



South Shropshire Youth Forum

Annual Report 2023-24



Who are South Shropshire Youth Forum?

Set up as an independent registered Youth based charity in 1997, South Shropshire Youth Forum (SSYF) have been aiming to support young people in their transition to adulthood. It offers a variety of projects, themes and activities that are delivered to help address and support the needs of young people within this sparsely populated area.

YOUTH WORK

We offer weekly sessions Bishop's Castle, Cleobury Mortimer, Craven Arms and Ludlow. We work with Schools, more recently in Bishop's Castle Community College, Bishop's Castle Primary School, Stokesay Primary, Church Stretton Secondary and Cleobury Primary School.

HERITAGE PROJECTS BASED ACTIVITIES

Activities based in the Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (now National Landscape) including Young Rangers and Young Rangers Outreach projects in Secondary Schools. We have delivered over 10 years of activity including woodland restoration, bushcraft, practical conservation, outdoor adventure, and rural skills training.

COMMUNITY WORK & DIVERSIONARY PROJECTS

We help represent the views of young people both at partnership meetings and on a local strategic planning level. We feel that the views of young people should be heard, especially as they often feel they are unrepresented and not part of their community. More recently we have delivered and hosted Youth Conferences in south Shropshire and this has been an effective way of communicating the needs of young people.

Diversionary projects are delivered to engage young people in their own free time (usually holiday periods). Young people have developed their own ideas and so projects such as the Ludlow Garden Help Scheme has become established.

INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT

SSYF provide a South Shropshire Youth Network for any organisations that work or aspire to work with young people. The network officially ran until May 2024.

GENERAL VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

The Youth Forum provides opportunities for supported placements within the community or within the youth projects so people can apply their skills.

Our ethos

South Shropshire Youth Forum (SSYF) are an established and trusted youth based charity with a strong track record of delivering quality, value for money programmes for socially and economically disadvantaged rural young people.

South Shropshire Youth Forum aims to meet young people's diverse needs through creating individual and group opportunities for participation, education and celebration. Its core services are based on delivering youth clubs & play schemes, diversionary projects and helping to give young people a voice.

SSYF have different strategies and offer bespoke services depending on each market town area we work in (currently Bishop's Castle, Cleobury Mortimer, Craven Arms and Ludlow). More importantly young people refer themselves and so in effect they volunteer to get involved.

We have also been developing work for rural areas within the Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Activities are carried out through the normal channels of youth engagement but more significantly through less traditional approaches such as diversionary activities and youth participation schemes. These are shaped around new research carried out by the young people themselves through peer led consultations. We have established Youth Forums in the market towns, which have helped to improve local youth facilities, brought in specific activities and have given the young people a direct link to local decision making processes.



Our work 2023-24

Young Rangers

During 2023/24 SSYF continued to deliver Young Rangers in the Clee Hills and Church Stretton/Craven Arms areas, in partnership with Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Beauty Partnership (Now National Landscapes). The Lottery funded programme finished at the end of 2023, so there was no delivery beyond that.

In the two and a half years we helped to deliver a programme with **153** young people registering onto Young Rangers and activities were hosted at a range of countryside and heritage sites in the Shropshire Hills National Landscape. Most of these were publicly accessible sites and/or those owned by countryside service providers including National Trust, Shropshire Wildlife Trust and Shropshire Council. 38 young people also achieved a John Muir Award.

Between April 2023 and March 2024 SSYF delivered 18 full day sessions; and a summer holiday residential in the Peak District. A total of **27** individuals participated on the 18 sessions. Sessions included farm visits, bushcraft, foraging, boardwalk construction, discovery walks, path clearance and footpath repairs. The residential included 3 days of climbing, scrambling, kayaking and team building challenges.

SSYF also piloted a Young Rangers Outreach course at Church Stretton School. The project is designed to help pupils raise their self-esteem and confidence, develops individual negotiation and communication skills, and provides opportunities to work as part of a team. There is also a strong focus on getting pupils to be reflective and to develop coping mechanisms into their lives. Pupils will be referred because they are not achieving their potential because of feelings of social anxiety and low self-esteem, and bullying or other emotional issues. Many, if not all the pupils will have anxiety issues. **10** females, aged 13-14 were referred onto the project

Craven Arms Youth provision

Weekly sessions were delivered in Craven Arms (Tuesday evenings). Access to the local Community centre is still not feasible due to ongoing issues so we delivered detached sessions throughout the year. Activities including regular football sessions, cricket sessions, night walks, and marshalling for community events, such as the Community Bonfire. In total 34 sessions were delivered from April 2023 to end March 2024. **425** contacts were made with young people with approximately 50 individual young people aged 9-17 participating on the various activities. The Tuesday night provision has the catalyst to start other project work and activities. Young people were recruited to join the Young Rangers programme, and also young people were recruited to volunteer at the community bonfire event and assisted the Santa Sleigh. Some of the Moldovan children living in Craven Arms have participated in our Ukrainian Refugee project in Ludlow.

Ludlow Youth provision

Friday night detached sessions have continued to be delivered in Ludlow. We also delivered 21 drop-in cafe sessions at Hands Together between March to April 2023 and also from October 2023 to April 2024.

We don't record individual's details but estimate approximately 100 individual young people accessing our service over the time but not all of these attend every week. The average age attending are mid-teens (13-16 year olds), which rose to make up 82% of contacts made (last year it was 75%). The majority of contacts made were new to us and the project. This is significantly up from previous years. There was also a significant increase in the numbers of females visible socialising in and around the town.

680 contacts made with young people in total over 41 sessions.

Other activities

At the request of a local partner we have delivered some pilot football sessions for Ukrainian young people. 4 sessions have been delivered at Ludlow Football club. We may offer more sessions as and when the facilities become available at Ludlow FC

Drop-in sessions/Garden Help Scheme

We were offered a cafe space at Hands Together who are located in the town. However, the times the space was available was quite limited 4.30-6pm. In total we delivered 21 sessions over the winter. Despite various approaches we had very little uptake but for a short time we did have a small core of about 5 young people attending regularly. As a result of this core group meeting we managed to relaunch our Garden Help scheme. **8** young volunteers helped deliver the project over the School summer Holiday. The Garden Help Scheme was awarded a High Sherriff Award in 2024.

Bishop's Castle Youth provision

Funding for the Youth programme at Bishop's Castle was extended due to money from the Town Council and Shropshire Council. A part time worker has been employed to deliver the project with sessional staff and volunteers.

After School club

After School Club at Bishop's Castle Primary School runs weekly in term time. From April 23 up until the end of the Summer term **123** children took part in the cooking activities that SSYF ran. From October 23, creative writing session were delivered with **76** young people attending these sessions.

Youth Drop in

From April 23 through to March 24, there has been a huge increase in young people attending.

Young people registered for activities at the drop-in totalled **29**. Total contacts throughout the period were **327**

The activities at the Drop in are the same weekly – the team normally have a cooking session every two weeks, games, indoor hockey and pool/table tennis are available.

Hot drinks and toasties are also on offer. Craft sessions happen weekly.

Outside of term time sessions included climbing, and day trips. A two day camp in the Shropshire Hills was also delivered.

Cleobury Mortimer Youth provision

SSYF was commissioned to do a youth consultation in 2021 and as a direct result of this outreach sessions started in January 2022.

The project now aims to engage directly with young people initially through sport-based sessions, providing them with a place to spend at least an evening a week with trusted adults they can speak to and work with. The programme also includes the delivery of sports based sessions at Cleobury Mortimer Primary School.

The project will be specifically signposted to pupils in receipt of Pupil Premium funding in Upper Key Stage 2 at Cleobury Mortimer Primary School and Lacon Childe School. We aim to encourage pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds to recognise the importance of keeping healthy and leading an active lifestyle.

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From April 2023 to end March 2024 we engaged with **26** young people aged 10-13 with 28

sessions being delivered. Totals of young people attending over those sessions was **413**.

In addition we delivered sessions at Cleobury Primary school, increasing the numbers worked with to **56**.

Ongoing consultation with young people

We continue to listen to young people and try to respond to their changing needs. As part of our Infrastructure Support we have been able to bring together organisations and together we have pooled resources to continue structured consultation with young people.

Following on from last year's residential, where we trained 9 young people in campaigning techniques we worked on a series of workshops that would help enable young people to design their own 'realistic' services. In Spring 2023 we organised another residential and young people designed a game called 'Youth Chance' that others could use to design their own ideas. A prototype is currently being designed and has been tested, and was played at the Youth Conference in July 2023.



South Shropshire Youth Network

South Shropshire Youth Network is a peer network of individuals (paid/unpaid), community and voluntary organisations working with young people aged 8-25 in that area. The aim of the network is to exchange good practice, collaborate, put in joint funding bids, and for organisations to become stronger and more sustainable. The network is essentially a Youth Partnership for the south of Shropshire. The SLA with Shropshire was extended until March 2024. Rural Media agreed to help manage the service and meetings and newsletters were sent out to network members. Attempts to keep the network going beyond May have proved to be problematic. We still aim to continue in some capacity but, may need specific funding to enable us to do this.

By the end of March 2024 we **38** network members.



Chair's report 2023/24

This year we have consolidated our trustee group to 6 and have continued to hold regular Officers Meetings with the Chief Officer, Chair, Vice Chair and Treasurer, complementing our full trustee meetings. This year we have focused on reviewing and updating policies and procedures. We are always looking for new trustees however, with new skills and ideas, to cover the whole of South Shropshire, so please do get in touch if you are interested in supporting the youth forum and making a difference to young people across the region.

As a small charity with only 1 permanent staff member, The Chief Officer, now working 4 days a week and several part time and sessional youth workers, the range of activities, film projects, events, residentials, networks and consultations outlined in this report, is remarkable, with youth provision offered across South Shropshire in Cleobury, Bishops Castle, Craven Arms and Ludlow. The success of our established projects, such as the garden help scheme, film projects, young rangers, football and cricket sessions, as well as residentials and conferences, is testament to the dedication, hard work and flexibility of everyone involved. We are proud to have been awarded the High Sheriff's Outstanding young citizen award this year, for the garden help scheme, an intergenerational project involving young people helping to support older people to tidy their gardens. The new film produced with Shropshire Hills National Landscape and the young people involved with SSYF is a fabulous collaboration, creating diverse opportunities for young people to learn new skills, be creative, have fun, meet new people and improve their confidence. It is a strength of the voluntary sector that we can adapt, respond to need and demand and be creative, succeeding even in times of financial pressure and funding challenges.

I will close by thanking our Chief officer for all his hard work, along with all part time staff, all our trustees, partners and funders and of course the young people, who have enabled all these projects and activities to develop and who keep the youth forum flourishing, moving forwards and making a difference to young people's lives across South Shropshire.

Mandy Furniss

Youth Forum **income** **expenditure** over the last 5 financial years (April – March)

	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
2019/20:	£51,461	£48,225
2020/21:	£53,065	£42,112
2021/22:	£67,236	£66,669
2022/23	£81,706	£76,313
2023/24	£87,621	£68,313

Partners

Arthog Outreach
 Bishop's Castle Town Council
 Caring for God's Acre
 Church Stretton School
 Cleobury Mortimer Primary School
 Cleobury Mortimer Social Club
 Craven Arms Mosque
 Craven Arms Town Council
 Craven Arms Youth Partnership
 Hands Together
 Hereford Diocese
 Ludlow Town Council
 National Trust - Cardingmill Valley
 Rural Media
 Shropshire Hills National Landscape
 Partnership
 Shropshire Council
 Shropshire Hills Discovery centre (Grow,
 Cook, Learn)
 Shropshire Wildlife Trust
 Teme Leisure - Cleobury
 Wild About Westhope

YOUNG PEOPLE!

Funders & contributors

Anonymous
 Bishop's Castle Town Council
 Cleobury Mortimer Town Council
 Craven Arms Town Council
 Craven Arms Youth Area Partnership
 Euro Quality Trust
 Hereford Community Foundation (*Teme
 Valley Youth Fund*)
 Heritage Lottery Fund
 Ludlow Town Council
 Old Downton Lodge
 Shropshire Hills National Landscape
 Partnership
 Shropshire County Council
 Tesco's Stronger Starts Fund

South Shropshire Youth Forum

Clee Hill Rec Rooms
22 High Street
Clee Hill, Ludlow
Shropshire
SY8 3LZ

www.ssyf.net

Registered Charity number: 1068321
Company number: 3476766



Company registration number: 03476766

Charity registration number: 1068321

South Shropshire Youth Forum

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

South Shropshire Youth Forum

Contents

Reference and Administrative Details	1
Trustees' Report	2 to 7
Independent Examiner's Report	8
Statement of Financial Activities	9
Balance Sheet	10 to 11
Notes to the Financial Statements	12 to 16

South Shropshire Youth Forum

Reference and Administrative Details

Chairman

Mandy Furniss

Robert Bluett

Secretary

Richard Morley

Charity Registration Number

1068321

Company Registration Number

03476766

Registered Office

c/o Clee Hill Recreation Rooms
22a High Street
Clee Hill
Ludlow
Shropshire
SY8 3LZ

Independent Examiner

Ms Kaye Nicola Richardson
31 Woodbury Close
Callow Hill
Redditch
Worcestershire
B97 5YQ

South Shropshire Youth Forum

Trustees' Report

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The Charity's objectives are to assist and educate young people in South Shropshire and the surrounding area (the area of benefit) in particular but not exclusively by the provision of vocational training, an information and advice centre and other such services calculated to develop their physical and mental capacities in order that they may grow to full maturity as individuals and members of society and that their conditions of life may be improved.

SSYF aims to support young people through the transition to adulthood. It offers a variety of projects, activities and themes that are delivered to help address and support the needs of young people in the district.

Objectives, strategies and activities

The following paid staff carried out SSYF activities in the period 2023/24:

3 Sessional Youth Workers, self-employed occasional staff, a Part-time Finance and Administration Officer, a Part-time Infrastructure Support Officer, a part time youth leader, and a Full-time Chief Officer.

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Use of volunteers

SSYF also relies on a committed group of volunteers, working alongside paid staff, to fulfil its aims and objectives.

South Shropshire Youth Forum

Trustees' Report

Achievements and performance

Activities in the year up to 31st March 2023 and further into 2024 have included:

YOUTH WORK

Weekly youth sessions at Bishop's Castle, Cleobury Mortimer, Craven Arms and Ludlow. We work with schools, more recently in Bishop's Castle Community College, Bishop's Castle Primary School, Stokesay Primary, Church Stretton Secondary and Cleobury Primary School.

COMMUNITY AND DIVERSIONARY PROJECTS

We help represent the views of young people at partnership meetings and on a local strategic planning level. We feel that the views of young people should be heard, especially as they often feel they are unrepresented and not part of their community. More recently we have delivered and hosted Youth Conferences in South Shropshire and this has been an effective way of communicating the needs of young people.

Diversionary projects are delivered to engage young people in their own free time (usually holiday periods). Young people have developed their own ideas and so projects such as the Ludlow Garden Help Scheme has become established.

HERITAGE BASED ACTIVITIES

Activities based in the Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (now National Landscape) including Young Rangers and Young Rangers Outreach projects in Secondary Schools. We have delivered over 10 years of activity including woodland restoration, bush craft, practical conservation, outdoor adventure, and rural skills training.

INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT

SSYF provide a South Shropshire Youth Network for any organisations that work or aspire to work with young people. The network officially ran until May 2024.

GENERAL VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

The Youth Forum provides opportunities for supported placements within the community or within the youth projects so people can apply their skills.

Financial review

Policy on reserves

SSYF has a policy to hold in reserve an amount to cover winding up costs if the charity were to close. This would include amounts to cover staff redundancy, rent in lieu of notice, amounts that would be due on contracts for the hire of office equipment, and for legal and professional fees.

Principal funding sources

Income sources have diversified and now includes money from grant applications, fundraising activities, donations, partnership agreements and service level agreements with other local organisations.

South Shropshire Youth Forum

Trustees' Report

Plans for future periods

Aims and key objectives for future periods

Our unofficial 'strategic' business plan has been developed by staff and Trustees over recent years. This includes the following strategic goals:

Maintaining existing services despite a challenging funding environment - SSYF needs to continue to develop diverse funding streams and through its partnerships, in recent years, has had other organisations buy in the youth services that we can provide. The Youth Forum needs to continue to raise its profile through publicity and marketing. It's website and social media sites need to be updated on a regular basis.

Expand our services, projects and activities offer for young people in South Shropshire - The Youth Forum needs to build capacity to achieve this. It has found a new registered office base and has been actively recruiting new trustees who can help fill the skills gap. Funding for additional staffing is a priority so the Youth Forum can build its capacity to deliver more activities and have the necessary admin support to monitor finances and evidence for grant applications. Securing significant funding will enable the Youth Forum to buy in resources it needs to expand the services it delivers. SSYF needs to target specific national and local funders through partnership working and to identify other funders who would support the work we do.

Expand collaborative partnership working - The Youth Forum needs to continue to look for opportunities for partnership working. This will enable us to develop schemes and projects that will benefit our clientele. It has been the strength of the organisation to see gaps in provision and look at where opportunities can be created. Focus should remain (although not exclusively) on the 'hard to reach' young people.

Develop a mixed economy approach to funding - SSYF, has, until recent years; been existing hand to mouth. It has been developing other means to get the necessary resources it requires to operate and to be less reliant on grants. Fundraising activities, for example, has increased in recent years and has given the Youth Forum much needed 'unrestricted' funds. These 'unrestricted' funds enable the Youth Forum to get match funding for bid applications and to projects where they are most needed. This situation has improved recently with SSYF being Ludlow Mayor's charity. This has enabled us to build our 'unrestricted' funds.

Review local needs and refocus SSYF to meet them - consultation with young people is ongoing, the organisation can only respond to the needs of young people if it has a grasp of current trends within the locality and within youth culture as a whole. As the Youth Forum is an advocate of young people maintaining local partnerships are also vital. The new youth consultations and network partnership have been a big help in understanding needs and priorities. Organisations and communities need to be made aware of the changing needs of young people in the area.

As always, the staff and trustees of the SSYF are committed to ensure that the organisation completes its agreed programme, operates within the scope of its business plan, and builds on its financial position during the forthcoming financial year. It still remains though that managing cash flow and the budget on limited resources are an important priority for our organisation.

South Shropshire Youth Forum

Trustees' Report

Trustees and officers

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Trustees:

Mandy Furniss

Jack Martin

Amy Webb

Robert Bluett

Matthew Reeve

Sandra Edwards

Diane Lyle (appointed 20 March 2024 and resigned 6 November 2024)

Chairman:

Mandy Furniss

Robert Bluett

Secretary:

Richard Morley

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Recruitment of new trustees is ongoing. We have recruited (and lost) trustees throughout the year. The process now includes the completion of a written application form, an informal meeting with paid staff and volunteers, and taking part in an interview with the Chief Officer and trustees. The main recruitment drive though is through word of mouth.

Induction and training of trustees

All new trustees undergo induction and training to ensure that they can participate fully in the new role.

South Shropshire Youth Forum

Trustees' Report

Organisational structure

The Board are the governing body of South Shropshire Youth Forum (SSYF) and they retain responsibility for controlling the management and administration for the organisation. The Board have collective responsibility for the charity and ultimate responsibility for directing its affairs, ensuring that it is solvent and well-run, and delivering the charitable outcomes for the benefit of the public for which it was set up.

A now part time Chief Officer is responsible for the day-to-day management of the organisation. A new Infrastructure Support worker is now in post to support the organisation and external voluntary sector groups and organisations.

SSYF paid staff and volunteers carry out SSYF activities in accordance with its charitable aims.

Wider Network

SSYF belongs to a variety of local networks across South Shropshire and with the advent of the Unitary Authority in April 2009 has endeavoured to make links across the wider South Shropshire area. New opportunities have arisen through the new Infrastructure Support programme.

Relationships with related parties

Related Parties

SSYF works alongside a wide range of organisations including Town Councils, Shropshire Council, Hereford Diocese, Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Partnership, National Trust, Shropshire Wildlife Trust, Grow Cook Learn, Wild About Westhope, Titterstone Cleve Heritage Trust, Hands Together and local schools and colleges.

Financial instruments

Objectives and policies

The charity's activities expose it to a number of financial risks including credit risk, cash flow risk and liquidity risk. The use of financial derivatives is governed by the charity's policies approved by the board of trustees, which provide written principles on the use of financial derivatives to manage these risks. The charity does not use derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

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

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

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

South Shropshire Youth Forum

Trustees' Report

- state whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.


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

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

Small companies provision statement

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

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 27 November 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Signed by:

859B3D834976405:.....
Richard Morley
Company secretary

South Shropshire Youth Forum

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of South Shropshire Youth Forum ('the Company')

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

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

An independent examination does not involve gathering all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently does not cover all the matters that an auditor considers in giving their opinion on the accounts. The planning and conduct of an audit goes beyond the limited assurance that an independent examination can provide. Consequently I express no opinion as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and my report is limited to those specific matters set out in the independent examiner's statement.

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

Signed by:

C228623E5D454FB:.....
K N Richardson

31 Woodbury Close
Callow Hill
Redditch
Worcestershire
B97 5YQ

27 November 2024

South Shropshire Youth Forum

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2024 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	3	33,424	54,197	87,621
Other income		75	-	75
Total income		33,499	54,197	87,696
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	4	(33,243)	(35,070)	(68,313)
Total expenditure		(33,243)	(35,070)	(68,313)
Net income		256	19,127	19,383
Net movement in funds		256	19,127	19,383
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		3,353	24,861	28,214
Total funds carried forward	11	3,609	43,988	47,597
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	3	21,497	60,183	81,680
Other income		27	-	27
Total income		21,524	60,183	81,707
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	4	(16,980)	(59,334)	(76,314)
Total expenditure		(16,980)	(59,334)	(76,314)
Net income		4,544	849	5,393
Net movement in funds		4,544	849	5,393
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		4,874	17,947	22,821
Total funds carried forward	11	9,418	18,796	28,214

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

The funds breakdown for 2023 is shown in note 11.

The notes on pages 12 to 16 form an integral part of these financial statements.

South Shropshire Youth Forum
(Registration number: 03476766)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand	8	64,743	48,745
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	9	(1,200)	(6,541)
Total assets less current liabilities		63,543	42,204
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	10	(15,945)	(13,990)
Net assets		47,598	28,214
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds			
Restricted funds		19,127	849
Revaluation reserve		24,861	17,947
Total restricted funds		43,988	18,796
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		257	4,544
Revaluation reserve		3,353	4,874
Total unrestricted funds		3,609	9,418
Total funds	11	47,598	28,214

For the financial year ending 31 March 2024 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.


Directors' responsibilities:

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

The notes on pages 12 to 16 form an integral part of these financial statements.

South Shropshire Youth Forum
(Registration number: 03476766)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2024

The financial statements on pages 9 to 16 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 27 November 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

Signed by:

.....7706020AB0F248E.....
Mandy Furniss
Chairman and trustee

Signed by:

.....9167A8FC0B34499.....
Robert Bluett
Chairman and trustee

South Shropshire Youth Forum

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

1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

c/o Clee Hill Recreation Rooms

22a High Street

Clee Hill

Ludlow

Shropshire

SY8 3LZ

These financial statements were authorised for issue by the trustees on 27 November 2024.

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

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

Statement of compliance

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

Basis of preparation

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

Income and endowments

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

South Shropshire Youth Forum

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

Expenditure

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

Raising funds

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

Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Taxation

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

Depreciation and amortisation

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Fixtures & fittings	20% Reducing balance

Cash and cash equivalents

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

Trade creditors

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

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

South Shropshire Youth Forum

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

Fund structure

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

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

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Donations and legacies; Donations from individuals	33,424	54,197	87,621
Total for 2024	33,424	54,197	87,621
Total for 2023	21,497	60,183	81,680

4 Expenditure on raising funds

a) Costs of generating donations and legacies

	Note	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Allocated support costs		33,243	35,070	68,313
	Note	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Allocated support costs		16,980	59,334	76,314
			Allocated support costs £	Total 2024 £
Costs of generating donations and legacies			68,312	68,312
			Allocated support costs £	Total 2023 £
Costs of generating donations and legacies			76,314	76,314

South Shropshire Youth Forum

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

5 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net incoming resources for the year include:

	2024 £	2023 £
General	257	(1,521)
Restricted	18,517	6,914
	<hr/>	<hr/>

6 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses from the charity during the year.

7 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

8 Cash and cash equivalents

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash at bank	64,743	48,745
	<hr/>	<hr/>

9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	-	1,113
Other creditors	1,200	5,428
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<hr/>	<hr/>

10 Creditors: amounts falling due after one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Other creditors	15,945	13,990
	<hr/>	<hr/>

South Shropshire Youth Forum

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

11 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	3,353	33,499	(33,243)	3,609
Restricted funds	24,861	54,197	(35,070)	43,988
Total funds	28,214	87,696	(68,313)	47,597
	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	4,874	21,524	(16,980)	9,418
Restricted funds	17,947	60,183	(59,334)	18,796
Total funds	22,821	81,707	(76,314)	28,214

12 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 April 2023 £	Financing cash flows £	At 31 March 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	48,745	15,998	64,743
Debt due within one year	(6,541)	5,341	(1,200)
Debt due after more than one year	(13,990)	(2,566)	(16,556)
Net debt	28,214	18,773	46,987
	At 1 April 2022 £	Financing cash flows £	At 31 March 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	35,374	13,371	48,745
Debt due within one year	1,054	(7,596)	(6,542)
Debt due after more than one year	(13,608)	(381)	(13,989)
Net debt	22,820	5,394	28,214

13 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.

Certificate Of Completion

Envelope Id: 6AE9BE2F-5A57-4BA1-9448-E498B2EA6788

Status: Completed

Subject: Complete with Docusign: SSYF - Accounts for signature 31.03.2024.pdf

Source Envelope:

Document Pages: 18

Signatures: 4

Envelope Originator:

Certificate Pages: 2

Initials: 0

Lucy Smith

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Time Zone: (UTC) Dublin, Edinburgh, Lisbon, London

Stourport-On-Severn, Worcs DY13 9AW

lucy@perrigoconsultants.co.uk

IP Address: 86.148.110.198

Record Tracking

Status: Original

Holder: Lucy Smith

Location: DocuSign

12/6/2024 3:09:11 PM

lucy@perrigoconsultants.co.uk

Signer Events

Mandy Furniss

mandy.furniss@gmail.com

Security Level: Email, Account Authentication
(None)

Signature

Signed by:
Mandy Furniss
7706020A80F248E...

Signature Adoption: Pre-selected Style

Using IP Address: 2.99.47.112

Timestamp

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Viewed: 12/7/2024 9:16:00 AM

Signed: 12/7/2024 9:16:43 AM

Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:

Not Offered via DocuSign

Kaye Richardson

kaye@perrigoconsultants.co.uk

Security Level: Email, Account Authentication
(None)

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Kaye Richardson
C228623E5D454FB...

Signature Adoption: Pre-selected Style

Using IP Address: 86.135.37.252

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Signed: 12/11/2024 3:49:54 PM

Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:

Not Offered via DocuSign

Richard Morley

richssyf@yahoo.com

Security Level: Email, Account Authentication
(None)

Signed by:
Richard Morley
853B3D8349764C5...

Signature Adoption: Uploaded Signature Image

Using IP Address: 31.125.11.158

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Viewed: 12/11/2024 3:51:14 PM

Signed: 12/11/2024 3:52:25 PM

Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:

Not Offered via DocuSign

Robert Bluett

ra.su@mac.com

Security Level: Email, Account Authentication
(None)

Signed by:
Robert Bluett
9167A8FC0B34499...

Signature Adoption: Pre-selected Style

Using IP Address: 86.163.101.210

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Signed: 12/11/2024 6:41:59 PM

Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:

Not Offered via DocuSign

In Person Signer Events

Signature

Timestamp

Editor Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Agent Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Intermediary Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Certified Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Carbon Copy Events	Status	Timestamp
Witness Events	Signature	Timestamp
Notary Events	Signature	Timestamp
Envelope Summary Events	Status	Timestamps
Envelope Sent	Hashed/Encrypted	12/6/2024 3:49:53 PM
Certified Delivered	Security Checked	12/11/2024 6:40:27 PM
Signing Complete	Security Checked	12/11/2024 6:41:59 PM
Completed	Security Checked	12/11/2024 6:41:59 PM
Payment Events	Status	Timestamps

Company registration number: 03476766

Charity registration number: 1068321

South Shropshire Youth Forum

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

South Shropshire Youth Forum

Contents

Reference and Administrative Details	1
Trustees' Report	2 to 7
Independent Examiner's Report	8
Statement of Financial Activities	9
Balance Sheet	10 to 11
Notes to the Financial Statements	12 to 16

South Shropshire Youth Forum

Reference and Administrative Details

Chairman

Mandy Furniss

Robert Bluett

Secretary

Richard Morley

Charity Registration Number

1068321

Company Registration Number

03476766

Registered Office

c/o Clee Hill Recreation Rooms
22a High Street
Clee Hill
Ludlow
Shropshire
SY8 3LZ

Independent Examiner

Ms Kaye Nicola Richardson
31 Woodbury Close
Callow Hill
Redditch
Worcestershire
B97 5YQ

South Shropshire Youth Forum

Trustees' Report

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The Charity's objectives are to assist and educate young people in South Shropshire and the surrounding area (the area of benefit) in particular but not exclusively by the provision of vocational training, an information and advice centre and other such services calculated to develop their physical and mental capacities in order that they may grow to full maturity as individuals and members of society and that their conditions of life may be improved.

SSYF aims to support young people through the transition to adulthood. It offers a variety of projects, activities and themes that are delivered to help address and support the needs of young people in the district.

Objectives, strategies and activities

The following paid staff carried out SSYF activities in the period 2023/24:

3 Sessional Youth Workers, self-employed occasional staff, a Part-time Finance and Administration Officer, a Part-time Infrastructure Support Officer, a part time youth leader, and a Full-time Chief Officer.

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Use of volunteers

SSYF also relies on a committed group of volunteers, working alongside paid staff, to fulfil its aims and objectives.

South Shropshire Youth Forum

Trustees' Report

Achievements and performance

Activities in the year up to 31st March 2023 and further into 2024 have included:

YOUTH WORK

Weekly youth sessions at Bishop's Castle, Cleobury Mortimer, Craven Arms and Ludlow. We work with schools, more recently in Bishop's Castle Community College, Bishop's Castle Primary School, Stokesay Primary, Church Stretton Secondary and Cleobury Primary School.

COMMUNITY AND DIVERSIONARY PROJECTS

We help represent the views of young people at partnership meetings and on a local strategic planning level. We feel that the views of young people should be heard, especially as they often feel they are unrepresented and not part of their community. More recently we have delivered and hosted Youth Conferences in South Shropshire and this has been an effective way of communicating the needs of young people.

Diversionary projects are delivered to engage young people in their own free time (usually holiday periods). Young people have developed their own ideas and so projects such as the Ludlow Garden Help Scheme has become established.

HERITAGE BASED ACTIVITIES

Activities based in the Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (now National Landscape) including Young Rangers and Young Rangers Outreach projects in Secondary Schools. We have delivered over 10 years of activity including woodland restoration, bush craft, practical conservation, outdoor adventure, and rural skills training.

INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT

SSYF provide a South Shropshire Youth Network for any organisations that work or aspire to work with young people. The network officially ran until May 2024.

GENERAL VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

The Youth Forum provides opportunities for supported placements within the community or within the youth projects so people can apply their skills.

Financial review

Policy on reserves

SSYF has a policy to hold in reserve an amount to cover winding up costs if the charity were to close. This would include amounts to cover staff redundancy, rent in lieu of notice, amounts that would be due on contracts for the hire of office equipment, and for legal and professional fees.

Principal funding sources

Income sources have diversified and now includes money from grant applications, fundraising activities, donations, partnership agreements and service level agreements with other local organisations.

South Shropshire Youth Forum

Trustees' Report

Plans for future periods

Aims and key objectives for future periods

Our unofficial 'strategic' business plan has been developed by staff and Trustees over recent years. This includes the following strategic goals:

Maintaining existing services despite a challenging funding environment - SSYF needs to continue to develop diverse funding streams and through its partnerships, in recent years, has had other organisations buy in the youth services that we can provide. The Youth Forum needs to continue to raise its profile through publicity and marketing. It's website and social media sites need to be updated on a regular basis.

Expand our services, projects and activities offer for young people in South Shropshire - The Youth Forum needs to build capacity to achieve this. It has found a new registered office base and has been actively recruiting new trustees who can help fill the skills gap. Funding for additional staffing is a priority so the Youth Forum can build its capacity to deliver more activities and have the necessary admin support to monitor finances and evidence for grant applications. Securing significant funding will enable the Youth Forum to buy in resources it needs to expand the services it delivers. SSYF needs to target specific national and local funders through partnership working and to identify other funders who would support the work we do.

Expand collaborative partnership working - The Youth Forum needs to continue to look for opportunities for partnership working. This will enable us to develop schemes and projects that will benefit our clientele. It has been the strength of the organisation to see gaps in provision and look at where opportunities can be created. Focus should remain (although not exclusively) on the 'hard to reach' young people.

Develop a mixed economy approach to funding - SSYF, has, until recent years; been existing hand to mouth. It has been developing other means to get the necessary resources it requires to operate and to be less reliant on grants. Fundraising activities, for example, has increased in recent years and has given the Youth Forum much needed 'unrestricted' funds. These 'unrestricted' funds enable the Youth Forum to get match funding for bid applications and to projects where they are most needed. This situation has improved recently with SSYF being Ludlow Mayor's charity. This has enabled us to build our 'unrestricted' funds.

Review local needs and refocus SSYF to meet them - consultation with young people is ongoing, the organisation can only respond to the needs of young people if it has a grasp of current trends within the locality and within youth culture as a whole. As the Youth Forum is an advocate of young people maintaining local partnerships are also vital. The new youth consultations and network partnership have been a big help in understanding needs and priorities. Organisations and communities need to be made aware of the changing needs of young people in the area.

As always, the staff and trustees of the SSYF are committed to ensure that the organisation completes its agreed programme, operates within the scope of its business plan, and builds on its financial position during the forthcoming financial year. It still remains though that managing cash flow and the budget on limited resources are an important priority for our organisation.

South Shropshire Youth Forum

Trustees' Report

Trustees and officers

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Trustees:

Mandy Furniss

Jack Martin

Amy Webb

Robert Bluett

Matthew Reeve

Sandra Edwards

Diane Lyle (appointed 20 March 2024 and resigned 6 November 2024)

Chairman:

Mandy Furniss

Robert Bluett

Secretary:

Richard Morley

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Recruitment of new trustees is ongoing. We have recruited (and lost) trustees throughout the year. The process now includes the completion of a written application form, an informal meeting with paid staff and volunteers, and taking part in an interview with the Chief Officer and trustees. The main recruitment drive though is through word of mouth.

Induction and training of trustees

All new trustees undergo induction and training to ensure that they can participate fully in the new role.

South Shropshire Youth Forum

Trustees' Report

Organisational structure

The Board are the governing body of South Shropshire Youth Forum (SSYF) and they retain responsibility for controlling the management and administration for the organisation. The Board have collective responsibility for the charity and ultimate responsibility for directing its affairs, ensuring that it is solvent and well-run, and delivering the charitable outcomes for the benefit of the public for which it was set up.

A now part time Chief Officer is responsible for the day-to-day management of the organisation. A new Infrastructure Support worker is now in post to support the organisation and external voluntary sector groups and organisations.

SSYF paid staff and volunteers carry out SSYF activities in accordance with its charitable aims.

Wider Network

SSYF belongs to a variety of local networks across South Shropshire and with the advent of the Unitary Authority in April 2009 has endeavoured to make links across the wider South Shropshire area. New opportunities have arisen through the new Infrastructure Support programme.

Relationships with related parties

Related Parties

SSYF works alongside a wide range of organisations including Town Councils, Shropshire Council, Hereford Diocese, Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Partnership, National Trust, Shropshire Wildlife Trust, Grow Cook Learn, Wild About Westhope, Titterstone Cleve Heritage Trust, Hands Together and local schools and colleges.

Financial instruments

Objectives and policies

The charity's activities expose it to a number of financial risks including credit risk, cash flow risk and liquidity risk. The use of financial derivatives is governed by the charity's policies approved by the board of trustees, which provide written principles on the use of financial derivatives to manage these risks. The charity does not use derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

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

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

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

South Shropshire Youth Forum

Trustees' Report

- state whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.


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

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

Small companies provision statement

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

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 27 November 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Signed by:

859B3D834976405:.....
Richard Morley
Company secretary

South Shropshire Youth Forum

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of South Shropshire Youth Forum ('the Company')

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

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

An independent examination does not involve gathering all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently does not cover all the matters that an auditor considers in giving their opinion on the accounts. The planning and conduct of an audit goes beyond the limited assurance that an independent examination can provide. Consequently I express no opinion as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and my report is limited to those specific matters set out in the independent examiner's statement.

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

Signed by:

C228623E5D454FB:.....
K N Richardson

31 Woodbury Close
Callow Hill
Redditch
Worcestershire
B97 5YQ

27 November 2024

South Shropshire Youth Forum

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2024 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	3	33,424	54,197	87,621
Other income		75	-	75
Total income		33,499	54,197	87,696
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	4	(33,243)	(35,070)	(68,313)
Total expenditure		(33,243)	(35,070)	(68,313)
Net income		256	19,127	19,383
Net movement in funds		256	19,127	19,383
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		3,353	24,861	28,214
Total funds carried forward	11	3,609	43,988	47,597
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	3	21,497	60,183	81,680
Other income		27	-	27
Total income		21,524	60,183	81,707
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	4	(16,980)	(59,334)	(76,314)
Total expenditure		(16,980)	(59,334)	(76,314)
Net income		4,544	849	5,393
Net movement in funds		4,544	849	5,393
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		4,874	17,947	22,821
Total funds carried forward	11	9,418	18,796	28,214

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

The funds breakdown for 2023 is shown in note 11.

The notes on pages 12 to 16 form an integral part of these financial statements.

South Shropshire Youth Forum
(Registration number: 03476766)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand	8	64,743	48,745
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	9	(1,200)	(6,541)
Total assets less current liabilities		63,543	42,204
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	10	(15,945)	(13,990)
Net assets		47,598	28,214
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds			
Restricted funds		19,127	849
Revaluation reserve		24,861	17,947
Total restricted funds		43,988	18,796
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		257	4,544
Revaluation reserve		3,353	4,874
Total unrestricted funds		3,609	9,418
Total funds	11	47,598	28,214

For the financial year ending 31 March 2024 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.


Directors' responsibilities:

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

The notes on pages 12 to 16 form an integral part of these financial statements.

South Shropshire Youth Forum
(Registration number: 03476766)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2024

The financial statements on pages 9 to 16 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 27 November 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

Signed by:

.....7706020AB0F248E.....
Mandy Furniss
Chairman and trustee

Signed by:

.....9167A8FC0B34499.....
Robert Bluett
Chairman and trustee

South Shropshire Youth Forum

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

1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

c/o Clee Hill Recreation Rooms

22a High Street

Clee Hill

Ludlow

Shropshire

SY8 3LZ

These financial statements were authorised for issue by the trustees on 27 November 2024.

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

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

Statement of compliance

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

Basis of preparation

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

Income and endowments

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

South Shropshire Youth Forum

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

Expenditure

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

Raising funds

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

Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Taxation

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

Depreciation and amortisation

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Fixtures & fittings	20% Reducing balance

Cash and cash equivalents

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

Trade creditors

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

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

South Shropshire Youth Forum

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

Fund structure

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

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

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Donations and legacies; Donations from individuals	33,424	54,197	87,621
Total for 2024	33,424	54,197	87,621
Total for 2023	21,497	60,183	81,680

4 Expenditure on raising funds

a) Costs of generating donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Note			
Allocated support costs	33,243	35,070	68,313
	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Note			
Allocated support costs	16,980	59,334	76,314
		Allocated support costs £	Total 2024 £
Costs of generating donations and legacies		68,312	68,312
		Allocated support costs £	Total 2023 £
Costs of generating donations and legacies		76,314	76,314

South Shropshire Youth Forum

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

5 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net incoming resources for the year include:

	2024 £	2023 £
General	257	(1,521)
Restricted	18,517	6,914
	18,517	6,914

6 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses from the charity during the year.

7 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

8 Cash and cash equivalents

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash at bank	64,743	48,745
	64,743	48,745

9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	-	1,113
Other creditors	1,200	5,428
	1,200	6,541

10 Creditors: amounts falling due after one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Other creditors	15,945	13,990
	15,945	13,990

South Shropshire Youth Forum

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

11 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	3,353	33,499	(33,243)	3,609
Restricted funds	24,861	54,197	(35,070)	43,988
Total funds	28,214	87,696	(68,313)	47,597
	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	4,874	21,524	(16,980)	9,418
Restricted funds	17,947	60,183	(59,334)	18,796
Total funds	22,821	81,707	(76,314)	28,214

12 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 April 2023 £	Financing cash flows £	At 31 March 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	48,745	15,998	64,743
Debt due within one year	(6,541)	5,341	(1,200)
Debt due after more than one year	(13,990)	(2,566)	(16,556)
Net debt	28,214	18,773	46,987
	At 1 April 2022 £	Financing cash flows £	At 31 March 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	35,374	13,371	48,745
Debt due within one year	1,054	(7,596)	(6,542)
Debt due after more than one year	(13,608)	(381)	(13,989)
Net debt	22,820	5,394	28,214

13 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.

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kaye@perrigoconsultants.co.uk

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In Person Signer Events

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Editor Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Agent Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Intermediary Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Certified Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Carbon Copy Events	Status	Timestamp
Witness Events	Signature	Timestamp
Notary Events	Signature	Timestamp
Envelope Summary Events	Status	Timestamps
Envelope Sent	Hashed/Encrypted	12/6/2024 3:49:53 PM
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Payment Events	Status	Timestamps