strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies. Reserves and funding received in advance for projects are held in an interest-bearing deposit account with our bankers, Charities Aid Foundation Bank.

Principle Funding Sources

The principal funding sources for the charity were commissions from North Somerset Council and Sirona. The funding from these bodies was for delivery of services. Additional income of £45.4k was generated from the range of projects undertaken by the charity throughout the year.

Emergency grants and support payments to help to sustain the organisation during the Covid pandemic totalling £72.2k were received

There are no related party transactions and all principal funding sources are shown in the notes of the financial activities.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Plans for future periods

VANS Strategic Plan for 2021-22 takes a holistic approach to providing advice and guidance to the sector in an advisory capacity, whilst maintaining a pipeline of projects which meet our overall objectives and/or address demand where market failure may exist. Our aim is not to duplicate but to collaborate and nurture those organisations best placed to deliver services.

Our people are our main asset, in line with this we will work to develop the staff, trustees and our volunteers to achieve positive outcomes for the individuals and organisations that we represent.

Our focus for the coming year in line with our current strategic plan will be to:

- Strengthen the infrastructure offer to the sector, providing VCSE's with timely support and guidance.
- Enable the sector to have a strong voice ensuring that the needs of N-Somerset are met.
- Further our outreach through proactive communications and effective consultation.
- Expand our project base and partnership opportunities to raise the profile of volunteers.
- Be the catalyst for change by helping to maximise the potential of funding to the sector.

The Covid19 pandemic has had an impact on the whole sector and will continue for many months to come. As the VSCE infrastructure body for N-Somerset we intend to work directly with commissioners, funders and the VCSE sector to expand provision to meet changing demand and identify new opportunities where possible.

Our strategic role in influencing will be vital to stabilising, securing, and strengthening the sector as we move through the next year.

Statement of Trustees Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also directors of Voluntary Action North Somerset for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report (incorporating the directors' report) and the financial statements in accordance with 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).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

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

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

This report has been prepared in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Approved by order of the board on 30 November 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

D Lloyd-Evans

N Salter

Independent examiners report to the Trustees of Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited ("the Company") for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

Michelle Ferris BSc (Hons) FCA DChA

Albert Goodman LLP
Goodwood House
Blackbrook Park Avenue
Taunton
Somerset
TA1 2PX

Date: 6 December 2021

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Statement of Financial Activities (including an Income and Expenditure account)

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrest- ricted Funds £	Rest- ricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Unrest- ricted Funds £	Rest- ricted Funds £	Total 2020 £
Income from:							
Donations and general grants	2	601	-	601	5,820	-	5,820
Charitable activities	3	33,164	246,389	279,553	6,082	152,436	158,518
Other trading activities		-	-	-	-	-	-
Investment income	4	26	-	26	89	-	89
Other		-	-	-	-	-	-
Total income		33,791	246,389	280,180	11,991	152,436	164,427
Expenditure on:							
Charitable expenditure	5	50,883	133,038	183,921	22,087	144,581	166,668
Total expenditure		50,883	133,038	183,921	22,087	144,581	166,668
Net income/(expenditure) before transfers		(17,092)	113,351	96,259	(10,096)	7,855	(2,241)
Transfer between funds	11	98,844	(98,844)	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		81,752	14,507	96,259	(10,096)	7,855	(2,241)
Reconciliation of funds							
Fund balances at 01 April 2020		3,351	7,855	11,206	13,447	-	13,447
Fund balances at 31 March 2021	11	85,103	22,362	107,465	3,351	7,855	11,206

The results for the year derive from continuing activities and there are no gains or losses other than those shown above.

The statement of financial activities incorporates the income and expenditure account.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited - Company Registration Number: 03466492

Balance Sheet

As at 31 March 2021

	Notes	2021	2020
		£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	7	-	-
Current assets			
Debtors	8	59,879	175
Cash at bank and in hand	9	203,673	64,838
		<u>263,552</u>	<u>65,013</u>
Creditors			
Amounts falling due within one year	10	(156,087)	(53,807)
Net current assets		<u>107,465</u>	<u>11,206</u>
Net assets		<u><u>107,465</u></u>	<u><u>11,206</u></u>
Funds			
Unrestricted funds			
General funds	11	85,103	3,351
Restricted funds	11	22,362	7,855
Net assets		<u><u>107,465</u></u>	<u><u>11,206</u></u>

These accounts have been prepared and delivered in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

For the year in question, the charitable company was entitled to exemption from an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The trustees/directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

Approved by the Board of Trustees for issue on 30 November 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

D Lloyd-Evans
Trustee

N Salter
Trustee

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

1 Accounting Policies

1.1 General information and basis of accounting

Voluntary Action North Somerset is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in the United Kingdom under the Companies Act. The maximum liability of each member is limited to £10. The address of the registered office is given on page 2. The nature of the charity's operations and its principal activities are set out in the Trustees report on pages 3-9.

The financial statements have been prepared in £ sterling on the historical cost basis and in accordance with accounting and reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)- (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

1.2 Income

All income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income. The valuation of donated services is not quantified within the Statement of Financial Activities.

Donation income is received by way of general grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.

Income from grants, relating to specifically the provision of goods or services as part of charitable activities or services to clients are included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable and in the period in which they relate to. Grants are deferred when the monies have been received in advance of the period in which they relate to.

Other trading activities income includes income relating to fundraising and is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.

Investment income is included when receivable.

Other income is recognised in the accounts when receivable and relates to staff secondment income, various expenditure reimbursements and training delivery.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

1.3 Government grants

Government grants are accounted for when unconditionally due and reasonable assurance can be gained that it will be received. Where funds are received in advance, for a specified period, these funds are deferred and recognised in the period to which they relate. Where funds have not been received in a specified period, these funds will be accrued in debtors and recognised in the period to which they relate. Not all grants received have conditions and performance indicators attached, where this is the case, the income is included within donations. Performance related grants are included within Charitable Activities income.

1.4 Donated services

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), unpaid volunteer time is not recognised in the financial statements. Where services have been donated to the charity, these are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity, with a corresponding entry in both donations income and the relevant expenditure line.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. All expenditure is gross of VAT which cannot be recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services to its clients. Direct costs are allocated to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them are shown as contributions to core expenditure.

Other support costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity.

1.6 Fixed assets

Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets over their estimated useful lives at the following rate:-

Fixtures and fittings – 20% per annum straight line basis

Fixed assets are valued at cost less depreciation.

1.7 Debtors

Accrued income is recognised at the settlement amount due and prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

1.8 Cash at bank and in hand

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

1.9 Creditors

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

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

1.10 **Taxation**

The organisation is a registered charity and is therefore not liable to corporation tax to the extent that income and gains are applied to the charitable objectives of the charity.

1.11 **Pension contributions**

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The scheme and its assets are held by independent managers. Contributions are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

1.12 **Allocation of costs**

A pre-determined amount of overhead expenditure on each project is calculated and transferred from the project to overheads as a contribution.

1.13 **Fund accounting**

General funds are unrestricted funds receivable or generated for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets this criterion is charged to the fund, together with a fair allocation of management and support costs.

1.14 **Operating leases**

Leases in which substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases. Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as incurred over the term of the lease.

1.15 **VAT**

The charity is not VAT registered and therefore all costs are inclusive of VAT.

1.16 **Financial instruments**

The charity only holds basic financial instruments as defined in FRS 102. The financial assets and liabilities of the charity and their measurements are as follows:

Financial assets – trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost and details in note 14. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

Cash at bank – is classified as a basic financial instrument and is measured at face value.

Financial liabilities – trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost and detailed in note 14. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

1.17 **Covid-19**

The Trustees have considered the implication of the Covid-19 pandemic on the operations of the charity. The charity has been able to continue to deliver the majority of its services remotely and has attracted additional funding to enable a response to an increase in demand. Taking into account all reasonable circumstances, the Trustees believe that the charity remains a going concern and no adjustments to the accounts are necessary.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

2 Donations and general grants

	Unre- stricted funds	Rest- ricted funds	Total 2021	Unre- stricted funds	Rest- ricted funds	Total 2020
Donations						
Donations & gifts	601	-	601	5,820	-	5,820
	<u>601</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>601</u>	<u>5,820</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,820</u>
	<u><u>601</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>601</u></u>	<u><u>5,820</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>5,820</u></u>
The income above is made up of:						
Received in year	18,699	-	18,699	23,918	-	23,918
Deferred income carried forward	(18,098)	-	(18,098)	(18,098)	-	(18,098)
	<u>601</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>601</u>	<u>5,820</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,820</u>
	<u><u>601</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>601</u></u>	<u><u>5,820</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>5,820</u></u>

Where grants are received in advance, for a specified period, these funds are deferred and recognised in the period to which they relate.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

3 Incoming resources from charitable activities

	Unre- stricted funds £	Rest- ricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Unre- stricted funds £	Rest- ricted funds £	Total 2020 £
Grants:						
Big Lottery Fund	-	18,933	18,933	-	16,363	16,363
Big Lottery Fund Covid-19	-	47,657	47,657	-	-	-
N. Som Community Partnership*	-	-	-	-	29,500	29,500
Children's Centres*	-	19,324	19,324	-	17,324	17,324
Homestart	-	-	-	-	6,214	6,214
Bridging the Gap*	-	23,300	23,300	-	12,000	12,000
People and Communities*	-	-	-	-	10,077	10,077
Infrastructure Development*	-	27,598	27,598	-	10,077	10,077
Quartet Community Foundation	-	19,500	19,500	-	2,000	2,000
N. Som Online Directory*	-	-	-	-	32,468	32,468
Wessex Water	-	-	-	-	4,300	4,300
PHE VCSE STP Project*	-	-	-	1,900	750	2,650
ICS Police*	-	-	-	-	2,000	2,000
Hydration*	-	-	-	-	6,357	6,357
C&YP Mental Health*	4,980	4,890	9,870	-	3,006	3,006
CAF Bank	-	8,250	8,250	-	-	-
Churchil & Landford Minibus	6,000	-	6,000	-	-	-
N Som NHS Trust	-	13,436	13,436	-	-	-
PCC for Avon and Somerset*	-	4,451	4,451	-	-	-
Sirona Care	-	46,800	46,800	-	-	-
St Modwens	-	12,250	12,250	-	-	-
Other grants < £5,000*	20,333	-	20,333	-	-	-
Other charitable activities:	-	-	-	-	-	-
Advertising services	1,425	-	1,425	325	-	325
Consultation, events & training	136	-	136	159	-	159
Other services	290	-	290	3,698	-	3,698
	33,164	246,389	279,553	6,082	152,436	158,518

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

The income shown above is made up of:

Received in year	43,164	349,048	392,212	6,082	112,645	118,727
Deferred income brought forward	-	16,650	16,650	-	56,441	56,441
Deferred income carried forward	(10,000)	(119,309)	(129,309)	-	(16,650)	(16,650)
Accrued income brought forward	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accrued income carried forward	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>33,164</u>	<u>246,389</u>	<u>279,553</u>	<u>6,082</u>	<u>152,436</u>	<u>158,518</u>

Where grants are received in advance, for a specified period, these funds are deferred and recognised in the period to which they relate.

* denotes amounts received from government. See note 16 for more information.

4 Investment income

	Unre- stricted funds £	Rest- stricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Unre- stricted funds £	Rest- stricted funds £	Total 2020 £
Bank interest	26	-	26	89	-	89

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

5 Charitable expenditure

	Unres- tricted £	Res- tricted £	Total 2021 £	Unres- tricted £	Res- tricted £	Total 2020 £
Staff costs						
Staff salaries	79,411	38,392	117,803	47,687	49,824	97,511
Consultancy	-	-	-	-	1,302	1,302
Training	59	-	59	45	25	70
Travel	103	19	122	418	1,026	1,444
HR service	2,730	-	2,730	2,706	-	2,706
Recruitment expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other staff costs	1,413	594	2,007	288	401	689
Infrastructure costs						
Insurance	793	-	793	781	-	781
Advertising	-	-	-	-	-	-
IT costs	7,320	1,337	8,657	4,824	-	4,824
Postage, printing and stationery	1,260	-	1,260	1,578	-	1,578
Rent and services charges	1,188	-	1,188	7,866	-	7,866
Telephone	4,976	555	5,531	6,998	342	7,340
Subscriptions	224	-	224	1,728	-	1,728
Office equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Direct project costs	3,958	34,023	37,981	66	31,739	31,805
Finance and governance costs						
Accountancy fees	4,850	-	4,850	6,211	-	6,211
Independent Examination fees	360	-	360	360	-	360
Legal and professional fees	35	-	35	35	30	65
Bank charges	69	-	69	61	-	61
Membership	252	-	252	327	-	327
Other governance costs	-	-	-	-	-	-
	109,001	74,920	183,921	81,979	84,689	166,668
Contributions to core expenditure	(58,118)	58,118	-	(59,892)	59,892	-
	50,883	133,038	183,921	22,087	144,581	166,668

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

6 Employees and employment costs

	2021	2020
	£	£
Wages and salaries	115,136	94,844
Employer's NI	2,104	2,104
Pension contributions	563	563
	<u>117,803</u>	<u>97,511</u>

Defined contribution pension scheme

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the company to the scheme and amounted to £563 (2020: £493). Contributions totalling £82 (2020: £82) were payable to the scheme at the end of the year and are included in creditors.

No individual employee was paid over £60,000 (2020: none).

No remuneration was paid to any Trustees during the year (2020: none). No expenses were reimbursed to the Trustees by the charity during the year (2020: none).

The key management personnel of the charity is considered to be the Chief Executive. The total costs to the charity of employee benefits for the key management personnel were £21,984 (2020: £21,984).

The average monthly head count was 6 staff (2020: 6 staff).

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

7 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures & Fittings £	Total £
Cost		
As at 01 April 2020	35,332	35,332
Additions	-	-
Disposals	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
As at 31 March 2021	35,332	35,332
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Depreciation		
As at 01 April 2020	35,332	35,332
Elimination on disposal	-	-
Charge for year	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
As at 31 March 2021	35,332	35,332
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net book value		
As at 31 March 2021	-	-
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
As at 31 March 2020	-	-
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

8 Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors	59,879	175
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	59,879	175
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

9 Cash at bank and in hand

	2021 £	2020 £
Bank balances	203,673	64,838
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	203,673	64,838
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

10 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade creditors	2,532	12,471
Other creditors	4,528	1,495
Accruals & deferred income	149,027	39,841
	<u>156,087</u>	<u>53,807</u>

Deferred income

	2021	2020
	£	£
Deferred income at 01 April 2020	34,748	56,441
Released from previous years	(16,650)	(56,441)
Resources deferred in the year	129,309	34,748
Deferred income at 31 March 2021	<u>147,407</u>	<u>34,748</u>

Where grants are received in advance, for a specified period, these funds are deferred and recognised in the period to which they relate.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

11 Statement of funds

	Balance 01.04.20 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31.03.21 £
Unrestricted funds					
General unrestricted funds	3,351	33,791	(50,883)	98,844	85,103
Total unrestricted funds	3,351	33,791	(50,883)	98,844	85,103
Restricted funds					
Healing Hearing:					
Big Lottery	-	18,933	(19,263)	330	-
PCC for Avon and Somerset	-	4,451	(4,045)	(406)	-
Big Lottery Covid-19	-	47,657	-	(47,657)	-
Bridging the Gap	-	23,300	(11,126)	(1,713)	10,461
CAF Bank	-	8,250	(4,747)	(3,503)	-
Children & Young People's Group	2,750	4,890	(6,890)	(750)	-
C&YP Mental Health	1,705	-	-	(1,705)	-
C&YP Wellbeing	-	11,250	(7,185)	(4,065)	-
Children's Centres Co-ordinator	-	19,324	(14,285)	(5,039)	-
ICS Police	2,000	-	-	(1,500)	500
Infrastructure development	-	27,598	(25,183)	(2,415)	-
N. Som NHS Trust	-	13,436	(2,035)	-	11,401
Quartet CF - Covid Response	-	8,250	(6,257)	(1,993)	-
Sirona Care	-	46,800	(27,035)	(19,765)	-
St Modwens	-	12,250	(4,987)	(7,263)	-
Wessex Water	1,400	-	-	(1,400)	-
Total restricted funds	7,855	246,389	(133,038)	(98,844)	22,362
Total funds	11,206	280,180	(183,921)	-	107,465

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

11 Statement of funds- prior year

	Balance 01.04.19 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31.03.20 £
Unrestricted funds					
General unrestricted funds	13,447	11,991	(22,087)	-	3,351
Total unrestricted funds	13,447	11,991	(22,087)	-	3,351
Restricted funds					
Big Lottery Healing Hearing	-	16,363	(16,363)	-	-
Bridging the Gap	-	12,000	(12,000)	-	-
Children & Young People's Group	-	2,750	-	-	2,750
C&YP Mental Health	-	3,006	(1,301)	-	1,705
Children's Centres Co-ordinator	-	17,324	(17,324)	-	-
Homestart	-	6,214	(6,214)	-	-
Hydration Foundation	-	6,357	(6,357)	-	-
ICS Police	-	2,000	-	-	2,000
Infrastructure development	-	10,077	(10,077)	-	-
N. Som Community Partnership	-	29,500	(29,500)	-	-
NSOD	-	32,468	(32,468)	-	-
People and Communities	-	10,077	(10,077)	-	-
Wessex Water	-	4,300	(2,900)	-	1,400
Total restricted funds	-	152,436	(144,581)	-	7,855
Total funds	13,447	164,427	(166,668)	-	11,206

- The general unrestricted fund represents the unrestricted funds of the charity at the year end.
- The Big Lottery Healing Hearing fund provides restricted funding for two self-employed counselling co-ordinators, together with a contribution towards the running costs for this project.
- Big Lottery Covid19 refers to funding received from The National Lottery Community Fund to maintain the core service offer, to enhance the Reclaim numbers and launch an Autism Family Support pilot through Bridging the Gap Together! during the Covid19 pandemic.
- The Bridging the Gap fund provides restricted funding to provide mentoring opportunities for young people, and to support a minimum of six events through the year for young people and parents/carers, in order to enhance confidence and recognise their positive contribution to society.
- CAF Bank refers to funding received from Charities Aid Foundation from the Coronavirus Emergency Fund to build on the VANS Community Response through Covid19 pandemic.
- The Children and Young People's Group Fund, and Mental Health Fund, represent restricted funding to identify and address key challenges being faced in this sector.
- C&YP Wellbeing funding was received from North Somerset Council to build on the work of the Children, Young People and Families Forum enabling a review of VCSE activity and starting to build a network of Trusted Relationships.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

- The Children's Centre Co-ordinator represent restricted funding for the employment of a volunteer co-ordinator, and to provide volunteering opportunities in Children's Centres across North Somerset.
- The Homestart Fund provides restricted funding to support a local community network of trained volunteers and expert support in North Somerset, helping families with young children through challenging times.
- The Hydration Pilot Project Fund is restricted purely to assist with the development of innovative approaches to maintaining hydration in the elderly living in care homes across North Somerset.
- The ICS Police Community Fund is restricted to enable development of a "Have No Fear, Volunteer" guidance booklet to promote and support ex-offenders into volunteering.
- Infrastructure Development is funds received from North Somerset Council to support infrastructure development against a Service Level Agreement.
- The North Somerset Community Partnership Fund represents restricted funding to support a Community Health Volunteer post and the provision of related services.
- North Bristol NHS Trust funding is for the delivery of the vaccination volunteers programme across Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire (BNSSG) from April 2021.
- NSOD Fund presents restricted funding to support the management and development of the Online Directory of Support Services for service users and volunteers across North Somerset.
- PCC for Avon and Somerset funding is received for the Reclaim Project (previously known as Healing Hearing).
- The People and Communities fund is amounts from North Somerset Council to support strategic people and communities infrastructure development.
- Quartet CF – Covid Response is funding received from Quartet Community Foundation from the Coronavirus Emergency Fund to enable the development and delivery of the VANS Community Response at the start of the Covid19 pandemic.
- Sirona Care is funding received for the coordination of the Sirona care and health community health volunteers programme.
- St Mowden is funding received to support a community development programme at Locking Parklands in Weston-super-Mare.
- The Wessex Water Money Matters grant provides restricted funding to deliver training which helps people to improve their financial capability and encourage responsible payment behaviour for the services they receive, with the desire to make a long-term difference to the target beneficiaries.

Note – transfers have been made where funds have been released to core. These are either within the terms of the grant agreements/contracts or with the agreement of funders.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

12 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unre- stricted funds £	Rest- stricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Unre- stricted funds £	Rest- stricted funds £	Total 2020 £
Tangible assets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Current assets	103,783	159,769	263,552	22,410	42,603	65,013
Current liabilities	(18,680)	(137,407)	(156,087)	(19,059)	(34,748)	(53,807)
	<u>85,103</u>	<u>22,362</u>	<u>107,465</u>	<u>3,351</u>	<u>7,855</u>	<u>11,206</u>

13 Financial commitments

At 31 March 2021 the charity was committed to making the following payments under non-cancellable operating leases:

	2021		2020	
	Land and buildings £	Other £	Land and buildings £	Other £
Less than 1 year	1,188	2,275	3,933	2,275
1 – 5 years	-	4,914	-	6,811
Greater than 5 years	-	-	-	378
	<u>1,188</u>	<u>7,189</u>	<u>3,933</u>	<u>9,464</u>

14 Financial instruments

Categorisation of financial instruments

	2021 £	2020 £
Financial assets that are debt instruments measured at amortised cost	263,552	65,013
	<u>263,552</u>	<u>65,013</u>
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	4,152	17,564
	<u>4,152</u>	<u>17,564</u>

There were no items of income, expense, gains or losses to report (2020 – none).

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

15 Related parties

During the year, the charity subcontracted a part time Chief Executive from North Somerset Council. This individual, P Lucock, had previously been a trustee and resigned to enable him to take up this role.

The charity took the decision to sub-contract the individual as it was the most efficient decision for the charity, both operationally and financially. Mr Lucock did not directly benefit from this arrangement, but his employer, North Somerset Council, received £29,017 (2020 - £14,905) for reimbursement of payroll costs.

16 Government grants

Income from government grants comprise grants made by local authorities to fund the principal activities and objectives of the charity via core funding and funding for specific restricted projects. No performance related grants recognised in income have had any unfulfilled conditions or any other contingencies attaching to them. See note 3 for more information. Government grants received during the year amounted to £87,523 (2020: £125,459).

17 Company limited by guarantee

The company was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The guarantee to the company is £10 per member on the winding up of the company. At 31 March 2021 the company had five members and the total amount guaranteed is therefore £50.

VOLUNTARY ACTION NORTH SOMERSET

England & Wales - Charity number 1065916

Accounts

IMPACT REPORT 2020-21

Connecting the Dots



**VOLUNTARY
ACTION**
NORTH SOMERSET



Contents

Prologue from the Chair	02
Story of the year from our CEO	04
Supporting the Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise (VCFSE) Sector	06
Overview of facilitated projects	08
COVID-19 response funding	15
A Forward View - looking towards 2022	19
A final thank you	21

Chair Introduction to the Report

Welcome to Voluntary Action North Somerset (VANS) Annual Report for 2020-21. This has been a year of challenge and change for everyone. We have seen an incredible response from volunteers to ensure those most impacted by the pandemic have been able to access vital support including food, shopping, and prescription collections. There has been a collective show of strength and compassion by individuals, to help minimise social isolation and loneliness for some of the most vulnerable in our society.

The true value of assets in our communities are not solely bricks and mortar, but are much more around the love and care that so many have demonstrated to their neighbours and communities at times of need. This is almost immeasurable in monetary terms and will be remembered for its contribution to building community resilience and active citizenship from those who have participated. This transformation in our communities will live long in the memories of those who have both given and received support.

"VANS provided a pivotal role to enable the safe deployment of volunteers to meet community need".

Before April 2020, most of us had not heard of the term "Mutual Aid". Initially, informal requests for volunteers and support were coordinated through social media and online platforms for those most in need of assistance during the pandemic. Quickly this moved towards coordinated requests for support being managed through a range of newly formed mutual aid groups across towns and parishes in North Somerset. VANS provided a pivotal role, bringing experience and guidance of volunteer management and regulation to enable the safe deployment of volunteers to meet community need.



As a board of trustees, we responded proactively by increasing the frequency of briefings and met remotely on a weekly basis throughout the height of the pandemic. This enabled us to stay abreast of the constantly changing picture at the charity and for decisions to be made effectively and in a timely way. Our support to the sector required us to be flexible with increasing staff capacity at short notice and adapting roles and responsibilities to align to our integral role in the emergency response. Our thanks go to all our staff who have been diligent, flexible and passionate through this challenging time.

Much of our activity over the last year was only possible with support from our commissioners and funders, who enabled access to funding at short notice for proactive community focussed projects to be delivered in an uncertain landscape. With this support, we were able to make significant strides within our own charity by providing a package of support to the sector, which we so passionately represent.



We would like to say a massive thank you to everyone who has given up their time to volunteer, particularly over the last year. Please keep on supporting our voluntary and community sector partners to enable the amazing work to continue across communities in North Somerset. We hope you enjoy reading the report.

Delyth Lloyd-Evans

Chief Executive Officer Report

This year, we have decided to name the Annual Report “Connecting the Dots”, rather than “the year the pandemic changed the world!”. We want to take the opportunity to celebrate the positive things that have happened and share our successes from across the year. Some of these have been in light of COVID-19 whilst others have been in spite of it.

So why Connecting the Dots? As the umbrella organisation representing the voluntary community faith and social enterprise (VCFSE) sector across North Somerset, we are cognisant of the importance of infrastructural support provided to our members. Alongside the rise of mutual aid, there has been increased need for third sector organisations to be at the forefront of being able to respond within our communities.

VANS has continued to connect the dots by working closely with the range of registered charities, community interest companies and non-constituted groups across North Somerset and further afield. Our role in providing tailored advice and guidance, access to funding through small grants



and a range of networking opportunities has helped to strengthen the sector through improved partnership working opportunities.

Across the year, we adapted our service to meet changing needs within the sector and our original project plan for April 2020 was swiftly adjusted to enable us to focus on the new priorities for the sector.

Our strategic representation role changed from business as usual in April, to reflect our involvement in newly formed structures as part of the emergency response. VANS played a key and pivotal role working in partnership with



the North Somerset Together network to help mitigate against any unmet need within our communities. We also continued to provide a strong voice for the sector as part of the North Somerset Partnership, through the local authority led Outbreak Boards and through our own facilitated forums, including the Leaders Forum, Volunteer Coordinators Network and the Children, Young People and Families Forum.

Vital to two-way communication between the Voluntary and Community Sector Emergencies Partnership and the communities we represent, has been our representation of the sector through our Directorship on the West of England Civil Society Partnership. We also saw the acceleration of the North Somerset Wellbeing Collective bringing together likeminded health and wellbeing partners, with a common goal to improve the wellbeing and health of every resident in North Somerset.

"We also continued to provide a strong voice for the sector as part of the North Somerset Partnership"

As a member led organisation, feedback from our members and stakeholders is vital to ensure we provide effective services which meet the needs of the population. We welcome your contributions and engagement at all levels to enable us to maintain high quality and effective infrastructure support for North Somerset. We encourage you to contact us directly, details of how to do so can be found at the end of the Impact Report.

Paul Lucock

Vision, Mission and Strategic Priorities

OUR VISION

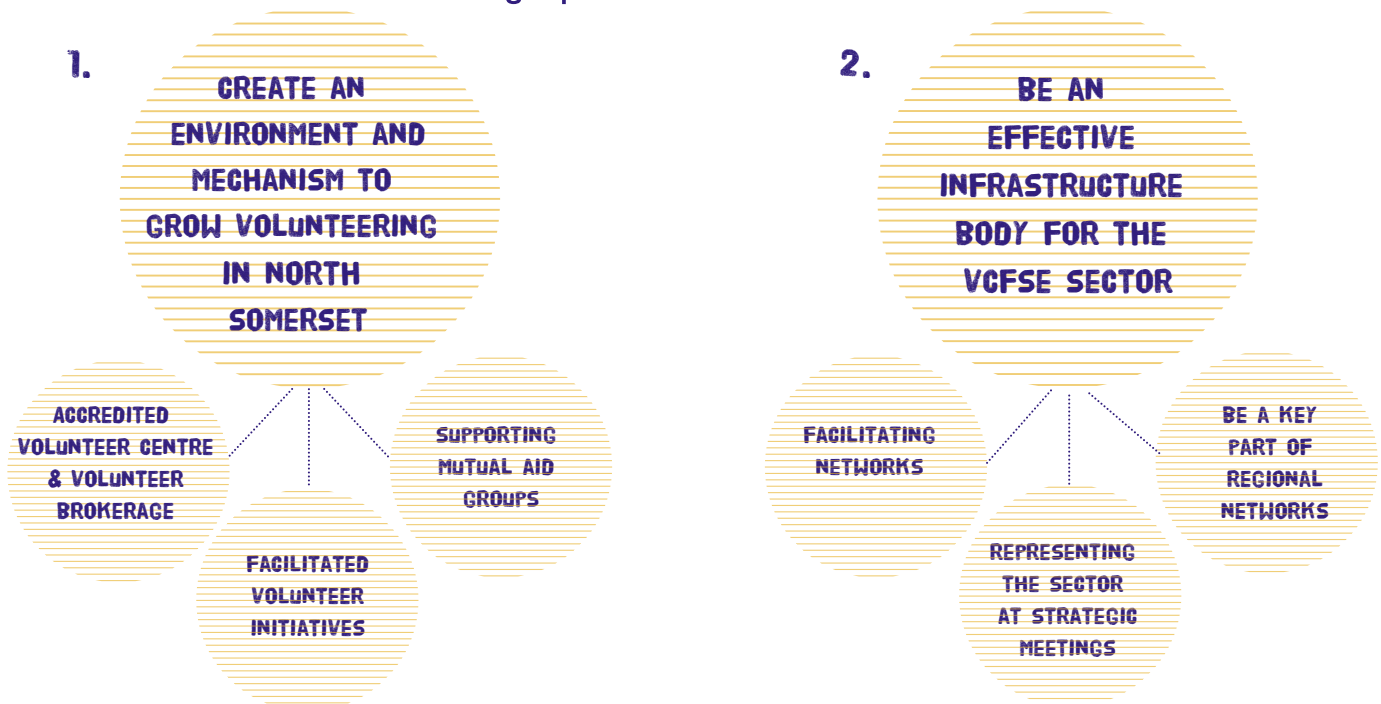
“Everyone in North Somerset will be encouraged and supported to engage in some form of volunteering, supporting people in communities around them, whilst enhancing their own health and wellbeing.”

OUR MISSION

“To represent, develop and empower the voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise sector in North Somerset to be at the forefront of positive social change and development.”

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

VANS works towards six strategic priorities under which we define our activities:



Vision, Mission and Strategic Priorities

3.

**IDENTIFY
GAPS AND
NEEDS IN
PROVISION**

SEEK TO
ADDRESS MARKET
DEMAND

ORGANISE SURVEYS
& ENGAGEMENT
ACTIVITIES

IDENTIFY
DEVELOPMENT
AREAS/CHALLENGES
IN LOCAL/REGIONAL
SECTOR

4.

**SUPPORT THE
SECTOR TO BUILD
CAPABILITY,
CONFIDENCE
AND CAPACITY**

PROVIDE
IMPARTIAL &
CONFIDENTIAL
EXPERTISE TO
SECTOR

ORGANISE
SECTOR
TRAINING

WORK WITH
FUNDRERS TO
ENGAGE
COMMUNITY
ORGANISATIONS

5.

**TO DEVELOP
& MAINTAIN A
DYNAMIC
FORWARD-THINKING
BOARD**

MEET 4 TIMES P.A.
WITH 4 SEMINAR
SESSIONS

DEVELOP &
DRIVE A
PROGRAMME OF
STRATEGIC
SUPPORT

BUILD ON OUR
ONE TEAM APPROACH
BETWEEN TRUSTEES,
STAFF &
VOLUNTEERS

6.

**IMPROVE &
DEVELOP EFFICIENT
& EFFECTIVE
INVOLVEMENT OF
STAFF &
VOLUNTEERS**

NURTURE STAFF
& OFFER FLEXIBLE
WORK PATTERNS

SUPPORT &
DEVELOP STAFF
THROUGH TRAINING
& MAKE BEST USE
OF SKILLS

APPLY
CONSISTENT
WORKING IN LINE
WITH BEST PRACTICE
TO MEET NEEDS OF
SECTOR

Overview of Facilitated Projects

Volunteering Brokerage and the Online Volunteer Centre

With many existing volunteer led services being unable to deliver face to face services throughout the year, our focus moved to engaging with new and emerging groups. This enabled the recruitment and retention of volunteers supporting needs identified at a neighbourhood level. This was particularly focussed on shopping, prescription collections and befriending type activities.

We continued to attract new volunteers for our longer standing partner organisations requiring

more formal volunteer support and although the numbers were slightly reduced on previous years, we maintained a high-quality brokering service for both our volunteers and registered organisations.

Through the VANS Online Volunteer Centre there are hundreds of opportunities for individuals seeking a volunteering role, spanning across multiple sectors. These can be located on the VANS website at www.vansweb.org.uk.



Introduction to Volunteering

Overview of Facilitated Projects ...

Volunteers in Community Health Settings

The new community health contract commenced with Sirona Care and Health in April 2020. Due to the pandemic many volunteer roles had to be temporarily paused. This time has provided the opportunity to work with Sirona to think creatively about how volunteers could support inhouse services. Roles such as 'Digital Connectors' were developed with the aim of assisting service users to still be able to access exercise sessions, with volunteers assisting with accessing platforms such as Zoom.

Staying connected with our existing pool of volunteers through this time has been vital. To maintain this engagement, the Volunteer Manager set up a private Facebook Group to enable the volunteers to connect and share experiences. A quarterly newsletter was also produced to keep volunteers informed. Virtual coffee mornings allowed for interesting discussions between the volunteers and the

usual Christmas party had to be taken online this year but still included an online quiz, festive jumper competition with voucher prizes for the winners and a small gift sent to each volunteer.

VANS has worked with Sirona's Learning and Development team to develop their online training programme for all volunteers. We continue to identify solutions to volunteer training requirements and intend to move back to face to face training at the earliest opportunity.

From January 2021, a programme of using volunteers to support the delivery of pulse reading oximeters to COVID-19 patients was transferred to the programme. This quickly grew from ten volunteers to recruitment of over 200 and will remain in place for much of 2021-22. This is recognised by the volunteers as being a vital service and they were proud to be able to play their part in helping to keep people suffering the aftereffects of COVID, to stay healthy and well at home.



Children Centres Volunteers

Offering support for families with children under five years of age, Children's Centres in North Somerset welcome volunteers and recognise the added value they bring to the services provided.

As part of the service level agreement with North Somerset Council, VANS provides a part-time Volunteer Coordinator who has responsibility for supporting the volunteering programme in council run Early Years settings.

2020-21 has provided many challenges, but volunteers remained key to the online support available for breastfeeding mothers. Ten Breastfeeding Peer Supporters completed their Real Baby Milk accredited training, virtually, in July. With over 50 active Breastfeeding Peer

Support volunteers maintaining online support through designated Facebook pages and Zoom sessions this year, breastfeeding mothers have received support with opportunities to talk to other breastfeeding mothers at times when they may have been isolated.

VANS Children's Centre Volunteer Coordinator Facebook page continues to share posts of potential interest to Children's Centre Volunteers. This page is currently followed by 83 people who are all connected to volunteering in some way.

Looking ahead – plans are regularly updated in hope that volunteers will be able to return, in person, to the Early Years settings.



Locking Parklands Community Development Project

In April 2020, VANS began working in partnership with developer St Modwen Homes and the Locking Parklands Community Interest Company (LPCIC) to develop an asset-based community development (ABCD) approach working with the community to develop outcomes determined by the residents living at Locking Parklands.



Due to being unable to fully deliver the ABCD element of the project, we worked with the LPCIC to develop a community survey to help identify priorities for those living there, before working with the CIC Directors to oversee a recruitment campaign for community members of the reformed Locking Parklands CIC Steering Group.

1 in 9 of the residents responded to the survey which provided a rich insight into the community, this data was then used as a benchmark for a further survey more recently undertaken by the newly appointed Resident Representatives.

Churchill Mutual Aid Group Community Engagement Project

In partnership with Churchill and Langford Minibus Society, VANS provided resource and expertise to undertake a community engagement survey responded to by 363 residents. The resulting report helped to highlight the changing community needs in the Churchill and Langford parish through the pandemic.

Following a comprehensive review of community resources within the vicinity of the parish, the team worked with the group to produce a comprehensive report voicing the opinions of the residents about the existing and future services that would benefit them.

The final report was presented to a meeting of the parish council and continues to provide evidence to support future community development initiatives.



Trusted Relationships (Children, Young People and Families) Strategic Support

As part of our strategic role chairing the VCFSE led Children, Young People and Families Forum (CYPF) for North Somerset, supported with funding from Quartet Community Foundation and matched by the local authority, VANS has developed a sector led plan to support the role of the forum by helping to identify gaps in service provision and enable structured conversations with commissioners about the current and future needs of children and young people across North Somerset.

In addition to designing the plan around the 'Five Ways to Wellbeing' model, VANS has



worked to expand the membership of the forum with the aim of creating a network of Trusted Relationships. This network will become a focal point for future commissioning approaches to children and young people's provision across the VCFSE.

"Having the CYPF Forum in place enables us to access training, learn about the local offer and explore collaboration opportunities with partners" – Quote from CYP Forum member.





Reclaim Domestic Abuse Counselling Service

The Reclaim Project (formerly The Women’s Project & Healing Hearing) was established in 1993 and provides free counselling of up to 10 sessions to women and men affected by domestic abuse living in North Somerset. Since moving to VANS in 2019, the Reclaim project has become firmly embedded in the charity with the team of coordinators and self-employed counsellors becoming part of the team.

With the increase of domestic abuse being highlighted during lockdown and anticipating an increase in referrals we recruited three additional counsellors, although the post for a male counsellor still remains vacant. At this time a Communications Coordinator joined the team to look after Reclaim Marketing, focussed on raising our online presence.

Though face-to-face engagement had to be put on hold due to the lockdown, all clients were offered the opportunity to continue accessing counselling via online platforms or by telephone.

Working this way provided its own challenges as not all clients could access a confidential space where they could speak freely. Even with these challenges we have supported 78 clients delivering 650 sessions across the year.

Due to the success of working online, Reclaim will continue to offer counselling in this way as we can be more accessible to those clients who prefer this method of delivery or have difficulty accessing our service because of location or time restrictions. Looking to the future this could provide an opportunity to grow the service into other geographical areas where need is identified.



“ Did you find the counselling you received beneficial?

Yes, I have. It was a life saver as I don’t know where I would have been without it. ”

Quotes from clients

“ What did you find most helpful?

Everything, it felt so easy to talk to my counsellor about what was going on in my life and mind. ”



Bridging the Gap Together! CIC

VANS continues to work in partnership with our partners at Bridging the Gap to contract manage an allocation of funding provided by the Bristol, North Somerset, and South Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group, for the delivery of six annual themed events focussed on supporting families and young people with autism.

Through 2020-21, VANS also supported the roll out of a family Liaison Pilot utilising Lottery funding to engage with families and develop coping strategies arising due to the pandemic.

As part of this pilot, Bridging The Gap Together! supported families with challenges around parents working from home and trying to run school lessons with different aged children, autistic children are not coping with



changes to their routine, children's and young people's mental health, behaviour problems, eating disorders and self-harm to name a few.



Covid Response Funding



The National Lottery Community Fund - Covid Response Funding: £74,000

Funding between November 2020 and March 2021 helped to sustain our coordinated Community Response workstream, covering our core costs for 5 months to enable us to reinstate our reserves position and provide long term stability to the charity. The funding allocation also supported an uplift to the existing Reclaim Domestic Abuse Service Counselling offer to increase referrals and services to be delivered online. Alongside this, in partnership with Bridging The Gap Together CIC, the funding enabled the delivery of an Autism Family Liaison Support Pilot which engaged with and supported families to implement coping strategies associated with autism throughout the lockdown.



Quartet Community Foundation Covid Response Funding: £8,250

A significant contribution early in the year from local funder, Quartet Community Foundation, enabled the development and delivery of our Coordinated Covid Community response between April and June 2020 focussed on four areas of delivery.

- Strategic Advice and Guidance – to provide tailored advice and support to the sector and individuals requiring assistance.
- Community Engagement – including provision needs mapping and engagement through North Somerset Together.
- Volunteer Management – recruitment and coordination of a pool of over 200 “Super Volunteers” to meet increased demand in communities.
- Communications – through increased messaging to the VCFSE sector and creation of a bank of resources made accessible to partners.



CAF Bank Covid Response Funding: £8,250

Emergency funding supported the continued delivery of VANS COVID-19 response between July and September 2021. The funds were vital in providing additional in-house capacity within the team, to increase working hours and to meet increased demand through this time, aligning to the four aforementioned areas of delivery.

Over the course of six months VANS supported in excess of 500 organisations and over 1000 individuals through a variety of interactions and provision of tailored information, advice, and guidance.



Police and Crime Commissioner Funding - Reclaim Uplift: £12,375

Funding was provided through the national Ministry of Justice Domestic Abuse support fund administered by Avon and Somerset PCC, to enable an additional 32 victims of Domestic Abuse to receive ten fully funded sessions of counselling. Alongside this the funding has supported the development of a communications lead role to increase the projects online presence and to help increase awareness of the service.



Covid Business Support Grant: £5,000

The unrestricted monies received through the Government Business Continuation Grant administered through North Somerset Council enabled the charity to undertake a full rebrand and much needed upgrade of the VANS website: <https://www.vansweb.org.uk>

This work was undertaken by Emma Jayne Creative (Branding) and Next Theme (Website). Thanks to both for your support of VANS through this project.



Mental Health Small Grant Scheme - Community Engagement Programme: £4,980

VANS worked in partnership with North Somerset Council to support the roll out of a small community grant programme focussed on targeting small and non-constituted groups to apply for funding to deliver mental health and wellbeing focussed outcomes.

As the infrastructure partner for North Somerset, in partnership with Quartet Community Foundation and Wesport, VANS delivered targeted sessions for sector partners to hear about funding available through multiple sources. The team provided advice and guidance, bid writing resource and proof-reading capacity to enable small groups to apply for and be successful in accessing the funds.



Local Community Support Groups Fund - Small Grants Scheme: £4,746.40

The funding from Quartet (£4,000), Waitrose Community Matters (£480.00) and VANS fundraising (£266.40) was distributed via a bespoke, yet simple, grant scheme.

There were two rounds of funding covering 21 weeks, which saw ten North Somerset community-based organisations provide much needed support to residents via 1,910 individual requests. Many of these requested, were supported by an average of 139 volunteers per week.



Children and Young People - Trusted Relationships Funding:

£4,980

The funding enabled the continuation of the Children and Young People's Forum for North Somerset providing capacity to increase levels of engagement with third sector organisations specialising in delivery of children and young people's services.

Funding from Quartet Community Foundation in 2019-20 and carried over to the following year, supported the production and consultation for a voluntary sector led children and young people's delivery plan to drive forward the ambitions of the sector and support the delivery of services through the coming year.

All of the above COVID-19 Response Funding relates directly to funds received to support the response to the pandemic and doesn't include in year funding associated to other initiatives outlined in the Facilitated Projects sections of the report. A full list of funding and allocations can be seen on our Annual Accounts.



Looking Forward in 2021/22

As we continue to play a key strategic role in the integration of health and the voluntary sector through the next year supporting the development of an Integrated Care System for Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire, VANS will be working in partnership with Citizens Advice North Somerset as the Sirona Care and Health commissioned Voluntary Sector Locality Leads for the Weston and Woodspring areas.

Aligning to this, the North Somerset Wellbeing Collective continues with the 'Gathering of 200', connecting likeminded providers to build on our shared ambition of improving the health and wellbeing of every person living in North Somerset.

With this, the continued development of our community response focusses on thematic objectives concerning mental health and capacity building in line with social prescribing needs across the sector. Our role in building on and developing an Equalities Network for North Somerset will be instrumental in supporting vitally important groups and services to flourish meeting the requirements of our many communities of interest across the region.

Healthier Together

Improving health and care in Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire

**citizens
advice**

**North
Somerset**



North
Somerset
WELLBEING
COLLECTIVE



Looking Forward in 2021/22

Several emerging projects will see a positive start to the new year for VANS. The launch of the Mass Vaccination Volunteers programme being delivered on behalf of the West of England Civil Society Partnership across Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire, will support the need for volunteers to assist with the vaccination programme roll out.

We continue to work closely with Sirona to continue to embed volunteers across Community Health Provision, alongside this we will seek to work more closely with social care providers to implement volunteering approaches with their services.

In an everchanging landscape, we will continue to stay abreast of policy and governance requirements and keep the VCFSE sector informed. In addition, we will continue to provide tailored support to groups and organisations ensuring that they can focus on working with the people who require their time and expertise most.

Though we cannot be sure what the year will bring, the VANS team remains committed to providing a service that is recognised and valued by our members. We always welcome feedback on how we are doing, you can contact us at any time using the details at the end of this report.



A Final Thank You

Special thanks go out to everyone who has supported both VANS directly and our voluntary sector partners, whether through giving time, finance or resources to support local causes. As charities we rely heavily on the goodwill and continued support of the generous people of North Somerset.

As a charity ourselves, VANS would not exist without the ongoing support of our funders. Through 2020-21 we have been especially grateful to the National Lottery Community Fund, Quartet Community Foundation and CAF Bank for enabling our COVID-19 response efforts. Other funders in the year include the Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner, the National Association for Voluntary and Community Action (NAVCA) and Weston Town Council. There are others and we cannot express our appreciation for your ongoing support to enable the charity to continue building and to thrive long into the future.

Our main commissioners North Somerset Council enable VANS to maintain a level of VCFSE infrastructure year on year, alongside this, additional contributions provided to enable our facilitated project delivery to meet need as it arises. Sirona care and health continue to be a key project funder alongside our partners at the Clinical Commissioning

Group who have supported with funds for VANS and our sector partners.


Alliance Homes have kindly supported VANS over the last couple of years by providing us with a base, whilst being flexible and amenable to our requirements for office space through the pandemic.

Thank you to VANS members and stakeholders who engage with our services and access our support, this is vital to the ongoing success of the charity.

We are here for your benefit so please continue to use us as you require.

And most importantly, we thank each and every volunteer for your ongoing commitment to the people in our communities and neighbourhoods.

We wish you a happy and healthy year.

Thank you... 



**VOLUNTARY
ACTION**
NORTH SOMERSET

CONTACT US

Voluntary Action North Somerset
Weston Court, Oldmixon Crescent,
Weston-super-Mare, BS249AU

01934 416486 | info@vansmail.org.uk | www.vansweb.org.uk

 @VANS_NS |  @voluntaryaction.northsomerset

Registered Charity No: 1065916 | Company No: 3466492

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited
(A Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Company Number: 03466492
Charity Registered in England and Wales Number: 1065916

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Contents

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	<u>Page</u>
Reference and Administrative Details	2
Trustee Directors' Report	3 – 9
Independent Examiners' Report	10
Statement of Financial Activities	11
Balance Sheet	12
Notes to the Financial Statements	13 – 27

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Reference and Administrative Details

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Charity Name Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors
S Green
D Lloyd-Evans
N Salter
K Scott
S Shillabeer

Chief Executive P Lucock

Registered Office
Weston Court
Oldmixon Crescent
Weston-Super-Mare
North Somerset
BS24 9AU

Independent Examiner
Michelle Ferris FCA
Albert Goodman LLP
Goodwood House
Blackbrook Park Avenue
Taunton
Somerset
TA1 2PX

Bankers
CAF Bank
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of the Companies Act, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's memorandum and articles of association, the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP FRS 102- implemented 1 January 2019), and are in accordance with the special provision relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, dated 30th November 1997, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006. In the event of the company being wound up, members liability is restricted to £10. The charity, commonly known as VANS, is a registered charity number 1065916 and a company limited by guarantee number 03466492.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law. The following trustees served during the year and since the year end:

S Green (appointed 21 September 2020, resigned 27 July 2021)

K Headdon (resigned 1 September 2020)

D Lloyd-Evans

N Salter

K Scott

S Shillabeer

Processes for the election of the trustees are covered by the Articles and there is a policy and procedures for the co-option of the trustees.

We seek to have a board of trustees which has a good understanding of the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector (VCSE) and is representative of our diverse membership. In addition, we seek to have trustees with relevant business experience to ensure that we are compliant with our fiduciary responsibilities. Trustees can be co-opted or elected at the AGM. No external body has the right to appoint trustees.

Induction and training of new trustees

To help Trustees understand their role and responsibilities an induction pack has been developed that supports trustees new to the role. The Chair conducts an annual 'conversation' with each trustee and holds four trustee seminars per year covering relevant issues. Trustees are encouraged to keep themselves up to date with Charity legislation, through relevant third-party websites and through attending training when required.

Organisational structure

Voluntary Action North Somerset is overseen by the Board of Trustees. As charity trustees they are responsible for complying with all relevant legislation applicable to charities. This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate. The Committee meets a minimum of four times a year to review performance and key risks with additional ad-hoc meetings being held if required.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Day to day responsibility for the running of the organisation is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer and the team of paid employees.

Wider network

Whilst maintaining its independence, VANS works together with many other organisations - local, regional, and national to achieve its objectives. These include the North Somerset Leaders Forum, North Somerset Wellbeing Collective, The West of England Civil Society Partnership, BNSSG Clinical Commissioning Group, North Somerset Council and Sirona care and health. VANS as an organisation is viewed as a champion for meaningful collaborative partnership working.

Related parties

The charity is a member of The National Association for Voluntary and Community Action (NAVCA) and the National Association of Voluntary Organisations (NCVO), incorporating Volunteer England.

As agreed by the board of trustees, the Chief Executive holds the positions of Director of the West of England Civil Society Community Interest Company and Director of the North Somerset Wellbeing Collective.

Risk Management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review risk to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate mitigations are in place to provide reasonable assurance against malpractice and error. The Board of Trustees has identified the major risks to which they believe the organisation may be exposed, these are reviewed dependent on need and systems implemented to mitigate against them.

Covid19 – has had an impact on all areas previously identified and the board has taken steps to consider the mitigations against the known and potential risks stemming from the pandemic. The main areas of risk that have been identified are:

- Achieving long term financial sustainability – although much of this is determined by the continuation of ongoing contracts, a pipeline of projects aligning to the charity's strategic ambitions is regularly monitored by trustees. Additional funding was sought to overcome the short-term challenges of Covid19, with regular in year reviews throughout to continually measure progress.
- Changing needs and expectations of funders, clients, and the public – this is a continual risk, reviewed regularly with sense checks undertaken on CEO and staff performance, relationship management and consistent feedback from relevant stakeholders to monitor perceptions.
- Compliance with legal frameworks – as an accredited volunteer centre, our ability to meet the requirements of our awarding body and re-accreditation are vital to maintain such status. An in year internal evaluation is undertaken of all systems, processes, and policies to ensure adherence.
- Finance and Accounting – an inhouse bookkeeper is employed to oversee internal financial management alongside our treasurer. An independent examiner from Albert Goodman has been appointed to perform the examination in this financial year.
- Governance and Policy – to maintain a functional board, additional trustees will be recruited with suitable skills and experience to support the strategic direction of the charity. Alongside which, a full governance and policy review will be completed to ensure that the charity demonstrates best practice in all we do.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Objectives and Activities

Vision, Aims and Objects

VANS work towards the "Vision" that:

Everyone in North Somerset will be encouraged and supported to engage in some form of volunteering, supporting people in communities around them, whilst enhancing their own health and well-being.

Our "Mission Statement":

To represent, develop and empower the voluntary, community, faith, and social enterprise sector in North Somerset, to be at the forefront of positive social change and development.

The charity's objects and principal activities are to:

Promote any charitable purposes for the benefit of the community in the area and in particular the advancement of education, the protection of health and the relief of poverty sickness and distress. Promote and organise co-operation in the achievement of the above purposes and to that end:

- a) to advise and support persons willing to volunteer.
- b) to promote volunteering and community involvement and provide a centre for volunteering.
- c) to promote advise and support voluntary and community organisations.
- d) to bring together in council representatives of voluntary and community organisations and statutory authorities within the area of benefit.
- e) to cooperate and work in partnership with other organizations and statutory authorities.
- f) to represent the interests of voluntary and community organisations.

Public benefit

VANS as an organisation meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of citizenship and community development headings. All projects delivered by VANS are designed by funders to deliver specific public benefit.

The trustees state that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the commissions public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which guidance is relevant. The trustees also confirm that they have complied with section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Achievement and Performance

Charitable activities

The main areas of charitable activity are the provision of capacity building, strategic development and volunteering related services, to individuals, voluntary, community and social enterprise sector groups and organisations in North Somerset. Another primary role is to act as voluntary sector representatives on a number of strategic forums.

VANS is contracted to deliver volunteer coordination services to Sirona Care and Health and North Somerset Council, alongside volunteer brokerage through the North Somerset Online Volunteer Centre.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Key achievements

As the umbrella organisation for the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector for North Somerset, VANS plays a key role in supporting charitable, community interest and unconstituted groups to meet the needs of people in our communities.

The year saw successes with funding achieved from Quartet Community Foundation and CAF Bank to enable the coordination of a Covid19 Community Response programme, alongside funding provided through North Somerset Council to resource small community organisations to apply for grants focussed on the delivery of mental health provision.

VANS played a key role strategically leading as part of the local emergency response infrastructure supported by a small contribution through our national partners at NAVCA. A second funding pot awarded through the Quartet Express Grant enabled additional small grants to be provided through the North Somerset Together partnership, covering costs for micro and unconstituted groups providing support through the pandemic.

This year saw a refresh of the VANS brand with a new logo commissioned and the redevelopment of the VANS website to modernise its look and functionality. This was enabled through the Government funded small business support grant scheme.

The national Big Lottery Community Fund Covid19 Response fund was instrumental for the charity to build financial resilience with the reinstatement of the charity reserves. In addition, the fund enabled the expansion of the VANS managed Reclaim Domestic Abuse service and the development of an Autism Family Liaison pilot for North Somerset delivered through our partners at Bridging The Gap Together! CIC.

Other project funding included monies received from the Police and Crime Commissioner Domestic Abuse fund to continue the growth of Reclaim and other funds through infrastructure support projects working in partnership with community organisations such as Churchill and Langford Minibus Society and developer St Modwen Homes in Weston-super-Mare.

The pipeline of projects for 2021-22 has strengthened the position of the VANS to further secure its position through the next financial year.

Financial Review

Financial results for the 2020/21 financial year were significantly impacted by the Covid pandemic as a result of the national lockdown put in place by the government to protect its citizens. VANS as an organisation had to quickly reorient its services to meet the new demands placed on volunteering services across the area including putting in place support for the local hubs that were established to provide assistance for local communities to meet the challenges that the pandemic brought. The flexibility of the staff team together with that of our key contract funders enabled this to happen quickly and ensured that VANS as an organisation remained the key focal point for the Voluntary sector during the pandemic.

As a direct result of the Covid pandemic the pipeline of activities planned for 2020/21 were impacted with a number of key contracts either being postponed or cancelled. This necessitated an early and detailed review of the 2020/2021 budget to ensure that VANS as an organisation was in a position to continue to support the voluntary sector across the area.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Applications for emergency COVID funding were successful made to a number of funders including CAF Bank, Quartet, NAVCA and the National Lottery. The funding from the National Lottery providing support that covered the base infrastructure costs of the organisation for a six-month period. The quick turn around and receipt of this emergency funding was key in ensuring the VANS could continue to operate at full capacity throughout the whole of the financial year.

Overall, with the support of our key contract funders and the emergency COVID funding received the financial position of the organisation has been stabilised. As a result, VANS is able to report an improved financial position with operational reserves at circa 85% of the level set by the trustees – 12 months of the charitable expenditure.

Reserves policy

The trustees examine the charity's requirements for reserves in light of the main risks to the organisation. Unrestricted reserves are needed to deal with possible expenditure which could arise, and which is not provided for in the annual budgeting process. This could include emergency repairs or replacement of essential equipment or significant loss of revenue streams.

Given the experience of the Covid pandemic and the impact that such a future event could have on the organisation the Trustees consider it a prudent objective that long term a level of Operating reserves, equal to at least 12 months of charitable expenditure as set out on the budget for the forthcoming year – circa £100k, should be maintained.

As the current level of reserves falls below the Operating Reserve Fund level that has been agreed by the Board of trustees, the aim will be to restore the Operating Reserve Fund to the agreed level over the following two financial years. The Operating Reserve Fund is funded with surplus unrestricted operating funds. In order to restore the Operating Reserve Fund to the agreed level the organisation will look to increase the level of projects undertaken, undertake fund raising, increasing earned income through the development of internal revenue streams and ensure that expenditure is kept to a minimum.

Investment Policy

Voluntary Action North Somerset's Income and Expenditure is small and as a consequence the organisation does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer-term investments such as stocks and shares. The Organisation has therefore adopted a low-risk strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies. Reserves and funding received in advance for projects are held in an interest-bearing deposit account with our bankers, Charities Aid Foundation Bank.

Principle Funding Sources

The principal funding sources for the charity were commissions from North Somerset Council and Sirona. The funding from these bodies was for delivery of services. Additional income of £45.4k was generated from the range of projects undertaken by the charity throughout the year.

Emergency grants and support payments to help to sustain the organisation during the Covid pandemic totalling £72.2k were received

There are no related party transactions and all principal funding sources are shown in the notes of the financial activities.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Plans for future periods

VANS Strategic Plan for 2021-22 takes a holistic approach to providing advice and guidance to the sector in an advisory capacity, whilst maintaining a pipeline of projects which meet our overall objectives and/or address demand where market failure may exist. Our aim is not to duplicate but to collaborate and nurture those organisations best placed to deliver services.

Our people are our main asset, in line with this we will work to develop the staff, trustees and our volunteers to achieve positive outcomes for the individuals and organisations that we represent.

Our focus for the coming year in line with our current strategic plan will be to:

- Strengthen the infrastructure offer to the sector, providing VCSE's with timely support and guidance.
- Enable the sector to have a strong voice ensuring that the needs of N-Somerset are met.
- Further our outreach through proactive communications and effective consultation.
- Expand our project base and partnership opportunities to raise the profile of volunteers.
- Be the catalyst for change by helping to maximise the potential of funding to the sector.

The Covid19 pandemic has had an impact on the whole sector and will continue for many months to come. As the VSCE infrastructure body for N-Somerset we intend to work directly with commissioners, funders and the VCSE sector to expand provision to meet changing demand and identify new opportunities where possible.

Our strategic role in influencing will be vital to stabilising, securing, and strengthening the sector as we move through the next year.

Statement of Trustees Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also directors of Voluntary Action North Somerset for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report (incorporating the directors' report) and the financial statements in accordance with 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).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Trustee Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

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

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

This report has been prepared in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Approved by order of the board on 30 November 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

D Lloyd-Evans

N Salter

Independent examiners report to the Trustees of Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited ("the Company") for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

Michelle Ferris BSc (Hons) FCA DChA

Albert Goodman LLP
Goodwood House
Blackbrook Park Avenue
Taunton
Somerset
TA1 2PX

Date: 6 December 2021

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Statement of Financial Activities (including an Income and Expenditure account)

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrest- ricted Funds £	Rest- ricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Unrest- ricted Funds £	Rest- ricted Funds £	Total 2020 £
Income from:							
Donations and general grants	2	601	-	601	5,820	-	5,820
Charitable activities	3	33,164	246,389	279,553	6,082	152,436	158,518
Other trading activities		-	-	-	-	-	-
Investment income	4	26	-	26	89	-	89
Other		-	-	-	-	-	-
Total income		33,791	246,389	280,180	11,991	152,436	164,427
Expenditure on:							
Charitable expenditure	5	50,883	133,038	183,921	22,087	144,581	166,668
Total expenditure		50,883	133,038	183,921	22,087	144,581	166,668
Net income/(expenditure) before transfers		(17,092)	113,351	96,259	(10,096)	7,855	(2,241)
Transfer between funds	11	98,844	(98,844)	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		81,752	14,507	96,259	(10,096)	7,855	(2,241)
Reconciliation of funds							
Fund balances at 01 April 2020		3,351	7,855	11,206	13,447	-	13,447
Fund balances at 31 March 2021	11	85,103	22,362	107,465	3,351	7,855	11,206

The results for the year derive from continuing activities and there are no gains or losses other than those shown above.

The statement of financial activities incorporates the income and expenditure account.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited - Company Registration Number: 03466492

Balance Sheet

As at 31 March 2021

	Notes	2021	2020
		£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	7	-	-
Current assets			
Debtors	8	59,879	175
Cash at bank and in hand	9	203,673	64,838
		<u>263,552</u>	<u>65,013</u>
Creditors			
Amounts falling due within one year	10	(156,087)	(53,807)
Net current assets		<u>107,465</u>	<u>11,206</u>
Net assets		<u><u>107,465</u></u>	<u><u>11,206</u></u>
Funds			
Unrestricted funds			
General funds	11	85,103	3,351
Restricted funds	11	22,362	7,855
Net assets		<u><u>107,465</u></u>	<u><u>11,206</u></u>

These accounts have been prepared and delivered in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

For the year in question, the charitable company was entitled to exemption from an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The trustees/directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

Approved by the Board of Trustees for issue on 30 November 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

D Lloyd-Evans
Trustee

N Salter
Trustee

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

1 Accounting Policies

1.1 General information and basis of accounting

Voluntary Action North Somerset is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in the United Kingdom under the Companies Act. The maximum liability of each member is limited to £10. The address of the registered office is given on page 2. The nature of the charity's operations and its principal activities are set out in the Trustees report on pages 3-9.

The financial statements have been prepared in £ sterling on the historical cost basis and in accordance with accounting and reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)- (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

1.2 Income

All income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income. The valuation of donated services is not quantified within the Statement of Financial Activities.

Donation income is received by way of general grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.

Income from grants, relating to specifically the provision of goods or services as part of charitable activities or services to clients are included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable and in the period in which they relate to. Grants are deferred when the monies have been received in advance of the period in which they relate to.

Other trading activities income includes income relating to fundraising and is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.

Investment income is included when receivable.

Other income is recognised in the accounts when receivable and relates to staff secondment income, various expenditure reimbursements and training delivery.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

1.3 Government grants

Government grants are accounted for when unconditionally due and reasonable assurance can be gained that it will be received. Where funds are received in advance, for a specified period, these funds are deferred and recognised in the period to which they relate. Where funds have not been received in a specified period, these funds will be accrued in debtors and recognised in the period to which they relate. Not all grants received have conditions and performance indicators attached, where this is the case, the income is included within donations. Performance related grants are included within Charitable Activities income.

1.4 Donated services

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), unpaid volunteer time is not recognised in the financial statements. Where services have been donated to the charity, these are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity, with a corresponding entry in both donations income and the relevant expenditure line.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. All expenditure is gross of VAT which cannot be recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services to its clients. Direct costs are allocated to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them are shown as contributions to core expenditure.

Other support costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity.

1.6 Fixed assets

Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets over their estimated useful lives at the following rate:-

Fixtures and fittings – 20% per annum straight line basis

Fixed assets are valued at cost less depreciation.

1.7 Debtors

Accrued income is recognised at the settlement amount due and prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

1.8 Cash at bank and in hand

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

1.9 Creditors

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

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

1.10 **Taxation**

The organisation is a registered charity and is therefore not liable to corporation tax to the extent that income and gains are applied to the charitable objectives of the charity.

1.11 **Pension contributions**

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The scheme and its assets are held by independent managers. Contributions are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

1.12 **Allocation of costs**

A pre-determined amount of overhead expenditure on each project is calculated and transferred from the project to overheads as a contribution.

1.13 **Fund accounting**

General funds are unrestricted funds receivable or generated for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets this criterion is charged to the fund, together with a fair allocation of management and support costs.

1.14 **Operating leases**

Leases in which substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases. Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as incurred over the term of the lease.

1.15 **VAT**

The charity is not VAT registered and therefore all costs are inclusive of VAT.

1.16 **Financial instruments**

The charity only holds basic financial instruments as defined in FRS 102. The financial assets and liabilities of the charity and their measurements are as follows:

Financial assets – trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost and details in note 14. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

Cash at bank – is classified as a basic financial instrument and is measured at face value.

Financial liabilities – trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost and detailed in note 14. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

1.17 **Covid-19**

The Trustees have considered the implication of the Covid-19 pandemic on the operations of the charity. The charity has been able to continue to deliver the majority of its services remotely and has attracted additional funding to enable a response to an increase in demand. Taking into account all reasonable circumstances, the Trustees believe that the charity remains a going concern and no adjustments to the accounts are necessary.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

2 Donations and general grants

	Unre- stricted funds	Rest- ricted funds	Total 2021	Unre- stricted funds	Rest- ricted funds	Total 2020
Donations						
Donations & gifts	601	-	601	5,820	-	5,820
	<u>601</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>601</u>	<u>5,820</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,820</u>
	<u><u>601</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>601</u></u>	<u><u>5,820</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>5,820</u></u>
The income above is made up of:						
Received in year	18,699	-	18,699	23,918	-	23,918
Deferred income carried forward	(18,098)	-	(18,098)	(18,098)	-	(18,098)
	<u>601</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>601</u>	<u>5,820</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,820</u>
	<u><u>601</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>601</u></u>	<u><u>5,820</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>5,820</u></u>

Where grants are received in advance, for a specified period, these funds are deferred and recognised in the period to which they relate.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

3 Incoming resources from charitable activities

	Unre- stricted funds £	Rest- ricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Unre- stricted funds £	Rest- ricted funds £	Total 2020 £
Grants:						
Big Lottery Fund	-	18,933	18,933	-	16,363	16,363
Big Lottery Fund Covid-19	-	47,657	47,657	-	-	-
N. Som Community Partnership*	-	-	-	-	29,500	29,500
Children's Centres*	-	19,324	19,324	-	17,324	17,324
Homestart	-	-	-	-	6,214	6,214
Bridging the Gap*	-	23,300	23,300	-	12,000	12,000
People and Communities*	-	-	-	-	10,077	10,077
Infrastructure Development*	-	27,598	27,598	-	10,077	10,077
Quartet Community Foundation	-	19,500	19,500	-	2,000	2,000
N. Som Online Directory*	-	-	-	-	32,468	32,468
Wessex Water	-	-	-	-	4,300	4,300
PHE VCSE STP Project*	-	-	-	1,900	750	2,650
ICS Police*	-	-	-	-	2,000	2,000
Hydration*	-	-	-	-	6,357	6,357
C&YP Mental Health*	4,980	4,890	9,870	-	3,006	3,006
CAF Bank	-	8,250	8,250	-	-	-
Churchil & Landford Minibus	6,000	-	6,000	-	-	-
N Som NHS Trust	-	13,436	13,436	-	-	-
PCC for Avon and Somerset*	-	4,451	4,451	-	-	-
Sirona Care	-	46,800	46,800	-	-	-
St Modwens	-	12,250	12,250	-	-	-
Other grants < £5,000*	20,333	-	20,333	-	-	-
Other charitable activities:	-	-	-	-	-	-
Advertising services	1,425	-	1,425	325	-	325
Consultation, events & training	136	-	136	159	-	159
Other services	290	-	290	3,698	-	3,698
	33,164	246,389	279,553	6,082	152,436	158,518

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

The income shown above is made up of:

Received in year	43,164	349,048	392,212	6,082	112,645	118,727
Deferred income brought forward	-	16,650	16,650	-	56,441	56,441
Deferred income carried forward	(10,000)	(119,309)	(129,309)	-	(16,650)	(16,650)
Accrued income brought forward	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accrued income carried forward	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>33,164</u>	<u>246,389</u>	<u>279,553</u>	<u>6,082</u>	<u>152,436</u>	<u>158,518</u>

Where grants are received in advance, for a specified period, these funds are deferred and recognised in the period to which they relate.

* denotes amounts received from government. See note 16 for more information.

4 Investment income

	Unre- stricted funds £	Rest- stricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Unre- stricted funds £	Rest- stricted funds £	Total 2020 £
Bank interest	26	-	26	89	-	89

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

5 Charitable expenditure

	Unres- tricted £	Res- tricted £	Total 2021 £	Unres- tricted £	Res- tricted £	Total 2020 £
Staff costs						
Staff salaries	79,411	38,392	117,803	47,687	49,824	97,511
Consultancy	-	-	-	-	1,302	1,302
Training	59	-	59	45	25	70
Travel	103	19	122	418	1,026	1,444
HR service	2,730	-	2,730	2,706	-	2,706
Recruitment expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other staff costs	1,413	594	2,007	288	401	689
Infrastructure costs						
Insurance	793	-	793	781	-	781
Advertising	-	-	-	-	-	-
IT costs	7,320	1,337	8,657	4,824	-	4,824
Postage, printing and stationery	1,260	-	1,260	1,578	-	1,578
Rent and services charges	1,188	-	1,188	7,866	-	7,866
Telephone	4,976	555	5,531	6,998	342	7,340
Subscriptions	224	-	224	1,728	-	1,728
Office equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Direct project costs	3,958	34,023	37,981	66	31,739	31,805
Finance and governance costs						
Accountancy fees	4,850	-	4,850	6,211	-	6,211
Independent Examination fees	360	-	360	360	-	360
Legal and professional fees	35	-	35	35	30	65
Bank charges	69	-	69	61	-	61
Membership	252	-	252	327	-	327
Other governance costs	-	-	-	-	-	-
	109,001	74,920	183,921	81,979	84,689	166,668
Contributions to core expenditure	(58,118)	58,118	-	(59,892)	59,892	-
	50,883	133,038	183,921	22,087	144,581	166,668

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

6 Employees and employment costs

	2021	2020
	£	£
Wages and salaries	115,136	94,844
Employer's NI	2,104	2,104
Pension contributions	563	563
	<u>117,803</u>	<u>97,511</u>

Defined contribution pension scheme

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the company to the scheme and amounted to £563 (2020: £493). Contributions totalling £82 (2020: £82) were payable to the scheme at the end of the year and are included in creditors.

No individual employee was paid over £60,000 (2020: none).

No remuneration was paid to any Trustees during the year (2020: none). No expenses were reimbursed to the Trustees by the charity during the year (2020: none).

The key management personnel of the charity is considered to be the Chief Executive. The total costs to the charity of employee benefits for the key management personnel were £21,984 (2020: £21,984).

The average monthly head count was 6 staff (2020: 6 staff).

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

7 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures & Fittings £	Total £
Cost		
As at 01 April 2020	35,332	35,332
Additions	-	-
Disposals	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
As at 31 March 2021	35,332	35,332
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Depreciation		
As at 01 April 2020	35,332	35,332
Elimination on disposal	-	-
Charge for year	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
As at 31 March 2021	35,332	35,332
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net book value		
As at 31 March 2021	-	-
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
As at 31 March 2020	-	-
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

8 Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors	59,879	175
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	59,879	175
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

9 Cash at bank and in hand

	2021 £	2020 £
Bank balances	203,673	64,838
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	203,673	64,838
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

10 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade creditors	2,532	12,471
Other creditors	4,528	1,495
Accruals & deferred income	149,027	39,841
	<u>156,087</u>	<u>53,807</u>

Deferred income

	2021	2020
	£	£
Deferred income at 01 April 2020	34,748	56,441
Released from previous years	(16,650)	(56,441)
Resources deferred in the year	129,309	34,748
Deferred income at 31 March 2021	<u>147,407</u>	<u>34,748</u>

Where grants are received in advance, for a specified period, these funds are deferred and recognised in the period to which they relate.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

11 Statement of funds

	Balance 01.04.20 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31.03.21 £
Unrestricted funds					
General unrestricted funds	3,351	33,791	(50,883)	98,844	85,103
Total unrestricted funds	3,351	33,791	(50,883)	98,844	85,103
Restricted funds					
Healing Hearing:					
Big Lottery	-	18,933	(19,263)	330	-
PCC for Avon and Somerset	-	4,451	(4,045)	(406)	-
Big Lottery Covid-19	-	47,657	-	(47,657)	-
Bridging the Gap	-	23,300	(11,126)	(1,713)	10,461
CAF Bank	-	8,250	(4,747)	(3,503)	-
Children & Young People's Group	2,750	4,890	(6,890)	(750)	-
C&YP Mental Health	1,705	-	-	(1,705)	-
C&YP Wellbeing	-	11,250	(7,185)	(4,065)	-
Children's Centres Co-ordinator	-	19,324	(14,285)	(5,039)	-
ICS Police	2,000	-	-	(1,500)	500
Infrastructure development	-	27,598	(25,183)	(2,415)	-
N. Som NHS Trust	-	13,436	(2,035)	-	11,401
Quartet CF - Covid Response	-	8,250	(6,257)	(1,993)	-
Sirona Care	-	46,800	(27,035)	(19,765)	-
St Modwens	-	12,250	(4,987)	(7,263)	-
Wessex Water	1,400	-	-	(1,400)	-
Total restricted funds	7,855	246,389	(133,038)	(98,844)	22,362
Total funds	11,206	280,180	(183,921)	-	107,465

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

11 Statement of funds- prior year

	Balance 01.04.19 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31.03.20 £
Unrestricted funds					
General unrestricted funds	13,447	11,991	(22,087)	-	3,351
Total unrestricted funds	13,447	11,991	(22,087)	-	3,351
Restricted funds					
Big Lottery Healing Hearing	-	16,363	(16,363)	-	-
Bridging the Gap	-	12,000	(12,000)	-	-
Children & Young People's Group	-	2,750	-	-	2,750
C&YP Mental Health	-	3,006	(1,301)	-	1,705
Children's Centres Co-ordinator	-	17,324	(17,324)	-	-
Homestart	-	6,214	(6,214)	-	-
Hydration Foundation	-	6,357	(6,357)	-	-
ICS Police	-	2,000	-	-	2,000
Infrastructure development	-	10,077	(10,077)	-	-
N. Som Community Partnership	-	29,500	(29,500)	-	-
NSOD	-	32,468	(32,468)	-	-
People and Communities	-	10,077	(10,077)	-	-
Wessex Water	-	4,300	(2,900)	-	1,400
Total restricted funds	-	152,436	(144,581)	-	7,855
Total funds	13,447	164,427	(166,668)	-	11,206

- The general unrestricted fund represents the unrestricted funds of the charity at the year end.
- The Big Lottery Healing Hearing fund provides restricted funding for two self-employed counselling co-ordinators, together with a contribution towards the running costs for this project.
- Big Lottery Covid19 refers to funding received from The National Lottery Community Fund to maintain the core service offer, to enhance the Reclaim numbers and launch an Autism Family Support pilot through Bridging the Gap Together! during the Covid19 pandemic.
- The Bridging the Gap fund provides restricted funding to provide mentoring opportunities for young people, and to support a minimum of six events through the year for young people and parents/carers, in order to enhance confidence and recognise their positive contribution to society.
- CAF Bank refers to funding received from Charities Aid Foundation from the Coronavirus Emergency Fund to build on the VANS Community Response through Covid19 pandemic.
- The Children and Young People's Group Fund, and Mental Health Fund, represent restricted funding to identify and address key challenges being faced in this sector.
- C&YP Wellbeing funding was received from North Somerset Council to build on the work of the Children, Young People and Families Forum enabling a review of VCSE activity and starting to build a network of Trusted Relationships.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

- The Children’s Centre Co-ordinator represent restricted funding for the employment of a volunteer co-ordinator, and to provide volunteering opportunities in Children’s Centres across North Somerset.
- The Homestart Fund provides restricted funding to support a local community network of trained volunteers and expert support in North Somerset, helping families with young children through challenging times.
- The Hydration Pilot Project Fund is restricted purely to assist with the development of innovative approaches to maintaining hydration in the elderly living in care homes across North Somerset.
- The ICS Police Community Fund is restricted to enable development of a “Have No Fear, Volunteer” guidance booklet to promote and support ex-offenders into volunteering.
- Infrastructure Development is funds received from North Somerset Council to support infrastructure development against a Service Level Agreement.
- The North Somerset Community Partnership Fund represents restricted funding to support a Community Health Volunteer post and the provision of related services.
- North Bristol NHS Trust funding is for the delivery of the vaccination volunteers programme across Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire (BNSSG) from April 2021.
- NSOD Fund presents restricted funding to support the management and development of the Online Directory of Support Services for service users and volunteers across North Somerset.
- PCC for Avon and Somerset funding is received for the Reclaim Project (previously known as Healing Hearing).
- The People and Communities fund is amounts from North Somerset Council to support strategic people and communities infrastructure development.
- Quartet CF – Covid Response is funding received from Quartet Community Foundation from the Coronavirus Emergency Fund to enable the development and delivery of the VANS Community Response at the start of the Covid19 pandemic.
- Sirona Care is funding received for the coordination of the Sirona care and health community health volunteers programme.
- St Mowden is funding received to support a community development programme at Locking Parklands in Weston-super-Mare.
- The Wessex Water Money Matters grant provides restricted funding to deliver training which helps people to improve their financial capability and encourage responsible payment behaviour for the services they receive, with the desire to make a long-term difference to the target beneficiaries.

Note – transfers have been made where funds have been released to core. These are either within the terms of the grant agreements/contracts or with the agreement of funders.

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

12 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unre- stricted funds £	Rest- stricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Unre- stricted funds £	Rest- stricted funds £	Total 2020 £
Tangible assets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Current assets	103,783	159,769	263,552	22,410	42,603	65,013
Current liabilities	(18,680)	(137,407)	(156,087)	(19,059)	(34,748)	(53,807)
	<u>85,103</u>	<u>22,362</u>	<u>107,465</u>	<u>3,351</u>	<u>7,855</u>	<u>11,206</u>

13 Financial commitments

At 31 March 2021 the charity was committed to making the following payments under non-cancellable operating leases:

	2021		2020	
	Land and buildings £	Other £	Land and buildings £	Other £
Less than 1 year	1,188	2,275	3,933	2,275
1 – 5 years	-	4,914	-	6,811
Greater than 5 years	-	-	-	378
	<u>1,188</u>	<u>7,189</u>	<u>3,933</u>	<u>9,464</u>

14 Financial instruments

Categorisation of financial instruments

	2021 £	2020 £
Financial assets that are debt instruments measured at amortised cost	263,552	65,013
	<u>263,552</u>	<u>65,013</u>
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	4,152	17,564
	<u>4,152</u>	<u>17,564</u>

There were no items of income, expense, gains or losses to report (2020 – none).

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

15 Related parties

During the year, the charity subcontracted a part time Chief Executive from North Somerset Council. This individual, P Lucock, had previously been a trustee and resigned to enable him to take up this role.

The charity took the decision to sub-contract the individual as it was the most efficient decision for the charity, both operationally and financially. Mr Lucock did not directly benefit from this arrangement, but his employer, North Somerset Council, received £29,017 (2020 - £14,905) for reimbursement of payroll costs.

16 Government grants

Income from government grants comprise grants made by local authorities to fund the principal activities and objectives of the charity via core funding and funding for specific restricted projects. No performance related grants recognised in income have had any unfulfilled conditions or any other contingencies attaching to them. See note 3 for more information. Government grants received during the year amounted to £87,523 (2020: £125,459).

17 Company limited by guarantee

The company was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The guarantee to the company is £10 per member on the winding up of the company. At 31 March 2021 the company had five members and the total amount guaranteed is therefore £50.

**Voluntary Action North Somerset
Weston Court
Old Mixon Crescent
WESTON SUPER MARE
North Somerset
BS24 9AU**

Albert Goodman LLP
Goodwood House
Blackbrook Park Avenue
Taunton
Somerset
TA1 2PX

Dear Sirs

This representation letter is provided in connection with your review of the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31 March 2021 for the purpose of providing an Independent Examiners report on the financial statements.

We confirm that the following representations are made on the basis of enquiries of management and staff with relevant knowledge and experience (and, where appropriate, of inspection and supporting documentation) sufficient to satisfy ourselves that we can properly make each of the following representations to you.

1. We acknowledge, as trustees, our responsibility under the Companies Act 2006 for preparing financial statements, in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework (FRS 102 and the FRS 102 Charity SORP).
2. We confirm that all accounting records have been made available to you for the purposes of your review, in accordance with your terms of engagement, and that all transactions undertaken by the charity have been properly reflected and recorded in the accounting records.
3. We confirm that significant assumptions used by us in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable.
4. We confirm that all known actual or possible litigation and claims whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements have been disclosed to you and accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework.
5. We confirm that there have been no events since the balance sheet date which require disclosure or which would materially affect the amounts in the financial statements, other than those already disclosed or included in the financial statements.
6. We confirm that we have disclosed to you all related parties and that all related party transactions have been accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework.
7. We confirm that the charity has had, at no time during the year, any arrangement, transactions or agreement to provide credit facilities (including loans, quasi-loans or credit transactions) for trustees, nor to guarantee nor provide security for such matters, except as already disclosed in the accounts.
8. We confirm that the charity has not contracted for any capital expenditure other than as disclosed in the financial statements.
9. We confirm that we are not aware of any possible or actual instance of non-compliance with those laws and regulations which provide a legal framework within which the charity conducts its business and which are central to the charity's ability to conduct its business, except as explained to you and as disclosed in the financial statements. We have made available to you all correspondence with regulators, including any serious incident reports. The relevant laws and regulations are:

- Companies Act 2006
- Charities Act 2011
- Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008
- FRS 102 Charity SORP

10. We confirm that all grants, donations and other income, including those subject to special terms or conditions or received for restricted purposes, have been notified to you. There have been no such breaches of terms or conditions during the period regarding the application of such income.
11. We confirm that appropriate controls are in place to ensure that all payments (including those made overseas) are applied for charitable purposes.
12. We confirm that there have been no actual or suspected instances of fraud involving management or employees who have a significant role in internal control that could have a material effect on the financial statements, except as already disclosed to you. We also confirm that we are not aware of any allegations of fraud by former employees, regulators or others, except as already disclosed to you.
13. We confirm that, having considered our expectations and intentions for the next twelve months and the availability of working capital and unrestricted reserves, in our opinion the charity is a going concern.
14. We confirm that we are not aware of any matters of material significance that should be reported to the Charity Commission.
15. We confirm that the use of the restricted funds is correct as disclosed in the accounts.
16. We confirm that we have considered the implications of the Covid-19 pandemic on the operations of the charity and that following that consideration, in our opinion the charity remains a going concern.

We confirm to the best of our knowledge and belief that the above representations are made on the basis of enquiries of management and staff with relevant knowledge and experience and, where appropriate, of inspection of supporting documentation sufficient to satisfy ourselves that we can properly make each of the above representations to you.

Yours faithfully

.....
Signed on Behalf of the Board

Date:

