



**Northamptonshire  
Domestic Abuse Service**

# IMPACT REPORT 2023-24



# A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR

---

When we think about domestic abuse, what words come to mind? Violence, fear, intimidation, despair, hopelessness – the language of abuse, but there is another side of the coin – go to the next page and read the message from Rachel, our Chief Officer, then come back.

Now, what words are conjured up by her message? Passion, Inspiration, hope, determination, vision, persistence – these are the words and messages from those who work for us day to day, week to week, month to month, year to year, to help adults and children affected by domestic abuse, striving to make their lives safer, better, healthier and hopeful.

No matter that the work is hard, challenging, frustrating; that at times it's one step forward and three back. No matter that it's made all the harder by the relentless pursuit of funding that won't disappear after 12 months and will meet the ever-increasing need for our service (which grew again this year by 8.4%). Still the work is done, the victims are seen, heard, helped, supported, and, in some cases, housed for the safety of them and their children.

Please read through our Impact Report – it will give you a real sense of the work our staff and volunteers do, the services they provide, the victims' stories, their needs, their fears, their triumphs when their lives are turned around – somewhere to live, an income, a job, confidence to face the world, and their abuser; their joy when their children can play again, go to school, thrive and grow in a more secure, safe and happy environment.

Their joys and triumphs are shared by our workers – it doesn't matter if they are front line, back office or management, what keeps them going is the knowledge and belief that what they do makes a difference – it helps save and rebuild lives.

And, goodness, they need that belief. Working in the voluntary sector isn't going to make them rich, they won't have a gold-plated pension, they don't get free health insurance or gym passes, although we so wish we could give them what they truly deserve. But we strive to give the very best pay and conditions we can afford and a supportive, friendly structure to work in that values what they do, whatever their role.

And those roles are so varied – a 24/7 advice & helpline; safe accommodation across the county that caters for specialist need; housekeepers; case workers for adults and children; diversity workers; a health coordinator; outreach; groupwork; training; partnership work; fundraising and all the back-office functions.

We thank the victims, who have the courage to seek our help; we thank our workers, who have the strength to give it; we thank our commissioners and funders, who believe in what we do and achieve. The work won't stop, the need for help will continue and NDAS will be there to give it.



Glynis Bliss, MBE  
NDAS Chair

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

---

In March 2024, I celebrated five years as the Chief Executive of Northamptonshire Domestic Abuse Service. Ending this financial year with such a milestone has prompted me to reflect on where NDAS started in 2019 when I came into post and how far we have come.

I definitely had big boots to fill!

Under the expert leadership of Ann Bodsworth and Chris Starmer before me, the staff and trustee team at NDAS had achieved so much and weathered numerous storms, from positively and bravely adapting to a wider range of clients (opening our male refuge in 2017 and changing our name from Northampton Women's Aid) to sadly and sensitively responding to the local authority decommissioning of services with redundancies.

In my five years tenure, we have as a team focused on rebuilding and redeveloping; expanding and growing:

- Together we have increased our income from £935,000 in 2018/19 to £1,390,000 for 23/24, diversifying our income by investing in a Training Coordinator (2020) and Fundraising Coordinator (2022).
- We have moved from 19 staff in 2019 to 39 in March 2024 and we have increased our volunteer base by 200%, who are now supported by a Volunteer Coordinator (started in January 2024).
- We have opened 3 new refuges, 2 of which we own; expanding provision for clients with diverse and/or complex needs including black and global majority clients, clients impacted by no recourse to public funds and so-called honour-based violence (2020), as well as trans and non-binary clients (2022).
- We have also continued to grow delivery that was cultivated by Ann and Chris, such as reintroducing our children's work and expanding the group work portfolio, including inhouse children's programmes; and this year has also seen the refresh and return of *Your Power to Change*, our perpetrator programme.

But there is still so much to do.

After reopening a closed waiting list for children's outreach referrals in January 2024, we have steadily seen our waiting lists increase to higher than ever before and we are, on average, receiving one hundred more calls to our advice line every month than in previous years. We continue to have to decline requests for refuge due to capacity and not being able to respond to the level and reality of the complex needs we are seeing, and we cannot keep up with the demand for group work.

This is an epidemic, and one that is not currently resourced appropriately or sustainably to meet the tragic and heartbreaking levels of demand being seen by specialist providers across the country. Five years on, we now have specialist and relevant legislation supporting our work, including the Domestic Abuse Act, the Victim and Prisoners Act and the introduction of Serious Violence Duties across the country – but many services still grapple with short-term funding and demand outstripping supply.

Locally we are working with partners to address this. We are working closely with schools to try and prevent domestic abuse. We are collaborating to maximise the group work we can provide for victim survivors as a multi-agency collective. We are hosting a Domestic Abuse Health Coordinator to support the health response to domestic abuse. We have worked with partners on funding for clients with no recourse to public funds.

And still, there is so much more to do.

As we prepare for the challenges ahead with passion and enthusiasm, I want to extend my thanks to those partners we work with and who, alongside us, strive to make a difference and tackle this epidemic.

I also don't think it is possible to convey just how grateful I am for our amazing staff and trustees at NDAS, and I want to express thanks for all their hard work, commitment, kindness and creativity. We really do have the most amazing team, who continue to astound me with their passion, dedication and resilience.

I would also like to take the opportunity to honour the courage of victim survivors, who continue to reach out for support and take those first steps towards a life free from abuse despite the trauma, difficulty and risk that this represents.

Their bravery is remarkable and inspiring; and helps us to tenaciously keep going in all of the work we do.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rachel." with a period at the end. The script is elegant and cursive.

Dr Rachel Duncan  
Chief Executive

## OUR VISION

---

“A world without domestic abuse where everyone is free from fear.”

## OUR MISSION

---

“Abolishing abuse for all.”

SAVING LIVES  
RECLAIMING LIVES  
REBUILDING LIVES

## OUR VALUES

---

Building on our successes over the past 3 years, we will focus on the following priorities and aspirations to maintain our strategic and improvement journey, and continue to develop our staff and services by ensuring that:

1. NDAS is a great place to work
2. NDAS is a responsive organisation
3. NDAS is a resilient organisation
4. NDAS is a professional organisation
5. NDAS is a well-respected and trusted local organisation

## OUR YEAR IN NUMBERS

2067

Clients supported



117

Families supported in refuge



498

Clients attended group programmes



247

Children supported



97

Average number of days spent in refuge



# SAFE ACCOMMODATION

Refuge saves lives and has done in thousands upon thousands of cases. It works by providing temporary accommodation, security and specialist support for families fleeing domestic abuse and operates as a safety network available across the UK.

When clients first arrive in refuge, we offer them a package that contains toiletries, bedding and other essential items. We also provide emotional support and listen whilst they talk through the trauma they have suffered. Within the first two weeks of being admitted into refuge a comprehensive support and safety plan is put together.

NDAS currently run 9 refuges in Northamptonshire providing safe accommodation to 34 adults and 49 children at any one time. Within this portfolio, we have provision for men (3 units) and for women (20 units) with specific units for women with substance misuse issues (5 units) and women from diverse communities (3 units).

We opened 2 new flats in November 2022 (comprising of 3 units), which enable us to respond to a wider variety of clients including trans and non-binary survivors, larger families and clients with specific or complex needs that we would struggle to respond to in existing refuge provision.

I leave the refuge with tears of gratitude and love.

I now understand how a person should be treated in a relationship. You have given me the tools to spot warning signs.

I am now able to walk outside without fear and anxiety. I have been given a fresh start.







# Cynthia

*I feel as if I have a new lease of life*

Cynthia is 69 and has been married to her husband Simon for 40 years. When they were first married they moved to Devon, far from friends and family. From the start of their marriage Simon was very controlling.

In the last couple of years, they moved closed to friends and family but lived in a rural community where Cynthia was isolated as Simon never allowed her learn to drive. As she had no means of accessing shops and support, she could not go out without him and sometimes had to stay at home for a long period of time whilst Simon was away on trips. He would not allow her to work and make money for herself. She was also not allowed to have a bank account and he had her pension paid into his account, refusing to give her access to this money. Simon controlled the finances in the home making her solely dependent on him.

Cynthia tried to leave several times without success. Her sister called NDAS and we arranged for Cynthia to come into refuge two days later. Cynthia arrived very shaken and tearful but relieved to be taking steps to improve her life.

NDAS supported Cynthia in emotional and practical ways. She was helped to realise that the abuse was not her fault and that she did not cause her husband to act in this way. We helped her to register for her local GP and apply for supported accommodation.

Six months after moving into refuge, Cynthia was able to move into her own flat in a retirement complex. NDAS supported her further with our resettlement program to ensure that she was coping with living independently. We are pleased that Cynthia is now thriving, making new friends and enjoying the freedom she was denied for so long.





# INCLUSIVITY



## Inclusivity



At NDAS, we are passionate about diversity and ensuring that anyone, regardless of their gender identity, sexual orientation, race or religion, has the same access to support when they need it. We know that it is extremely difficult to break free from domestic abuse.

On average, someone will try to leave at least 5 times before they are successful. Imagine trying to do this when you don't speak any English, or if you don't have the right to basic financial support. This is the case for many people who are trying to leave abusive and controlling relationships.

In addition to our male refuge, opened in 2018 and our diverse needs refuge in 2020, we opened two new flats in late 2022. These flats allow us to provide dispersed accommodation to a range of clients including transgender and gender fluid individuals.

We also provide a group work programme designed specifically for black and brown victims of abuse.

We have a Diversity Lead who is dedicated to these specialist cases and helps us build relationships with diverse communities.

NDAS gave me legal, moral and emotional support to stay in this country which is what I desire with my grateful heart.

Coming here has taught me that there are still nice people who can help you get back on your feet despite cultural differences.

I have learnt so much. I feel more optimistic.



# PROFESSIONAL ADVICE AND SUPPORT

Our specialist advice workers are available 24/7 via our Advice Line and are on hand to provide guidance and support to a range of people - whether you are experiencing domestic abuse yourself, or you have concerns about someone you know, or you are a professional working with a family and need expert help.

We can also offer advice through our online chat facility on our website which is available from 9.00am to midnight every day, through Facebook Messenger and directly by email.

Face-to-face drop-in appointments are available at a range of partner agency locations throughout Northamptonshire as well as online virtual drop-in sessions twice a week, where clients can video call our advice workers if safe to do so.

Even if victim survivors are not ready or able to move on, we always highly recommend speaking to one of our workers, who can tell you what your options are, give you advice on how to stay safe – and importantly, just be there and listen.



# TRAINING

## Supporting professionals

- We offer specialist training in various aspects of domestic abuse to professionals that work with families impacted by abuse.
- Our training courses **Domestic Abuse Awareness** and **The Impact of Abuse on children and young people** are CPD accredited.
- We also deliver bespoke courses to a range of providers including those in housing and in education settings.

*The trainer's enthusiasm, passion and knowledge shone throughout the day.*

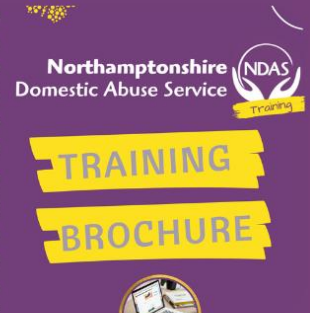
*This training is essential so everyone has a good understanding of how to support those impacted*

*The course was informative and enjoyable and the delivery and information were excellent.*

We also provide tailored training programmes to HR departments and/or Line Managers.

This training will result in:

- Increased awareness of domestic abuse in the workplace
- How to spot the signs of abuse
- How to "ask the question" and respond to the answer
- Ensure your staff feel safe at work and increase productivity
- Save your company money
- Provide vital funding to support a local charity





# CHILDREN'S WORK

<https://www.givey.com/northamptontopariscyclingchallenge>

We provide outreach support to children and young people in the community as well as to those that stay with us in refuge. Sessions are offered to all children in refuge, with support provided to access school and nursery places. We also plan and deliver a range of activities throughout the year.

Our support programmes for children use age-appropriate, trauma-informed approaches to help them to safely share their experiences, understand that they are not to blame and not alone. We introduce ways to stay safe and start trusting again, and help to build self-confidence, independence, support networks and positive relationships.

Sessions are tailored to the needs of each child but always include safety planning, thoughts and feelings, healthy/unhealthy relationships, support networks and understanding the different types of abuse, and also empower parents to manage behaviours that can be associated with trauma in a safe way.

We have been working hard to build on the range of groupwork sessions we offer to parents and children. To that end, our specialist workers have devised two brand new in house programmes, 'Me and Others' and 'Me and Us'.

## Me and Others

*This programme aims to provide young people aged 11-16 with an opportunity to explore and learn about what relationships are all about.*

*It highlights what healthy and unhealthy relationships look like, our personal boundaries within these relationships and where to go if we need help regarding this.*

## Me and Us

*This programme aims to provide children aged 5-11 with an opportunity to explore and learn what relationships are all about and considers what makes a relationship healthy or unhealthy.*

*We want to equip children with the knowledge to make safe choices and have the confidence to share concerns with their trusted adults.*





Owen

*I didn't like it when  
Mummy and Daddy did  
loud voices*

Owen witnessed his father physically abuse his mother throughout his life and came into refuge aged 5. He was clearly unsettled and confused about why they had left his Daddy and toys behind. He began to hit his mum Carmen and became angry and aggressive regularly, which she struggled to deal with.

Our children's worker spent time with Owen playing and talking about his feelings. He describes his parents 'loud talking' which he didn't like. Owen was taught some breathing techniques to use when he was feeling cross. She also spent time talking to him about how sad it made his mum when he hit her. Further work was done around understanding healthy relationships and learning about how our body sensations can tell us we are unsafe.

Owen's mum Carmen was given the tools to be able to deal with Owen's aggressive behavior, using information from the 'Who's in Charge?' group work programme. She was taught about being consistent, giving consequences and helped to realise that the abuse and the impact that it has had on Owen was not her fault.

When Owen started school, shortly after coming to refuge, he didn't have many friends, preferring to spend play times on his own. 2 months later he has new friends he enjoys playing with. The school reported that he had 'grown in confidence' and that he was 'kind and conscientious towards his peers'. He rarely hits his mum now and is looking forward to going back to school after the summer.





# FUNDRAISING



Last year, our amazing supporters raised a whopping..... **£56,467 !!**



<https://www.givey.com/northamptontopariscyclingchallenge><https://www.givey.com/northamptontopariscyclingchallenge>

# SUPPORTERS

**wilson browne**  
SOLICITORS



Department for Levelling Up,  
Housing & Communities

**AVON**



**CLICK**  
ARTS FOUNDATION



**Sills & Betteridge**  
SOLICITORS



Kirsty Macfarlane  
Julia Hawes  
Julia Lucaciu  
Tania McKnight  
Mark Behan  
Lindsay Checkley  
Maxine Chapman

Desborough WI  
Liz Fairey  
Rachel Bennett  
Pam Adams  
Adrian Harr  
Helen Perumalla  
Heather Wilkins

Eydon Ladies  
Kimberlea  
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints  
Holy Cross Church, Daventry  
Project Linus  
Queens Park Dental Practice  
Claire Lovitt



CLEANING SERVICES  
**MAWSLEY**  
07787404435

Providing domestic and commercial  
Cleaning in Northamptonshire



West  
Northamptonshire  
Council



NORTHAMPTONSHIRE  
QUAKERS

We are extremely grateful for the ongoing support of two local benefactors who have gifted us a very generous donation for the last 3 years. This money covers over half of the yearly cost of providing support in our male refuge.



**pg** Personal  
Group

**jobcentreplus**



**Morrisons**  
Since 1899



We would like to make a special thank you to a local family who make a large regular donation which allows us to provide crisis vouchers for families who come into refuge with nothing.



# TRUSTEES REPORT

---

The Trustees, who are also Directors of the Northamptonshire Domestic Abuse Service (NDAS) charity for the purpose of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of 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).

## OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

### The objectives of the charity are:

- a) The relief of those in need who have experienced domestic abuse,
- b) The saving of lives, and
- c) The prevention or relief of poverty for people affected by domestic abuse.

To achieve these objectives, we:

- a) Provide for the relief of all victims, survivors, their children and other people who have been affected by domestic abuse, as defined in the Domestic Abuse Act 2021.
- b) Raise awareness and understanding of domestic abuse in all of its forms, in order to educate, prevent and eradicate.
- c) Work towards the eradication of domestic abuse and gender-based violence, recognising the impact of gender inequalities on victimisation.
- d) Provide places of safety where people and their children can be protected from abuse or persecution.
- e) Provide temporary accommodation, wrap around services and aftercare.
- f) Facilitate access to appropriate trauma-informed support including for those with complex needs.
- g) Provide services which include information, advice, signposting and referral, counselling, support and groupwork.
- h) Work with perpetrators of domestic abuse to reduce harm and offending.
- i) Engage the wider public through awareness raising and training.
- j) Deliver a service to all including men, women, non-binary clients and trans clients.
- k) Deliver a service across Northamptonshire to clients whether locally based or where they have relocated to Northamptonshire for safety reasons.

### The general aim of the charity is to:

Use the expertise gained over forty years of experience in providing for the relief of all victims, survivors, their children and other people who have been affected by domestic abuse; provide places of safety and temporary accommodation, wrap around services and aftercare; provide information, advice, signposting and referral, counselling, support and groupwork, including for those with complex needs; working towards services for perpetrators to reduce harm and offending; raise awareness and understanding of domestic abuse; undertake awareness raising and training; ensure the service is non-discriminatory and based on need and enabling independence.

The charity's achievements and plans for the future are detailed in the reports from the Chairperson and Chief Executive in previous annual reports and more information can be found at [www.ndas.co](http://www.ndas.co).

## STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

### Governing Document

Northamptonshire Domestic Abuse Service (NDAS) is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 22nd June 1994 and amended to allow for current governance in 1998, 2001, 2012, 2016 and 2024. Exemption from the requirement to use the word "Limited" has been obtained. It remains a registered charity. The Trustees have the discretion to admit to membership any person over the age of 18 years who supports the objects of the company.

# TRUSTEES REPORT

---

## **Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees**

Membership of the Board is by application. When considering co-opting members, the Board takes into consideration the requirements for any specialist skills that may be required to enhance its work.

The process for recruitment and appointment is laid down in the NDAS's policies and procedures.

## **Director Induction and Training**

New Trustees attend a Board meeting as an observer and receive an induction pack to brief them on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the committee and decision-making processes, the business plan and financial information relating to the performance of the charity. During an induction day, they meet key employees and other Trustees. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate internal and external training events where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

## **Organisational Structure**

The Board of Trustees, which can have between 5 and 15 members, administers the charity. The Board meets every 6 weeks. Dr Rachel Duncan is the Chief Executive, who works with the Board of Trustees to set the strategic direction and is responsible for its management and delivery and the income generation to support it. The senior management team comprises the Business, Operations and Finance Managers who oversee the day-to-day operations of the charity, with delegated authority, within a scheme of delegation approved by the Trustees, for operational matters including finance, employment and the delivery of services.

## **Key Management Remuneration**

The remuneration and pay of management roles are reviewed annually by the trustee's giving regards to similar roles elsewhere in the charity sector, cost of living using national indicator sets, and also considering the relationship with the salaries of other staff members.

## **Related Parties**

- The Charity has close working relationships with Orbit Heart of England Housing Association, PA Housing, Grand Union Housing, West Northamptonshire Council, North Northamptonshire Council and Northamptonshire Quakers who own the properties managed by the charity as refuge accommodation (alongside 2 flats owned by NDAS) for the purpose of provision of safe accommodation.
- A grant agreement is in place with West Northamptonshire Council but funded by WNC and NNC (applying DLUHC safe accommodation funding) in fulfilment of the Local Authority duties in the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 (Part 4 Section 57).
- A separate contract is held with North Northamptonshire Council but funded by both NNC and WNC (through DLUHC safe accommodation monies) that supports the Substance Misuse Refuge.

Multi-agency work with both statutory and voluntary agencies continues on a daily basis to enhance the services available to our mutual service users throughout the county. In particular, partner agencies include West and North Northamptonshire Councils, the Northamptonshire Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, Northamptonshire Police, Northamptonshire Integrated Care Board, Northamptonshire Children's Trust, EVE, Service Six, Northamptonshire Rape Crisis, S2S, Family Support Link, Voice and the Sunflower Centre.

## **RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Trustees have a risk management strategy that comprises:

- a quarterly review of the risks the charity may face.
- the establishment of system and procedures to mitigate those risks identified.

# TRUSTEES REPORT

---

- the implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.
- a nominated Trustee for each risk domain to provide additional accountability and assurance to the Board and providing support to the management team who have delegated day to day oversight of the risk register.

The Board of Trustees has conducted its own review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and systems have been established to mitigate those risks. External risks to funding have been considered and internal risks minimised by the use of procedures for the authorisation of all transactions and projects to ensure consistent quality for all operational aspects of the charity. These procedures are reviewed annually to ensure they still meet the needs of the charity.

Last year demand for our child services exceeded our resources and a management plan, which included temporary closure of the list, was implemented. The issue was retained as a risk and successful mitigation and some additional funding enabled the list to be reopened during the year; however, demand for our child services continues to grow and Dr Duncan will continue to work with commissioners to address the resources needed.

We continue to develop our health and safety compliance and monitoring, with a trustee championing that area of work. Recruitment for out of hours workers continue to be challenging, and the trustees have undertaken work during the year to address this.

## FINANCIAL REVIEW

### Reserves Policy

The total reserves as at 31 March 2024 were £615,071. The total funds as at 31 March 2024 were £878,662. The Board of Trustees have designated funds for use in 2023-2024 as per Note 10 to the accounts.

The Charity's unrestricted liquid reserves as at March 2024 were above the necessary reserves policy of 4 months running costs at the 2023-2024 level of expenditure. As at 31 March 2024 the amount of restricted funds held within the reserve policy is £ £24,647 in respect of grants for outstanding hardship funds, recourse to public funds and employing volunteer co-ordinator. The amount of reserves after making allowances for the restricted and designated reserve is £829,015, the designated are to be spent in 2024/25.

The Board of Trustees believe that it is good financial practice and incumbent on them for the charity to establish and maintain a level of reserves as insurance against future uncertainties and in order to take advantage of change and opportunities.

The Board of Trustees have reviewed their reserves policy. Maintaining the level of reserves at the equivalent of four months running costs is considered to be prudent to ensure that:

- the running costs of the charity are met in the event that the charity is forced through lack of funding to discontinue, and its affairs wound up;
- a project can be continued for a short term, when project funding is unexpectedly withdrawn or discontinued, in order to explore the possibility of maintaining the project in the longer term through an alternative funding stream;
- long term commitments which extend beyond the term of secured funding can be covered should continuation funding not be available e.g. lease commitments;
- one off pieces of work to promote or develop the charity's work can be undertaken as opportunities present themselves without the requisite funding being available.



# TRUSTEES REPORT

---

## Significant Events

This has been a very busy and productive year, with demand for our services increasing by 8.5% from the previous year, and an ambitious delivery plan. The Child Service has grown and there is a full programme of enabling courses for adults and children as well as the one-to-one work.

The Board has focussed on improving its own understanding of the frontline service with the introduction of alternating Thematic Board meetings where staff can showcase their work. The Board has also actively recruited more trustees with expertise in Health & Safety & Estates, law, Human Resources and Finance (Hon. Treasurer), and has also developed the role of Vice Chair. Several Board Development Sessions have been held, as well as Away Days, so that trustees can have training and discussions of greater depth. The Board has started work on a process for annual reviews of the Board, named officers and trustees and these will be done in the next year.

The CEO and her team led the work on applying for accreditation with the Women's Aid Federation Quality Standards; however, late in the process WAF suspended the process whilst it reviewed the standards. We hope to complete the process during 2024.

There was a focus on reviewing the functions of the Finance and Estates Office and the Health & Safety policy and process.

The Memorandum of Association was amended during the year to reflect changing practices that embraced diversity.

Performance information for the Board was further developed, including client feedback and how we responded to it. This information feeds directly into service provision and planning.

We also reviewed the Scheme of Delegation to ensure clarity and the Business Continuity Plan.

The Trustees greatly value and recognise the commitment and hard work of their staff. Although severely constrained by finances, we have continued to develop staff benefits and terms and conditions and a cost-of-living annual increase so that, although we cannot always match public and private sector funding, our aim is that staff will consider NDAS an excellent place to work.

## Plans for the Future

Our Income Generation Strategy will continue to be robustly implemented, with constant focus on diversified income, both through our funding applications to national and local statutory funds, bids for non-statutory grants, links with the private and commercial sector, local fundraising through individual and group effort and donations. We will continue to be innovative and creative in how we develop and deliver services, keeping updated with national initiatives and programmes and always aiming to achieve and surpass best practice.

In the next year we will be focussing on reviewing all elements of our service, including back-office functions, to ensure that what we are doing, we are doing well. The reviews will feed into the development during the year of our next Strategic Plan.

The Annual Delivery Plan, through which we achieve our strategic objectives, is always ambitious but overall achieved. It is carefully managed by the CEO and management team, with close oversight by the Board.

The plan focuses on delivering our 5 key priorities as outlined in our Strategic Plan:

1. NDAS is a great place to work – staff wellbeing offer, incentives and rewards, development and training;
2. NDAS is a responsive organisation – services that meet local needs including diversity, continue work to evidence our value, benefit and success, extend services to families, schools, perpetrators and volunteers;
3. NDAS is a responsive organisation – services that meet local needs including diversity, continue work to evidence our value, benefit and success, extend services to families, schools, perpetrators and volunteers;

# TRUSTEES REPORT

---

4. NDAS is a responsive organisation – services that meet local needs including diversity, continue work to evidence our value, benefit and success, extend services to families, schools, perpetrators and volunteers;
5. NDAS is a resilient organisation – deliver Income Strategy, improve resilience in senior team, maximise benefit from assets and investments, review and develop Governance arrangements;
6. NDAS is a professional organisation – communication plan, branding and merchandising, training offer, infrastructure that meets needs of the organisation;
7. NDAS is a well-respected and trusted local organisation – quality standards and accredited services.

## Fundraising Standards Information

The Fundraising Coordinator continues to play an important role in our Income Strategy. Whilst we will inevitably continue to rely on significant commissioning to help deliver statutory duties and local strategic plans, we continue to strive to achieve a significant level of independent funding that enables us to develop and deliver services to meet local needs, with flexibility to be innovative and creative, and recruit and retain excellent staff.

With fundraising focussing on income through small and medium grants, nevertheless, we continue to support and encourage individual and group fundraising activities and we will continue to hold and participate in profile and awareness raising events countywide, for which our staff, volunteers and supporters continue to go above and beyond to raise much needed funds.

We comply with the standards set out in the Code of Fundraising Practice, as set and applied by the Fundraising Regulator, and ensure all of our work includes treating people fairly and with respect, explaining our cause clearly and honestly, outlining what money raised can pay for; and in particular being sensitive to people who may be in vulnerable circumstances

There were no compliance issues, and we received no complaints related to fundraising activity in the last financial year. Compliance with the code is carefully monitored through robust supervision and line management and overview at Board level.

## Benefit Statement

The charity continues to work to identify, develop and deliver safe services to victims of domestic abuse and their children across Northamptonshire and provides refuge provision to victims countrywide. We provide 7 refuges and 2 independent flats across the county, including a specialist substance misuse refuge, a Diversity refuge with Diversity workers, and one of the very few male refuges in the country. We provide a 24/7 advice line, child centred services and outreach in accessible venues across the county. On our own and in partnership with other key services, we deliver a full programme of enabling courses aimed at adults, children and families and we hope to further develop work in schools during the next year. Through effective partnership working we influence domestic abuse strategy and planning. In line with our commitment to reduce offending and eliminate domestic abuse, we have been modestly successful in securing funding for Voluntary Perpetrator Programmes, and we are hopeful that this will be further developed in the next year.

Our services and facilities are monitored and reviewed by the Board of Trustees to ensure they remain fit for purpose and are provided appropriately to enable the furtherance of the charity's objectives and for the public benefit.

The Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

## Principal Funding Sources

The principal funding sources and how expenses have supported the key objectives of the charity for the year are detailed within this report and the financial statements.

Approved on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2024 by:

Glynis Bliss, MBE (Chair, Board of Trustees)



# STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

---

The trustees (who are also the directors of Northamptonshire Domestic Abuse Service for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

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 incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- 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 which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to 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.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

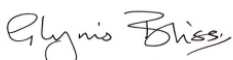
- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

## AUDITORS

The auditors, Shaw Gibbs (Audit) Limited, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

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

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2024 and signed on its behalf by: Glynis Bliss  
(Chair, Board of Trustees)



# REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

---

## TO THE TRUSTEES OF NORTHAMPTONSHIRE DOMESTIC ABUSE SERVICE

### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Northamptonshire Domestic Abuse Service (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

### Basis for opinion

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

### Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

### Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

# REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

---

## TO THE TRUSTEES OF NORTHAMPTONSHIRE DOMESTIC ABUSE SERVICE

### Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Trustees.

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

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

### Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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



# REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

## TO THE TRUSTEES OF NORTHAMPTONSHIRE DOMESTIC ABUSE SERVICE

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks within which the charity operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The laws and regulations we considered in this context were the Charities Act 2011, United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice and relevant Taxation legislation.

We identified the greatest risk of material impact on the financial statements from irregularities, including fraud, to be the override of controls by management and the understatement of revenue. Our audit procedures to respond to these risks included inquiries of management about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, sample testing on the posting of journals, reviewing meeting minutes, regulatory correspondence and professional fees, detailed substantive testing on the completeness of income, and reviewing accounting estimates for biases. We will also review the regulatory correspondence with the Charity Commission.

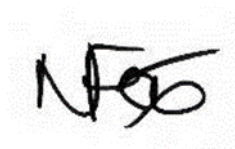
Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

These inherent limitations are particularly significant in the case of misstatement resulting from fraud as this may involve sophisticated schemes designed to avoid detection, including deliberate failure to record transactions, collusion or the provision of intentional misrepresentations.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

### Use of our report

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



Nicola Fox FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
for and on behalf of Shaw Gibbs (Audit) Limited  
Chartered Certified Accountants  
Statutory Auditor  
Eagle House  
28 Billing Road  
Northampton  
Northamptonshire  
NN1 5AJ

Date: 5 November 2024

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2024 INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	NOTE	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS £	RESTRICTED FUNDS £	TOTAL 2024 £	TOTAL 2023 £
<b>Incoming Resources</b>					
Donations and legacies	1	56,467	-	56,467	132,976
Investment Income	2	18,905	-	18,905	8,353
Other Incoming Resources	3	11,870	-	11,870	8,514
Incoming resources from charitable activities:					
Rent received		394,943	-	394,943	368,803
The National Lottery Com.Fund		-	-	-	25,999
West Northants Council Community Support Grant		373,273	-	373,273	-
NCC Contract Drug and Alcohol (now included within NNC and WNC funding)		-	-	-	130,000
MOJ Funding – General (now included within NNC and WNC funding)		-	-	-	396,978
North Northants Council Community Support Grant		334,609	-	334,609	-
North Northants Council - Children's DA support work		-	10,710	10,710	-
West Northants Council support work		-	31,525	31,525	-
PFCC Funding – BAME & Child		-	57,255	57,255	129,158
NNC Targeted support worker		-	15,000	15,000	-
Standing Together - Crossing pathways initiative		-	45,682	45,682	-
PFCC-Serious Violence Duty Funding		-	17,877	17,877	-
The National Lottery Community Fund		-	11,000	11,000	-
Northampton TC		-	-	-	2,284
NNC Household Support Fund		-	4,000	4,000	20,000
ASDA Foundation		-	-	-	1,000
Thomas Brington Foundation		-	10,000	10,000	10,000
Northants Police -PCC		-	-	-	10,000
Kingsthorpe Parish Community Grant		-	2,000	2,000	-
Global Giving Foundation Grant		3,957	-	3,957	-
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<b>1,194,024</b>	<b>205,049</b>	<b>1,399,073</b>	<b>1,244,065</b>
<b>Resources Expended</b>					
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Provision of refugees and supporting services	4	1,260,700	206,718	1,467,418	1,245,126
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<b>1,260,700</b>	<b>206,718</b>	<b>1,467,418</b>	<b>1,245,126</b>

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2024 INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Net incoming resources for the year	5	(66,676)	(1,669)	(68,345)	(1,061)
Transfers	10	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(66,676)	(1,669)	(68,345)	(1,061)
Reconciliation of Funds					
Balances brought forward at 1 April 2023		920,691	26,316	947,007	948,068
Balances carried forward at 31 March 2024		854,015	24,647	878,662	947,007

The company has no recognised gains or losses other than those included in the surplus above.

There were no discontinued operations.

The notes on the following pages form part of these financial statements.

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2023. INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	NOTE	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS £	RESTRICTED FUNDS £	Total 2023 £
<b>Incoming Resources</b>				
Donations and legacies	1	117,976	-	132,976
Investment income	2	8,353	-	8,353
Other Incoming Resources	3	8,514	-	8,514
Incoming resources from charitable activities:				
NCC Contract Drug & Alcohol		130,000	-	130,000
Rent Received		368,803	-	368,803
The National Lottery Com.Fund		-	25,999	25,999
DLUHC Funding- General		396,978	-	396,978
DLUHC Funding- BAME & Child		-	129,158	129,158
Northampton TC		-	2,284	2,284
North Northants Council		-	20,000	20,000
ASDA Foundation		-	1,000	1,000
Thomas Brington FG		-	10,000	10,000
Northants Police -PCC		-	10,000	10,000
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<b>1,045,624</b>	<b>198,441</b>	<b>1,244,065</b>
<b>Resources Expended</b>				
<b>Charitable activities</b>				
Provision of refuges and supporting services				
	4	1,055,499	189,627	1,245,126
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<b>1,055,499</b>	<b>189,627</b>	<b>1,245,126</b>
<b>Net incoming resources for the year</b>	5	<b>(9,875)</b>	<b>8,814</b>	<b>(1,061)</b>
<b>Balances brought forward at 1 April 2022</b>		<b>930,566</b>	<b>17,502</b>	<b>948,068</b>
<b>Balances carried forward at 31 March 2023</b>		<b>920,691</b>	<b>26,316</b>	<b>947,007</b>

The company has no recognised gains or losses other than those included in the surplus above.

There were no discontinued operations.

The notes on the following pages form part of these financial Statements.

# BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2024

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE DOMESTIC ABUSE SERVICE. COMPANY NUMBER 2978532

	NOTE	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS £	RESTRICTED FUNDS £	TOTAL 2024 £	TOTAL 2023 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>					
Tangible Assets	7	238,944	-	238,944	237,943
<b>Current Assets</b>					
Debtors, Prepayment and Accrued Income	8	62,154	22,841	84,995	53,625
Cash at bank and in hand		574,628	107,090	681,718	679,477
		<b>636,782</b>	<b>129,931</b>	<b>766,713</b>	<b>733,102</b>
<b>Creditors</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	9	21,711	105,284	126,995	24,038
<b>Net current assets</b>		<b>615,071</b>	<b>24,647</b>	<b>639,718</b>	<b>709,064</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>854,015</b>	<b>24,647</b>	<b>878,662</b>	<b>947,007</b>
<b>Creditors</b>					
Amounts falling due after more than one year		-	-	-	-
<b>Net assets</b>	10	<b>854,015</b>	<b>24,647</b>	<b>878,662</b>	<b>947,007</b>
<b>Funds</b>					
Restricted funds					
NCC Hardship (1)		-	-	-	1,444
NCC Hardship (2)		-	1,425	1,425	4,872
Thomas Brington Foundation		-	2,650	2,650	10,000
NCC Hardship (3)		-	9,977	9,977	10,000
Community Fund		-	1,150	1,150	-
Goodwill Solutions		-	7,445	7,445	-
		-	2,000	2,000	-
Designated funds					
Refuge refurbishment		25,000	-	25,000	25,000
Other unrestricted funds		829,015	-	829,015	895,691
<b>Total Funds</b>		<b>854,015</b>	<b>24,647</b>	<b>878,662</b>	<b>947,007</b>



# BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2024

---

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE DOMESTIC ABUSE SERVICE. COMPANY NUMBER 2978532

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2024 and were signed on its behalf by: Glynis Bliss (Chair, Board of Trustees)



# CASH FLOW STATEMENT

For the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities</b>	<b>(7,690)</b>	<b>(23,562)</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(8,974)	(239,091)
Interest received	18,905	8,353
Sale of Tangible Fixed Asset	-	-
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities</b>	<b>9,931</b>	<b>(230,738)</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>		
Repayments of borrowings	-	-
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</b>	<b>2,241</b>	<b>(254,300)</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period</b>	<b>679,477</b>	<b>933,777</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period</b>	<b>681,718</b>	<b>679,477</b>
<b><u>Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash inflow from operating activities</u></b>		
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period	(68,345)	(1,061)
Depreciation charge	7,972	6,846
Profit/Loss on disposal of Fixed Asset	-	-
Finance income	(18,905)	(8,353)
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	(31,370)	1,923
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors	102,958	(22,917)
	<b>(7,690)</b>	<b>(23,562)</b>

# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

## ACCOUNTING POLICIES For the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

### a. Basis of preparing the financial statements

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

Northamptonshire Domestic Abuse Service is an incorporated charity limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. The charity's number and registered office address can be found on the Company Information page.

### b. Taxation

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

### c. Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

### d. Financial instruments

Cash and cash equivalents in the balance sheet comprise cash at banks and in hand and short-term deposits with an original maturity date of three months or less.

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income under administrative expenses.

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the entity after deducting all of its financial liabilities.

Where the contractual obligations of financial instruments are equivalent to a similar debt instrument, those financial instruments are classed as financial liabilities. Financial liabilities are presented as such in the balance sheet. Finance costs and gains or losses relating to financial liabilities are included in the profit and loss account. Finance costs are calculated so as to produce a constant rate of return on the outstanding liability.

### e. Recognition of Incoming Resources

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when:

- the Charity becomes entitled to the resources
- the Trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

### f. Donations and Gifts

All monetary donations are included in full in the statement of financial activities when receivable.

# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

---

## ACCOUNTING POLICIES For the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

### g. Investment Income

Investment income is recognised when receivable.

### h. Grants Receivable

Revenue grants are credited as incoming resources when they are receivable provided conditions for receipt have been complied with.

### i. Liability Recognition

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the Charity to pay out resources

### j. Resources Expended

Expenditure is allocated in the statement of financial activities between restricted funds and unrestricted funds and is further analysed between charitable activities and governance costs.

### k. Fund Accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes laid down by the donor. Expenditure for those purposes is charged to the fund, together with a fair allocation of overheads and support costs.

Unrestricted funds are incoming resources received and generated for expenditure on the general objectives of the charity. Where appropriate, funds are designated by the trustees for specific projects or anticipated major expenditure.

### l. Fixed Assets

Fixed assets are stated at cost, less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Where parts of an item of property, plant and equipment have different useful lives, they are accounted for as separate items of property, plant and equipment.

Depreciation methods, useful lives and residual values are reviewed at each balance sheet date. The selection of these residual values and estimated lives requires the exercise of judgement. The trustees are required to assess whether there is an indication of impairment to the carrying value of assets. In making that assessment, judgements are made in estimating value use. The trustees consider that the individual carrying values of assets are supportable by their value in use.

Depreciation is provided at the following rates to write off all tangible fixed assets with the exception of freehold land, over their expected useful lives.

Office Equipment	15% straight line
Other Equipment	15% straight line

# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

---

## ACCOUNTING POLICIES For the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

### m. Operating Leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to statement of financial activities on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

### n. Intangible Income

Intangible income, which comprises donated services, is recognised in the notes to the accounts at a valuation which is an estimate of the financial cost borne by the donor where such a cost is quantifiable and measurable.

### o. Presentational Currency

The presentation currency of the financial statements is the Pound Sterling (£)

### p. Going Concern

The Trustees have considered a period of 12 months from the date of approval of these financial statements and have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the annual statements.

### q. Significant judgement and estimates

The preparation of financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the company accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements are disclosed within the individual accounting policies above.

### r. Government grant policy

Government grants are recognized in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

For the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

	UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED	TOTAL	TOTAL
	FUNDS	FUNDS	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
<b>1. Donations and Legacies</b>				
Donations	56,467	-	56,467	82,976
West Northants Council	-	-	-	20,000
East Northants Council				15,000
South Northants Council CSP	-	-	-	15,000
	<b>56,467</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>56,467</b>	<b>132,976</b>
<b>2. Investment Income</b>			18,905	8,353
			<b>18,905</b>	<b>8,353</b>
<b>3. Other Incoming Resources</b>				
Student Fees			4,700	3,400
Training			7,035	4,935
Misc. Sales			135	179
			<b>11,870</b>	<b>8,514</b>
	UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED	TOTAL	TOTAL
	FUNDS	FUNDS	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
<b>4. Resources Expended</b>				
<b>Charitable Activities</b>				
Salaries and related costs	653,465	178,051	831,516	711,513
Employer pension	11,457	3,195	14,652	12,403
Rent and rates	92,052	-	92,052	83,566
Heat and Light	85,393	-	85,393	30,461
Telephone	19,257	57	19,314	14,238
Insurance, repairs and maintenance	40,000	-	40,000	37,126
Hire of rooms	1,707	-	1,707	1,930
Cleaning materials and supplies	1,147	-	1,147	454
Furniture and equipment	2,106	7,162	9,268	15,283
Television rental and TV licences	2,120	-	2,120	2,226
Motor vehicle and travel expenses	14,029	-	14,029	13,287
Equipment servicing	2,207	-	2,207	2,303
Depreciation	7,972	-	7,972	6,846
Sundry expenses	2,534	-	2,534	8,070
IT, Stationery, books and postage	34,530	-	34,530	34,934
Consultancy/Agency	9,476	-	9,476	22,517



# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

For the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS £	RESTRICTED FUNDS £	TOTAL 2024 £	TOTAL 2023 £
<b>Resources Expended (cont.)</b>				
Training and consultancy	9,385	-	9,385	7,531
Advertising	107	-	107	578
Interpreting expenses	4,588	-	4,588	2,912
Cleaning	6,352	-	6,352	4,587
HA Management Charges	100,132	-	100,132	87,626
Children's work resources	603	-	603	1,273
Counselling Therapist	8,730	-	8,730	10,546
Refuge refurbishment	25,697	-	25,697	16,017
DBS checks and Recruitment	1,250	51	1,301	1,108
Multi Occupancy Licence	-	-	-	735
No Recourse to public funds	-	10,997	10,997	-
Hardship Expenditure	-	7,205	7,205	2,024
	<b>1,136,296</b>	<b>206,718</b>	<b>1,343,014</b>	<b>1,132,094</b>
<b>Governance Costs of the Charity</b>				
Auditor's remuneration – for audit work	6,066	-	6,066	5,100
Auditor's remuneration–non audit work	360	-	360	-
Professional fees	20	-	20	1,352
	<b>6,446</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,446</b>	<b>6,452</b>
<b>Support Costs allocated to activities</b>				
Staff costs	106,491	-	106,491	96,344
Employer pension	2,205	-	2,205	1,954
Office expenses	8,689	-	8,689	7,673
Bank charges	573	-	573	609
	<b>117,958</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>117,958</b>	<b>106,580</b>
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>	<b>1,260,700</b>	<b>206,718</b>	<b>1,467,418</b>	<b>1,245,126</b>
<b>5. Net Income/(Expenditure)</b>			<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
			<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):				

# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

For the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

Auditor's remuneration for audit work	6,066	5,100
Auditor's remuneration–non audit work	360	-
Depreciation – owned assets	7,972	6,846
	<b>14,398</b>	<b>11,946</b>
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>6. Staff Costs and Trustees Remuneration</b>	£	£
Wages and salaries	870,814	748,482
Social security costs	66,023	58,997
Pension costs	16,857	14,358
	<b>953,694</b>	<b>821,837</b>

The average monthly head count was 39 (2023:34) and the average number of employees was 39 (2023:28) on a full-time basis.

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60k (2023: nil).

No Trustees received any remuneration in the year.

During the year one Trustee received expenses of £36 only (2023: nil)

The total employee remuneration of key management personnel was £59,789 (2023: £55,360).

<b>7. Tangible Fixed Assets</b>	<b>OFFICE EQUIPMENT £</b>	<b>OTHER EQUIPMENT £</b>	<b>LEASEHOLD BUILDINGS £</b>	<b>TOTAL £</b>
At 1 April 2023	109,488	74,676	233,925	418,089
Additions	7,382	1,592	-	8,974
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2024	<b>116,870</b>	<b>76,268</b>	<b>233,925</b>	<b>427,063</b>

# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

For the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

## Depreciation

At April 2023	106,093	69,375	4,678	180,146
Charge for the year	1,865	1,428	4,679	7,972
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2024	<b>107,958</b>	<b>70,803</b>	<b>9,357</b>	<b>188,118</b>
Net Book Value				
At 31 March 2024	8,912	5,464	224,568	238,944
At 31 March 2023	3,396	5,301	229,246	237,943

## 8. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Debtors	26,865	11,950
Prepayments and accrued income	58,130	41,675
	<b>84,995</b>	<b>53,625</b>

## 9. Creditors: amounts due less than one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Accruals and deferred income	126,995	24,038
	<b>126,995</b>	<b>24,038</b>

The deferred income at the Balance sheet date relates to invoiced contracted services during the previous year that have not been completed.

	2024	2023
Deferred income as at 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2023	-	£29,200
Income deferred in the current year	£116,242	-
Deferred income released in the year	£10,912	£29,200
Deferred income as at 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024	£105,330	-

# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

For the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

10. Funds	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>		
General fund	829,015	895,691
Designated funds:		
Refuge Refurbishment	25,000	25,000
Sale of Head Office	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>854,015</b>	<b>920,691</b>
<b>Restricted funds</b>		
Northampton Town Council	-	1,444
NNC – Hardship Fund (1)	1,425	4,872
HSF Winter Grant (2)	2,650	10,000
Thomas Brington Foundation	9,977	10,000
NNC – Hardship Fund (3)	1,150	-
Community Grant	7,445	-
Kingsthorpe PC	2,000	-
	<b>24,647</b>	<b>26,316</b>

# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

For the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

## Movement in Funds

### Year ended 31 March 2024

<u>Funds</u>	<u>AT 1 APRIL</u>	<u>INCOMING RESOURCES</u>	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	<u>TRANSFERS</u>	<u>AT 31 MARCH</u>
<b>Unrestricted:</b>					
General	895,691	1,194,024	(1,235,700)	(25,000)	829,015
	895,691	1,194,024	(1,235,700)	(25,000)	829,015
<b>Designated</b>					
Refuge refurbishment	25,000	-	(25,000)	25,000	25,000
	25,000	-	(25,000)	25,000	25,000
<b>Total Unrestricted Funds</b>	920,691	1,194,024	(1,260,700)	-	854,015
<b>Restricted:</b>					
North Northants Council - Children's DA support	-	10,710	(10,710)	-	-
West Northants Council - Children's DA support		31,525	(31,525)	-	-
PFCC Funding BAME & child		57,255	(57,255)	-	-
North Northants Council - Target support worker	-	15,000	(15,000)	-	-
Standing Together - Crossing pathways		45,682	(45,682)	-	-
Northampton Town Council	1,444	-	(1,444)	-	-
NNC Hardship Fund (1)	4,872	-	(3,447)	-	1,425
NNC Hardship Fund (2)	10,000	-	(7,350)	-	2,650
Thomas Brington Foundation	10,000	10,000	(10,023)	-	9,977
NNC Hardship Fund (3)	-	4,000	(2,850)	-	1,150
Community Fund	-	11,000	(3,555)	-	7,445
PFCC & serious Violence Duty Funding	-	17,877	(17,877)	-	-
Kingsthorpe Parish LG	-	2,000	-	-	2,000
	26,316	205,049	(206,718)	-	24,647
<b>Total Funds</b>	947,007	1,399,073	(1,467,418)	-	878,662

#### Designated

The Refuge refurbishment is funding for planned decoration, replacement carpets on a cyclic rota of all refuges. The Transfer balance relates to expenditure of decoration in a particular refuge.

#### Restricted

North and West Northants Council is in respect of specific children's work in Northamptonshire.

PFCC Funding is specific for provision BAME and Children work



# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

For the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

North Northants Council is in respect of specific perpetrator work .

Standing Together pathways is in respect of health provisions for victims of DA in local region.

Northampton Town Council grant is in respect of purchasing move on packs for outgoing clients.

NNC Hardship 1,2 & 3, funds relate to service charge relief and winter clothing/bedding for NNC area clients.

Thomas Brington Foundation relates to funding for clients with no recourse to public funding.

Community fund grant is specific for funding of our Volunteer Co-ordinator post , over a 3 year period.

PFCC Serious Violence Duty Funding is specific for perpetrator work.

Kingsthorpe Parish Community grant is in respect of rear garden grounds work at one of our refuges

in Northampton, to reestablish a car park area.

## Movement in Funds

### Year ended 31 March 2023

<u>Funds</u>	<u>AT 1 APRIL</u>	<u>INCOMING RESOURCES</u>	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	<u>TRANSFERS</u>	<u>AT 31 MARCH</u>
<b>Unrestricted:</b>					
General	738,376	1,045,624	(1,039,483)	(151,174)	895,691
	738,376	1,030,624	(1,024,483)	(151,704)	895,691
<b>Designated</b>					
Refuge refurbishment	25,000	-	(16,016)	16,016	25,000
Sale Of Head Office	167,190	-	-	(167,190)	-
	192,190	-	(16,016)	(151,174)	25,000
<b>Total Unrestricted Funds</b>	930,566	1,045,624	(1,055,499)	-	920,691
<b>Restricted:</b>					
MOJ Funding BAME & Child	-	129,158	(129,158)	-	-
PCC Northants Police Funding	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Northampton Town Council	-	2,284	(840)	-	1,444
NNC Hardship Fund (1)	-	10,000	(5,128)	-	4,872
ASDA Foundation	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-
NNC Hardship Fund (2)	-	10,000	-	-	10,000
Thomas Brington Foundation	-	10,000	-	-	10,000
Scott Bader	3,839	-	(3,839)	-	-
National Lottery Community Fund -Ace Project	3,663	25,999	(29,662)	-	-
Goodwill Solutions	10,000	-	(10,000)	-	-
	17,502	198,441	(189,627)	-	26,316
<b>Total Funds</b>	948,068	1,244,065	(1,245,126)	-	947,007

# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

For the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

## Designated

The refuge refurbishment is funding for planned decoration, replacement carpets on a cyclic rota of all refuges.

The transfer balance relates to expenditure of decoration in a particular refuge.

MHCLG is contract funding specific Domestic abuse service as a whole.

The sale of Head Office proceeds were used in 2022/23 to purchase two new flats.

## Restricted

MOJ Funding is specific for provision BAME and Children work.

PCC Northants Police was used to partly fund our Training Co-ordinator role.

Northampton Town Council grant is in respect of purchasing move on packs for outgoing clients.

NNC Hardship funds relate to service charge relief and winter clothing/bedding For NNC area clients.

Thomas Brington Foundation relates to funding for clients with no recourse to public funding.

ASDA Foundation grant relates to service charge relief for clients in WNC area.

Scott Bader grant is funding for providing a counselling service to our clients, this work has now concluded.

National Lottery Community (ACE) grant is funding to work in partnership with other agencies to work with children affected by Domestic Abuse, this work is planned was completed in 2nd quarter of 2022/23.

Goodwins Solutions is a grant specific to help fund a Children Support Worker.

## **11. Related Party Transactions**

There were no related party transactions during the year (2023: 0)

## **12. Called up Share Capital**

The company is limited by guarantee and does not have any issued share capital. Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company (should this be wound up during membership or within one year after ceasing to be a member), for payment of debts and liabilities of the Company contracted before ceasing to be a member. The contribution payable is limited to a sum not exceeding £1.

## **13. Contingent Liabilities and Capital Commitments**

The company had no contingent liabilities as at 31 March 2024 or 31 March 2023.

## **14. Leasing Agreements**

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

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Expiring</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Within 1 year	52,893	60,018
2- 5 years	2,776	3,886
<b>Total</b>	<b>55,669</b>	<b>63,904</b>

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

---

**Northamptonshire Domestic  
Abuse Service**

Registered Charity No: 1070741  
Registered Company No: 2978532  
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**Registered Office address:**

Keep House  
124 High Street  
Wollaston  
Wellingborough  
NN29 7RJ

Telephone Number: 0300 0120154

Email address: [info@ndas.co](mailto:info@ndas.co)

Website: [www.ndas.co](http://www.ndas.co)

**Auditors:**

Shaw Gibbs (Audit) Limited  
Eagle House, 28 Billing Road  
Northampton, NN1 5AJ

**Bankers:**

Barclays Bank  
PO Box 23  
Northampton  
NN1 4YD

**Investment Management:**

CCLA Investment Management Ltd  
COIF Charities Deposit Fund  
One Angel Lane  
London  
EC4R 3AB

United Trust bank Ltd  
One Ropemaker Street  
London  
EC2Y 9AW

**Solicitors:**

Wilson Browne Solicitors  
60b Oxford Street  
Wellingborough  
Northants  
NN8 4JJ

**Company Secretary:**

Dr Rachel Duncan

**Chief Executive:**

Dr Rachel Duncan

**Board of Trustees & Directors:**

Glynis Bliss (Chairperson)  
Jo Burns (Vice-Chair)  
David Loyd-Hearn  
Beverley McConnell  
Jennifer Moles- Resigned 25<sup>th</sup> August 2023  
Rufia Ashraf  
Adele Knott- resigned 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023  
Stuart Stevens- resigned 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023  
Lynda Cox  
Eric Lennox – resigned 8<sup>th</sup> July 2024  
Mark Behan  
Andrea Gomm- appointed 14<sup>th</sup> June 2023  
Felicity Lister- appointed 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024  
Sarah Woodward- appointed 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2024  
Shahnaz Zaman- appointed 20<sup>th</sup> June 2024  
Jaime O'Beirne- appointed 11<sup>th</sup> September 2024