

**VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM LIMITED
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**



Charity registration number: 1075995

Company registration number: 02222190

VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM LIMITED
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM LIMITED
CHARITY REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Charity registration number	1075995
Company registration number	02222190
Trustees	<p>S Walls - Chair</p> <p>J Barber - Treasurer</p> <p>N Leatherland</p> <p>A Ahmed</p> <p>J Mallinder</p> <p>C Batchford</p> <p>J Dalton</p> <p>E Senior</p> <p>S Whittle (Resigned 13 December 2023)</p> <p>R Khan (Resigned 19 October 2023)</p> <p>R Savage</p> <p>S Lacey (Appointed 24 November 2023)</p>
Partner Advisors	<p>Cllr. D Sheppard</p> <p>J Martin</p> <p>F Bowden</p>
Secretary	S Hussain
Senior Management Team	
Chief Executive	S Hussain
Finance Manager	<p>G Boylin (Resigned 9 May 2023)</p> <p>G Jones (Appointed 14 July 2023 Resigned 24 January 24)</p> <p>K O'Reilly (Appointed 28 May 2024)</p>
Director of Services (Infrastructure)	D Plumtree
Director of Services (projects)	H Thornton
HR Manager	A Cox
Registered Office	<p>The Spectrum</p> <p>Coke Hill</p> <p>Rotherham</p> <p>S60 2HX</p>
Auditor	<p>Hentons</p> <p>Northgate</p> <p>118 North Street</p> <p>Leeds</p> <p>LS2 7PN</p>

VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM LIMITED
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (Including Directors Report)
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The Trustees present their report and the audited financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published in October 2019.

Since the charity qualifies as small under section 383, the strategic report required of medium and large companies under The Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Director's Report) Regulations 2013 is not required.

Trustees of the charity

The directors of the charitable company are its trustees for the purposes of charity law. The trustees who have served during the year and since the year end are detailed on page 1.

Objectives and activities

The full picture of all objectives and activities provided and achieved during the year is detailed in our Annual Impact Report which shows the progress during the year and how we have achieved our Vision, Mission and Values. It shows how we support the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) in Rotherham to make a difference through our 3 key strategic aims of:

- Information and Influence
- Strengthen and Support.
- Efficiency and Effectiveness

Information and Influence:

- Promote the VCS and provide strategic representation and leadership
- Communicate relevant, high quality, timely knowledge and information
- Broker networking, collaboration, co-ordinated voice amongst the VCS
- Provide evidence and intelligence base, share learning and best practice and influence change

Strengthen and Support

- Provide specialised quality support services to meet the diverse needs of the VCS
- Support and broker volunteering, active citizenship, a skilled professional workforce
- Improve and maximise access to a wide range of income and funding opportunities
- Increase and improve VCS delivery, efficiency, added value, governance and performance

Efficiency and Effectiveness:

- Ensure we have effectively managed and governed, responsive and accountable to members
- Maintain our independence, achieve financial sustainability and deliver innovative services
- Demonstrate our effectiveness, value for money and commitment to continuous improvement
- Encourage and develop partnership working within the VCS, our communities and partners

Public benefit statement

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the Charities Act 2011, referring to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, "Charities and Public Benefit".

Voluntary Action Rotherham's activities benefits the public of Rotherham Metropolitan Borough and its surrounding area, in particular the advancements of education, the protection of health, the relief of poverty, distress and sickness. The Trustees ensure that the charitable company's objectives support the public of the third sector helping organisations make a greater impact for all their beneficiaries.

Achievements

We launched the Rotherham Community Lottery, in partnership with Gatherwell the Lottery operator at our AGM in November 2023. The Community Lottery is an innovative way of VCS groups raising funds for their good causes and enables supporters and residents to direct part of their contributions to their chosen VCS group. We know that raising funds and income is important for VCS groups; especially funds that can help fund their core costs. There are over fifty VCS groups who have signed up to be the individual 'Good Causes' and to date many thousands of pounds have been raised.

We know that in July 2022 Integrated Care Boards (ICB) replaced local Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG). For a number of years, what was the (Rotherham) CCG commissioned VAR to provide a number of services, including the Rotherham Social Prescribing Service. We have worked closely with a number of partners across our ICB footprint of South Yorkshire (SY) to ensure that the VCS at this SY sub regional level are 'joined up' and co-ordinated to develop a strong partnership with the SY Integrated Care System (ICS). VAR has been a member of the SY VCSE (ICB) Alliance Steering Group, and has throughout the year, supported VCSE engagement and partnership working. VAR CEO is a member of the South Yorkshire, Integrated Care Board, as well as a member of the ICB System Leadership Executive until the Summer of 2023. VAR hosted the employment of an Engagement Worker on behalf of the SY VCSE Alliance; whose role it was to support VCSE groups in each of the SY four Places to participate in and create partnerships opportunities. The VCSE across SY and Rotherham have been enabled to support the development of the SY One Workforce strategy. There have been ICB Executive partnership sessions in the SY Places, and VAR hosted the Rotherham session in February 2024. We feel that the relationship between the VCSE and the Integrated Care System, which also includes the Integrated Care Partnership (ICP) is really important to foster and develop, as we know the Public Sector is stretched and does not have all the 'answers'. This is particularly the case when we look at the issues of Health Inequalities and the wider ambition towards more preventative services and support within our communities.

On behalf of the Rotherham VCSE, VAR has been a member of the Rotherham Place Board, and related partnership arrangements; including a participant on the Rotherham ICB Place Committee. We see this as part of our strategic role to develop partnership opportunities between the stakeholders; as well as linking in the Rotherham VCSE and partners to Rotherham's priorities.

Health and Well Being have continued to be a strong theme throughout the year. VAR has a place on the Rotherham Health and Well Being Board, the Safer Rotherham Partnership, the Strategic Estates Group and the overarching Rotherham Together Partnership Strategic Group.

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During this year, we successfully tendered for the new Rotherham Social Prescribing Service (SPS). The Rotherham SPS supports patients identified through the GP case management of long-term conditions pathways. Crucially a significant proportion of the SPS funds are for services from VCSE groups, micro-commissioned that enable the social prescription and support of the patients, by VCSE providers. We know there remains a gap between the resources required by VCSE to meet the needs; and what is actually available. Nevertheless, Rotherham is one of the very few places in the country where there are funds allocated to the actual provision of the social prescriptions. We know through the Rotherham Social Prescribing Service, during the year, close to 1500 individuals benefited from the service.

The end of this year, saw the re-tendering process for the Rotherham Social Prescribing Service (SPS). We are pleased to report that VAR was successful for the tender process, and we now have a new agreement for a period of up to 5 years. The overall annual agreement value was reduced, and an additional pathway was added; this inevitably means we cannot resource the SPS model to the same extent, going forward. The pressure on public sector finances is nothing new; and we know for a number of services the need and acuity in communities is increasing. With some of the proposed changes within the NHS, it appears that the case management of long terms conditions pathway for patients, is likely to be reviewed and a revised concept of anticipatory care model to be developed and implemented.

We saw the positive recognition of Social Prescribing, in a number of ways. This included the opening of other 'pathways' adopting a 'social prescribing' approach. As part of a South Yorkshire pilot, we saw a Social Prescribing pathway for stroke patients. This work has been successful in Rotherham, and we know the service has been commissioned for a further year. The funding includes a budget that enables some of the barriers to patients progress, to be mitigated.

We worked with partners and stakeholders to develop a new pathway for appropriate patients on the severe mental illness (SMI) pathway. The Mental Health Community Connector service will recruit a number of Community Connectors (who will have a similar role to the SPS Advisors and PCN Link Workers) and there will be a service manager.

Building on previous work that VAR co-ordinated across Rotherham and other areas, we were successful in securing funding relating to raising awareness of the signs and symptoms of cancer in target communities. Data shows that within some geographic and thematic communities some people are less likely to present in a timely way for cancer diagnosis and treatment. We employed a project co-ordinator who will largely work with targeted and affected communities, particularly linking in with local voluntary and community groups, and reach into and engagement of their service users. The programme includes an enabling budget, that we can use flexibly to support and resource VCS groups, to deliver the work.

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VAR and the VCS have been part of the partnership approach for the delivery of the national Family Hubs programme. Although the Rotherham Family Hubs programme has been led by the local authority; there has been a recognition that the offer in localities, neighbourhoods and communities, needs to be rooted and available in places where families and individuals already engage with or may do so more readily and effectively. Working with the local authority VAR has engaged with a range of voluntary and community groups to bring forward and strengthen the offer to families across the Rotherham Borough. This work identifies and develops the outcomes we want to achieve, that can be available and delivered by VCS community organisations and venues. Targeted funding has been made available to VCS organisations to provide new, and enhance existing services. The Family Hubs work has also seen the recruitment and support of a number of volunteer roles to support a range of services.

There has been national recognition and better understanding that clinical services for people with drug and alcohol abuse are not the sole answer for longer term and stable recovery. Lived Experience organisations and a holistic lens to the needs of those residents experiencing drug and alcohol are required and important for longer term recovery and well-being. VAR has received funding to develop and support the 'Building Recovery in Communities' (BRIC) work. As well as a programme manager, the funding enables engagement of target communities to develop community offers that will support, enable and sustain recovery. Critically the Rotherham BRIC programme includes resources for VCS organisations to provide the community-based support services. The aims of the programme include recruiting and supporting recovery champions and supporting the development of a Lived Experience Recovery Organisation, which has a recognised framework for its establishment.

During this year, our partnership Flux work (Arts Council England, Creative People and Places -CPP Programme) has continued and accelerated delivery. This has meant that there has been significant work within the target communities, both thematic and geographical. It is not possible to justice all the work of Flux, but to state, that one of the highlights included the 'Threads That Connect Us' exhibition Threads That Connect Us - Exhibition - Flux Rotherham held at the Rotherham Minster and the Riverside Library. This year, also saw a change for the role of the independent Chair of Flux. A huge thank you to Professor Ben Walmsley, for all his work for Flux; Ben stepped down earlier during the year, and we were delighted to announce that Auriel Majumdar agreed to be the new Flux Chair from the start of 2024. The Flux funding is currently to March 2025, and we anticipate an extension year application process, as well as a further CPP competitive application round.

Part of VARs core work with the VCS is funded by the local authority, via a 3-year grant agreement. The start of this year, saw the securing of a further 3-year agreement. This Single Infrastructure Grant (SIG) was in the early years approx. double the value of the current annual amount. Some years ago the SIG funding was split to include other VCS Infrastructure organisations (5) and for one reason or another those arrangements did not continue. The SIG resource contribute to our nationally accredited volunteer centre work, the core VCS comms and engagement and group support work. The SIG work ties into a number of other areas, including the work in supporting migration, the Food in Crisis Partnership, the Humanitarian Hub and working in partnership for VCS groups to utilise the Household Support fund, to support those most in need.

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VAR has continued to engage with the Rotherham Together Partnership (RTP); which brings a range of partners together to develop and deliver work through a collaborative and collective approach. The themes of the RTP plan, include: Building Stronger Communities, Health and wellbeing, Climate and environment, Inclusive economy and A place to be proud of. We have seen a number of RTP Showcase Events, throughout the year, with strong participation from VCS organisations, highlighting the work and progress of the RTP plan. It was brilliant to see in March this year that the RTP Showcase event was held at the fantastic new Grimm and Co Apothecary (Children's literacy Charity, and so, so much more) based in a beautifully converted building opposite the Rotherham Town Hall.

This year saw the 20th anniversary celebratory and achievements event of the Children Young People and Families (CYP&F) Consortium. The Consortium have much to be proud of and their vital work has supported countless thousands of beneficiaries in Rotherham over the years.

VAR Board agreed to donate funds again this year to the Rotherham Christmas Toy Appeal (Families First Charity); as well as a donation to the Food in Crisis Partnership.

This year also saw the return of the RTP Community Achievement Awards (CAA), in the tried and tested format. The RTP CAA places a spotlight on and recognises the work and contributions of the VCS and volunteers to Rotherham.

We have continued to provide: high quality communications, ensuring the VCS is well informed and engaged. Our weekly VAR bulletin continues to be important to organisations and individuals. Alongside this our monthly members newsletter has provided up to date information about our support services and further highlighted opportunities for the VCS. The VAR website remains an important method for VAR members to be updated on news and event information. We continue to work in collaboration through partnerships, networks and consortiums, promoting the work and the successes of the VCS and feeding back the sectors requirements to stakeholders.

We have continued to provide: quality services ensuring the VCS has access to information, advice and support it needs, when it needs it. VAR directly distributed £923,050 in grants to approximately 62 organisations as well as being able to support the sector in securing new funding, enhancing their organisations existence and development. Grant distributions are awarded in line with clear guidelines which ensure they reflect the charity's objects and thereby advancing public benefit. During the year we have been able to support organisations through grant giving for various objectives, including mental health provision, provision of food to support families in need, programmes of activities to aid with cost of living and the Social Prescribing micro commissioned services.

We have continued to: be responsive and accountable to our members, representing the VCS, supporting and encouraging close partnership working. We have continued to diversify our income by providing professional and affordable services including Community Accountancy, Payroll Bureau Services, HR Advice and Support and Financial Management.

We maintain our vision for a strong, vibrant voluntary and community action.

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We have engaged both Rotherham and South Yorkshire VCS and partners, as part of the relatively new arrangements of Integrated Care Boards. It remains important for VAR to work with Health services and other stakeholders to ensure VCS are part of the collaboration and delivery of a range of appropriate services.

Performance Management Framework/ Risk Action Plan

The Trustees, in line with the agreed PMF, which sets out and assesses all major risks to the organisation, reviewed the analysis at regular intervals five key performance areas with agreed KPI's and RAG ratings were set, and those areas are:

- Finance and Operational Management
- Governance and Strategic Leadership
- Service Delivery Areas
- Staffing and Volunteers
- Reputational Management/ Satisfaction

Financial review (including reserves policy)

As of 31 March 2024, the consolidated statement of financial activities shows income for the year of £2,986,641 (2023: £3,562,633). Expenditure for the year was £3,223,078 (2023: £3,453,639). At year end, the SOFA is showing a surplus of £82,555 (2023: £59,230), against our core activity (unrestricted funds). There were no transfers between funds (2023: £nil). There is a net movement of a deficit of £318,992 (2023: surplus £49,764) on restricted funds, this is driven by projects being funded in advance.

The SOFA includes income of £21,800 (2023: £22,419) and expenditure of £21,800 (2023: £22,419) relating to our trading subsidiary, Spectrum Futures C.I.C.

At the year end, unrestricted fund balances are £1,108,238 (2023: £1,025,683) with restricted funds of £3,938,410 (2023: £4,257,402) giving the total year end fund position for 2024 of £5,046,648 (2023: £5,283,085).

The balance sheet as at 31 March 2024 also shows tangible assets of £667,520 (2023: £711,657). Debtors due are £295,386 (2023: £283,249). Creditors falling due within one year stand at £329,825 (2023: £368,569).

For the year ending 31 March 2024, VAR Board have designated funds of £558,686. This reflects the provision for post March 2024 activity of £545,461, the provision towards the pension trust deficit of £24,759, and £37,686 towards repairs of the flat roof at the Spectrum.

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It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds, which have not been designated for specific use, should be maintained at a value of three to six months expenditure, of which the minimum three months expenditure equates to approximately £860,000. This level of general reserves would finance operations in the event of short-term funding gaps, and finance immediate obligations should VAR lose its funding, or alternatively in the event that the organisation should need to close. At 31 March 2024, our general free reserves stood at £549,552, substantially below our minimum target level. The Trustees are aware of this and aim to build on general reserves in the future years by continuing the development of further income generating activities to support our grant dependency, and to ensure we maintain a high level of astute financial management. Our subsidiary organisation, Spectrum Futures CIC, has allowed VAR to expand its target area and client base further afield and this in turn assists in our support to the sector.

Treasurer's Statement

The finance function within Voluntary Action Rotherham is responsible for:-

- Controlling all finance related activities of the business, utilising the available tools and resources;
- Ensuring the efficient management of the organisation's finances and accounting systems, consistent with the requirements of the trustees, company, charity law and other relevant legislation;
- Providing the Trustees and management team with input and support on both strategic and operational issues.

From the prior year, total income for the year has decreased by £576K, this is due to restricted funding being paid in advance in 2021/22. Although our overall income has decreased, it is substantially higher than pre-pandemic levels.

Our funders have been disclosed on pages 24 & 25, and the breakdown of these restricted funds are disclosed on pages 34 & 35. Grants distributed out to the sector in 2023/24 equated to £923k, which amounted to 31% of our total income received during the year. We continue to seek out additional funding to support our main aims and objectives, and work with our generous funders to continue to adapt to the sector's needs.

VAR'S trading subsidiary Spectrum Futures CIC again supported the charity with further income generated activities engaged by the community. The income for the trading subsidiary increased from the prior year due to the increased supporting activities through our community accountancy, payroll bureau and HR service. The trading accounts for Spectrum Futures CIC showed a break-even position for 23/24, in line with previous

Having previously designated funding for future periods, the Trustees of the charity will maintain this fund to support its core activity where there is a shortfall of direct funding. This designation of £559k will allow for further provision to assist the core activity for future periods post March 2024. In 2021/22, we designated £60k to repair an element of one of the flat roofs, we carried out the quotation work, and understanding the requirements in 2022/23 and work is scheduled to be undertaken in 23/24. The trustees will also safeguard the designated pension fund in support of the pension deficits impending on the Pension Trust pension

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Management accounts are produced monthly and reported to the Board, Exec Group and Finance Committee. The board have confidence in the financial procedures and month end activities produced by the finance function.

Plans for future periods

VAR continues to be actively involved as part of the VCS input and engagement with the South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (ICB). The VAR CEO nominated by the SY VCSE Alliance Steering Group, is the VCS Partner Member, as part of the ICB. The VAR CEO also undertook the role of the VCS Senior Responsible Officer, as part of the SY Integrated Care System, as well as the Chair of the SY VCS Alliance. VAR CEO stepped down from both of these latter two roles; and from the Summer of 2023, they were undertaken by the Chief Executive of Voluntary Action Sheffield. VAR recognises the importance of a distributive leadership model, and we continue to work with VCS partners so the various strategic roles have a cross section of the VCS, from across the whole of South Yorkshire.

During 24/25, VAR will seek to build on the existing core VCS Infrastructure offer, through the Single Infrastructure Grant (SIG). We secured a new 3-year service level agreement for the SIG, at the start of this year. This involved consultation work with VCS and other stakeholders, so we are able to co-design the delivery. Seeking extensions and or developing into next phases, remains a priority for a range of Programmes, for e.g. Flux and MHI Community Connectors. We will also work with partners to further develop areas of benefit, particularly the digital agenda and Social Value.

We will continue to explore partnership opportunities, for collaboration with and investment for the VCS and envisage opportunities such as the Family Hubs and Building Recovery in Communities Programmes.

Structure, governance and management

VAR's governance

Voluntary Action Rotherham is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. The charity is operated under the rules of its Memorandum and Articles of Association, first issued on its incorporation on 17 February 1988, amended in December 2005, November 2010, November 2013 and again amended by a special resolution in November 2017. This has ensured we are resilient, our Board composition is fit for purpose, and we continue to be driven by the values which underpin our work.

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VAR's Board of Trustees

VAR 's Board is made up of up to eleven trustees, three partner advisors who act in a non-voting capacity. All trustees and any co-optees also act as directors of the company and are notified to Companies House. The number of Trustees should not be less than five (5) and no more than thirteen (13), and the chief executive acts as company secretary.

VAR 's Board is made up of up to eleven trustees, three partner advisors who act in a non-voting capacity. All trustees and any co-optees also act as directors of the company and are notified to Companies House. The number of Trustees should not be less than five (5) and no more than thirteen (13), and the chief executive acts as company secretary.

VAR has a finance sub-committee, consisting of the treasurer, another trustee, the CEO and finance manager. This enables management accounts, forecasts and balance sheets to be scrutinised and analysed in detail, providing additional assurance to the board of the overall finance management of the charity.

VAR is underpinned by a range of HR policies and procedures as well as financial procedures which are approved by VAR board. All of these are reviewed annually, and amended as appropriate, and reported to VAR board for their approval.

The trustees conducted an assessment of the major risks to the organisation during September 2023 and March 2024. Each funding proposal underpinning VAR's activities is accompanied by a delivery plan and reports against agreed targets. We have combined all of the individual risk assessments into an overall risk management framework for the organisation and this is reviewed by the Board on a six-monthly basis. This underpins the performance management framework and shows the impact on systems, procedures, staffing, communications and funding.

Recruitment and appointment of the trustees and key management personnel remuneration policy

Trustees are recruited and appointed from VAR's membership base, or as Independent Trustees and in line with VAR's Memorandum and Articles of Association. Recruitment for potential new Trustees is conducted via VAR's mailings, newsletters and website. Role descriptions exist for Trustee and officer posts. Elections to the Trustee board takes at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and proxy votes are invited, from members prior to the AGM, should they not be able to attend. If there are the same number of applicants and vacancies, an uncontested election is held which is approved by members at the AGM. Trustees are appointed for a term of three years and at each AGM, one third of the board of Trustees, taken from those Trustees who have served the longest, are expected to stand down. Trustees may stand for re-election if they wish and in exceptional circumstances a retiring Trustee may serve a further consecutive term; but will be subject to annual appointment agreed by existing Trustees and also agreed by members at the Annual General Meeting.

Appointment of the executive places of chair, vice chair(s) and treasurer take place at the first board meeting after the AGM and is ratified by members of the board. All new Trustees are invited to an induction meeting and must sign a memorandum of agreement. VAR is a company limited by guarantee and all Trustees are notified as directors to Companies House.

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The key management structure of VAR consists of the Chef Executive, the Director of Services (Projects), the Director of Services (Infrastructure), the Senior Manager (HR) and the finance manager. Remuneration for staff is maintained in line with any salary uplifts, where appropriate and across the organisation, related to pay legislation as a minimum and approved by VAR board.

Research and development

The last time VAR commissioned research into the state of the voluntary and community sector in Rotherham, was during 2016, via the State of the Sector Research. Funding was secured via the Rotherham Together Partnership during 19/20 to carry out an up to date State of the Sector Research. It has been agreed to undertake the 'state of the sector' in 2023/24.

VAR commissions specific pieces of research as required, e.g. evaluation work to measure the success of any pilot projects.

Trustees' responsibilities

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

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the 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 these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019(FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that 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

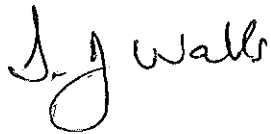
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Disclosure of Information to the auditors

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

On behalf of the board

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Walls'.

S Walls, Trustee

DATE 30th October, 2024

Opinion

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

In our opinion, the financial statements:

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

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the 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 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 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 other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of the trustees

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

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

- Reviewed the nature of the industry and sector, the control environment and business performance for the year.
 - Identifying the laws and regulations the company operates within and enquiring with management if they are aware of any non compliance issues.
 - Discussed how and where fraud may occur with all members of the audit engagement team.
- In line with all audits under ISAs (UK) we were required to perform tests to respond to the risk of
- management override. We tested the appropriateness of journal entries, evaluated the judgements made for accounting estimates to assess if any bias, and assessed the rationale behind any significant or

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

Use of our report

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



Chris Howitt

Senior Statutory Auditor

For and on behalf of Henton & Co LLP

Chartered Accountant and Statutory Auditors

Northgate

118 North Street

Leeds

LS2 7PN

6 November 2024

VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM LIMITED
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (Including Income and Expenditure Account)
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

		Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £ (Note 2)
	Note				
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	67,706	-	67,706	107,206
Charitable activities	4	122,360	2,630,441	2,752,801	3,388,894
Investments	5	143,496	-	143,496	42,291
Other	6	22,638	-	22,638	24,242
Total income and endowments		356,200	2,630,441	2,986,641	3,562,633
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	11,417	-	11,417	13,896
Charitable activities	8	239,914	2,949,433	3,189,347	3,428,783
Exceptional costs	8	22,314	-	22,314	10,960
Total expenditure		273,645	2,949,433	3,223,078	3,453,639
Net income		82,555	(318,992)	(236,437)	108,994
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		82,555	(318,992)	(236,437)	108,994
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	18, 19	1,025,683	4,257,402	5,283,085	5,174,091
Total funds carried forward	18, 19	1,108,238	3,938,410	5,046,648	5,283,085

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised during the year.

VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM LIMITED
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (Including Income and Expenditure Account)
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Income and endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	67,706	-	67,706	107,206
Charitable activities	122,360	2,630,441	2,752,801	3,388,894
Investments	143,496	-	143,496	42,291
Other	838	-	838	1,823
Total income and endowments	334,400	2,630,441	2,964,841	3,540,214
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	11,417	-	11,417	13,896
Charitable activities	219,179	2,949,433	3,168,612	3,406,364
Exceptional costs	22,314	-	22,314	10,960
Total expenditure	252,910	2,949,433	3,202,343	3,431,220
Net income	81,490	(318,992)	(237,502)	108,994
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	81,490	(318,992)	(237,502)	108,994
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward	1,025,653	4,257,402	5,283,055	5,174,061
Total funds carried forward	1,107,143	3,938,410	5,045,553	5,283,055


VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM LIMITED
BALANCE SHEET
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Note	Group		Charity	
		2024 £	2023 £	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	14	667,520	711,657	667,520	711,657
Current assets					
Debtors	15	295,386	283,249	297,402	290,132
Cash at bank and in hand	16	4,413,567	4,656,748	4,410,456	4,649,835
		4,708,953	4,939,997	4,707,858	4,939,967
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(329,825)	(368,569)	(329,825)	(368,569)
Net current assets		4,379,128	4,571,428	4,378,033	4,571,398
Net assets		<u>5,046,648</u>	<u>5,283,085</u>	<u>5,045,553</u>	<u>5,283,055</u>
Charity Funds					
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds	18	558,686	581,000	558,686	581,000
General reserve	18	549,552	444,683	548,457	444,653
Total unrestricted funds		1,108,238	1,025,683	1,107,143	1,025,653
Restricted funds	19	3,938,410	4,257,402	3,938,410	4,257,402
Total charity funds	20	<u>5,046,648</u>	<u>5,283,085</u>	<u>5,045,553</u>	<u>5,283,055</u>

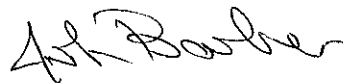
The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board on

25th September 2024

Signed on behalf of the board of trustees



S Walls, Chair



J Barber, Treasurer

The notes on pages 20 to 42 form part of these financial statements.
Company registration number 02222190

VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM LIMITED
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flow from operating activities	21	(381,546)	(228,298)
Net cash flow from operating activities		(381,546)	(228,298)
Cash flow from Investing activities			
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets		(5,131)	-
Interest received		143,496	42,291
Net cash flow from investing activities		138,365	42,291
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		(243,181)	(186,007)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April 2023		4,656,748	4,842,755
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March 2024		<u>4,413,567</u>	<u>4,656,748</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March 2024			
Cash and cash equivalents consist of:			
Cash at bank and in hand		4,413,567	4,656,748
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March 2024		<u>4,413,567</u>	<u>4,656,748</u>

VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM LIMITED
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Summary of significant accounting policies

(a) General information and basis of preparation

Voluntary Action Rotherham is a charitable company established by constitution on 13 January 1981 in the United Kingdom. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 1 of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are on page 2.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. 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 United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Practice.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £.

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

(b) Basis of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements incorporate those of Voluntary Action Rotherham and its only subsidiary. An undertaking is a subsidiary if the group has control over its financial and operating policies.

All intra-group transactions, balances and unrealised gains on transactions between group companies are eliminated on consolidation. Unrealised losses are eliminated unless the transactions provides evidence of an impairment of the asset transferred.

(c) Funds

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

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Trustees for particular purposes or projects which they have decided to undertake, the trustees have the option to undesignate these funds should they require to do so.

Restricted funds are subject to specific trusts which may have been declared by the funders of with their authority (e.g. in a public appeal), but still within the objects of VAR. They may be restricted income funds which are expendable at the discretion of the trustees/ directors in furtherance of a particular project or objective of VAR. Alternatively, they may be capital funds where the funds are required to be invested in fixed assets for charity use or in investment assets.

(d) Income recognition

All income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity is legally entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Voluntary income is received by way of grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the SOFA when receivable.

- Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.
- Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included in these accounts.
- Income from charitable trading activity are accounted for when earned.
- Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.
- Income from grants, where related to performance and specific deliverables, are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. If entitlement is not met then these amounts are deferred.
- Income from grants which have no restriction attached other than to be used for charitable activities are allocated to a charitable activity at the discretion of the trustees under fees and other income (see note 4).

(e) Expenditure recognition

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis when a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is included as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

- Costs of raising funds are those costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.
- Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both the direct costs and support costs relating to such activities.
- Governance costs include those incurred in the governance of the charity and its assets and are primarily associated with constitutional and statutory requirements.
- Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories based on the split of funding received for the different areas of the charity's activities.

(f) Support costs allocation

Support costs are those that assist the work of the charity but do not directly represent charitable activities and include office costs, governance costs, administrative payroll costs. They are incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity. Where support costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

The analysis of these costs is included in note 8.

VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM LIMITED
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

(g) Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost (or deemed cost) or valuation less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended. Only fixed assets costing more than £1,000 are capitalised and depreciated.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset on a systematic basis over its expected useful life as follows:

Freehold buildings	Straight line over 50 years
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	33% straight line

The company has opted to charge no depreciation on assets in the year of addition.

The property is included at the trustees' best estimate of market value. It is the Charity's policy to carry out a formal valuation of the properties every 5 years and to take advice annually as to any material movements in value.

(h) Employee benefits

The charity operates a defined contribution plan for the benefit of its employees. Contributions are expensed as they become payable. The assets of this scheme are entirely separable to those of the charity. The pension cost shown represents contributions payable by the charity on behalf of the employees.

The charity also contributes to the Pensions Trust Growth Plan for its employees. This is in most respects a money purchase arrangement, but does include certain guaranteed benefit elements. The plan is a multi-employer scheme.

Since the charity has entered into an agreement (the Recovery Plan that determines how each employer within the scheme will fund the overall deficit), the contributions paid are shown in the income and expenditure account.

(i) Tax

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

(j) Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient, with the level of reserves, for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM LIMITED
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

2 Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities 2023

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Income and endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	107,206	-	107,206
Charitable activities	94,236	3,294,658	3,388,894
Investments	42,291	-	42,291
Other	22,419	1,823	24,242
Total income and endowments	266,152	3,296,481	3,562,633
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	13,896	-	13,896
Charitable activities	193,026	3,235,757	3,428,783
Exceptional costs	-	10,960	10,960
Total expenditure	206,922	3,246,717	3,453,639
Net income	59,230	49,764	108,994
Transfers between funds	-	-	-
Other recognised gains/ (losses):			
Re-measurement loss on defined benefit pension plan	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	59,230	49,764	108,994

3 Income from donations and legacies

	2024 £	2023 £
Core grants		
National Health Service - CCG	15,988	105,706
Other	1,718	1,500
Bessie Mary Penlington legacy	50,000	-
	67,706	107,206

Income from donations and legacies in both 2024 and 2023 was attributable to unrestricted funds.

VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM LIMITED
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

4 Income from Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Core activities including payroll & Partnerships, services & programmes	122,360	-	122,360	94,236
	-	2,630,441	2,630,441	3,294,658
	122,360	2,630,441	2,752,801	3,388,894

An analysis of the sources of this income is shown in note 4a.

4a Income from charitable activities (expended):

	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Arts Council		
- Creative Places & People (FLUX)	369,997	370,005
C&YP Consortium		
- Children & Young People	32,844	3,000
Community First		
- NHS Social Prescribing Service	572,981	562,850
- NHS Micro Commissioning	-	81,920
- NHS Mental Health Project	200,699	197,150
- NHS UECC Link Worker Scheme	-	15,000
- NHS PCN - LINK Workers	244,823	257,305
- NHS RDASH Social Prescribing Link Workers	-	16,800
- NHS Andy's Man Club	-	5,000
- NHS Community Connectors	42,923	110,930
- NHS Stroke Link Workers	-	36,421
- NHS UECC ASC Discharge Fund	-	29,176
- RDASH Expert by Experience	-	18,894
- RDASH Mental Health and Wellbeing Navigators	-	62,794
- SY ICB	13,000	9,750
National Lottery		
- Smiles for Miles	-	370,727
RMBC		
- Children & Young People Service	-	45,581
- Food in Crisis	10,000	10,000
- State of the Sector	18,000	-
- Household Support Fund	55,000	44,000
	1,560,267	2,247,303

VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM LIMITED
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Brought forward	1,560,267	2,247,303
- Acute Provider Innovator Project	10,000	-
- Open Arms	40,536	-
- First Step	24,702	-
-Prevention & Early Intervention	100,000	-
- Single infrastructure Grant	126,000	126,000
- Building Recovery in Communities	100,000	79,961
- Families Hub	282,224	139,715
- Shared Prosperity Fund	-	365,000
- Creative People & Places (FLUX)	147,371	20,581
Other		
- Timely Presentation Project	61,796	-
- SY ICS VCSE Sector	3,000	-
- ESOL Tutors	6,817	-
- Ageing Well	61,728	-
- Digital Enablement	40,000	-
-Community Achievement Awards	11,000	-
- Be a Good Neighbour	-	2,000
- Synergy Project	2,500	-
- NHS UECC ASC Discharge Fund	20,000	-
- Joint forward plan consultation sessions	6,000	-
- Community Renewal Fund	-	297,333
- Wentworth Woodhouse	8,500	11,765
- Without Walls (FLUX)	13,000	-
- NAVCA (Ukraine)	5,000	5,000
Unrestricted Activities		
- Payroll Bureau Fees	23,532	23,065
- Community Accountancy Fees	24,652	24,311
- External rent/ room hire	64,935	41,163
- Other income	9,241	5,697
	<u>2,752,801</u>	<u>3,388,894</u>

5 Income from Investments

	2024	2023
	£	£
Bank interest	<u>143,496</u>	<u>42,291</u>

Income from investments in both 2024 and 2023 is all attributable to unrestricted funds.

VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM LIMITED
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

6 Other income

	2024	2023
	£	£
Spectrum Futures - income generated	21,800	22,419
Volunteer Expenses Reimbursement	-	134
Reimbursed expenses	838	1,689
	<u>22,638</u>	<u>24,242</u>

Other income in both 2024 and 2023 was attributable to both unrestricted and restricted funds.

7 Costs of raising funds

	2024	2023
	£	£
Staff costs	<u>11,417</u>	<u>13,896</u>

Expenditure on costs of raising funds in both 2024 and 2023 was all attributable to unrestricted funds.

8 Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2024 £	Grant funding of activities 2024 £	Support costs 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Core activities including payroll & accountancy services	162,327	-	-	162,327	111,309
Partnerships & programmes	1,666,084	923,050	377,911	2,967,045	3,235,757
Exceptional costs (flood repairs)	22,314	-	-	22,314	10,960
Spectrum Futures	21,800	-	-	21,800	22,419
Governance costs (note 9)	38,175	-	-	38,175	59,298
	<u>1,910,700</u>	<u>923,050</u>	<u>377,911</u>	<u>3,211,661</u>	<u>3,439,743</u>

Expenditure on charitable activities was £3,211,661 (2023: £3,439,743) of which £273,645 (2023: £206,922) was attributable to unrestricted funds and £2,949,433 (2023: £3,246,717) was attributable to restricted funds.

Notional rent is included within the direct costs of the activity.

Further disclosure in respect of grants paid is provided in note 10.

Support costs totalling £377,911 represents allocation of core costs to restricted funds, including premises costs and salaries apportioned on the basis of full-time equivalent employees. In a few instances, this is limited by the budgets that have been agreed with the funder.

VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM LIMITED
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Finance	85,887	82,719
Personnel	43,164	34,203
ICT internal services	18,967	4,852
Executive management	229,893	130,022
	377,911	251,796

9 Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Auditor's remuneration	8,460	-	8,460	7,200
Trustees' expenses	641	-	641	851
Salary costs	28,197	-	28,197	49,900
AGM & Governance costs	877	-	877	1,347
	38,175	-	38,175	59,298

Expenditure on governance costs in both 2024 and 2023 was all attributable to unrestricted funds.

VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM LIMITED
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

10 Grants payable

	2024	2023
	£	£
British Red Cross	57,968	53,004
B Friend	-	12,093
Clifton Learning Partnership	4,478	106,280
Crossroads Care Rotherham	48,800	56,026
The Learning Community	54,890	65,335
Live inclusive	26,500	26,500
Kimberworth Park Community Partnership	15,800	10,550
Age UK (Rotherham)	44,450	74,653
Rotherham Citizens Advice Bureau	30,599	68,142
Royal Voluntary Service	32,000	32,000
Dinnington Area Regeneration Trust Ltd	6,000	6,000
Impressive Expression	13,000	19,500
JADE	26,628	54,458
YAWR Service	78,745	78,978
KPWCDT	13,000	16,787
RUFC Community Sports Fund	45,181	64,955
Rotherham & Barnsley Mind	45,504	43,053
Sheffield Wildlife Trust	6,500	6,000
Alzheimer's Society	26,861	29,665
Active Independence	43,280	56,051
Apna Haq	17,879	4,400
Brinsworth Community Trust	-	12,466
United Multi Cultural Centre	3,374	8,000
Cortonwood Comeback Centre	5,000	33,046
Liberty Church	2,000	5,000
Endeavour Training Ltd	10,240	56,863
YMCA White Rose	-	8,109
Rush House	3,456	45,062
Rotherham Parent Forum	10,234	21,732
YWCA	8,500	42,526
GROW	23,601	10,000
Swinton Lock Activity Centre	5,000	19,994
BME Young People & Carers Group CIC	-	3,000
Activate Rawmarsh	4,055	6,787
Active for Life Solutions	-	11,700
Active Regen Community Foundation Ltd	10,220	10,240
Making Space	3,068	4,042
Pivotal Health and Wellbeing	5,100	14,600
Places for People Leisure Ltd	5,500	5,457
POPS Outdoor Adventure (Rawmarsh)	10,035	10,035
	747,446	1,213,089

VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM LIMITED
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Brought forward	747,446	1,213,089
Rotherham Deaf Futures	10,240	10,240
RotherFed	29,787	97,061
ROAR	2,400	5,800
Rotherham Wah Hong Chinese Association	3,060	3,060
Shiloh Rotherham	10,740	18,129
Social Supermarket	5,000	8,948
Speak Up Self Advocay Ltd	8,909	8,734
The High Street Centre	10,240	10,240
WEA	-	15,693
Barnsley CVS	-	5,000
Brooklands Club	-	5,000
Dinnington Community Boxing	5,000	10,750
Full Life Church	5,000	5,000
Laser Credit Union	9,900	39,600
Lost Chord	-	13,830
Maltby Food Bank	-	5,000
Maltby Town Council	4,000	-
Manvers Lake and DVT	2,155	6,320
One Voice	-	10,940
Rotherham MCVC	5,000	14,900
S62 Community Together	15,000	19,796
The Community Tree	-	6,570
Saif's Boxing and Fitness CIC	10,230	-
Rotherham Ethnic Minority Alliance Ltd	19,215	-
Fun Hub CIC	-	5,000
Treeton Community Centre	1,500	6,500
Unity Boxing CIC	5,773	9,550
Voluntary Action Doncaster	-	5,000
Voluntary Action Sheffield	-	5,000
Grants less than £5,000	12,455	60,906
	<u>923,050</u>	<u>1,625,656</u>

11 Net income/ (expenditure) for the year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Auditor's remuneration	8,460	7,200
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>49,268</u>	<u>52,715</u>

12 Trustees' and key management personnel remuneration and expenses

The trustees neither received nor waived any remuneration during the year (2023: £nil). Trustees expenses reimbursed during the year totalled £641 (2023: £851).

The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel is £245,578 (2023: £233,394). The Trustees considers that its key management personnel comprise of its Chief Executive, Director of Services (Infrastructure), Director of Services (Projects), HR Manager and Head of Finance.

13 Staff costs and employee benefits

The average monthly number of employees during the year on full time equivalent (FTE) basis was as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Core costs including payroll & accountancy services	11.03	10.38
Partnerships & programmes	38.31	28.11
	<u>49.34</u>	<u>38.49</u>

The average number of employees during the year was 54 (2023:48).

The total staff costs and employee benefits was as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	1,334,962	1,094,428
Social security	117,564	93,476
Pension costs	76,204	63,263
	<u>1,528,730</u>	<u>1,251,167</u>

1 employee received total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) of more than £60,000 (2023: 1).

VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM LIMITED
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14 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land & buildings £	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £	Total £
Cost or valuation:			
At 1 April 2023	787,885	196,344	984,229
Additions	-	5,131	5,131
At 31 March 2024	787,885	201,475	989,360
Depreciation:			
At 1 April 2023	131,774	140,798	272,572
Depreciation charge	15,757	33,511	49,268
At 31 March 2024	147,531	174,309	321,840
Net book value:			
At 31 March 2024	640,354	27,166	667,520
At 31 March 2023	656,111	55,546	711,657

The Spectrum building is included in freehold land and buildings and was revalued in the financial year 31 March 2015 to £775,000. This was based on an open market valuation completed in October 2014 by a firm of independent valuers, Merryweathers, Chartered Surveyors.

All fixed assets are considered to be for direct charitable purposes and relate to the charity, the trading subsidiary, Spectrum Futures, holds no fixed assets.

This historical cost equivalent of land and buildings included at valuation are as follows:

	Freehold land & buildings
Cost or valuation:	
At 1 April 2023	1,757,279
Depreciation:	
At 1 April 2023	435,586
Depreciation charge	15,757
At 31 March 2024	451,343
Net book value:	
At 31 March 2024	1,305,936
At 31 March 2023	1,321,693

VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM LIMITED
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15 Debtors

	Group		Charity	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Trade debtors	191,734	237,670	189,566	236,904
Amounts owed by group undertakings	-	-	4,184	7,649
Prepayments and accrued income	103,652	45,579	103,652	45,579
	<u>295,386</u>	<u>283,249</u>	<u>297,402</u>	<u>290,132</u>

16 Cash and Bank

	Group		Charity	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Cash in bank and in hand	4,121,540	4,365,561	4,118,429	4,358,288
Advanced funding	284,094	283,705	284,094	283,705
People in Need Bank Account	7,933	7,482	7,933	7,842
	<u>4,413,567</u>	<u>4,656,748</u>	<u>4,410,456</u>	<u>4,649,835</u>

17 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Group		Charity	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Trade creditors	16,666	36,045	16,666	36,045
Taxation and social security	(2,035)	22,600	(2,035)	22,600
Other creditors & deferred income	290,614	283,705	290,614	283,705
Accruals	16,647	18,737	16,647	18,737
Amounts held on behalf of People in Need	7,933	7,482	7,933	7,482
	<u>329,825</u>	<u>368,569</u>	<u>329,825</u>	<u>368,569</u>

	People in Need £	Deferred Income £
Balance brought forward at 31 March 2023	7,482	283,705
Additions during the year	3,000	17,834
Amounts distributed	(2,549)	(17,445)
Balance to be carried forward at 31 March 2024	<u>7,933</u>	<u>284,094</u>

VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM LIMITED
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

18 Fund reconciliation

Unrestricted funds

	Balance at 1 April 23	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 24
Unrestricted	444,683	356,200	(251,331)	-	549,552
Designated - Pension scheme	53,718	-	-	(28,959)	24,759
Designated - Core activities post March 2022	467,282	-	-	28,959	496,241
Designated - Future Roof Repair	60,000	-	(22,314)	-	37,686
	<u>1,025,683</u>	<u>356,200</u>	<u>(273,645)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,108,238</u>

Prior year

	Balance at 1 April 22	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 23
Unrestricted	385,453	266,152	(206,922)	-	444,683
Designated - Pension scheme	115,261	-	-	(61,543)	53,718
Designated - Core activities post March 2022	405,739	-	-	61,543	467,282
Designated - Future Roof Repair	60,000	-	-	-	60,000
	<u>966,453</u>	<u>266,152</u>	<u>(206,922)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,025,683</u>

The £24,759 designated to the pension scheme is to cover potential future liabilities in relation to Pension Trust scheme.

The designated fund in relation to core activities post March 2022 is to cover deficits on core activities.

The designated fund in relation to future roof repairs is for known future expenditure in relation to work required on the roof.

VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM LIMITED
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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19 Restricted Funds

	Balance at 1 April 23	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 24
Creative People and Places (Flux)	446,817	538,867	(605,102)	-	380,582
COVID Winter Grant	196	-	-	-	196
COMF Grants	3,331	-	-	-	3,331
Community Renewal Fund	33,280	-	(33,279)	-	1
Digital Aspirant Funding	163,162	-	(33,315)	-	129,847
Emergency Assistance Grants	921	-	-	-	921
Feasibility Study	6,659	-	-	-	6,659
Flood Damage	10,962	-	(10,960)	-	2
Food in Crisis	10,000	10,000	(20,000)	-	-
Household Support Fund	3,000	55,000	(58,000)	-	-
Internal Voluntary	9,969	-	-	-	9,969
Neighbourhood Gov. Imp	2,751	-	(492)	-	2,259
NHS HEP - BAME Insight	25,389	-	(777)	-	24,612
NHS Children Social Prescribing	67,479	-	(15,709)	-	51,770
NHS GP's Activity Support	36,573	-	-	-	36,573
NHS SPS IBCF	224,413	-	(2,119)	-	222,294
NHS Mental Health Social Scheme	50,000	-	-	-	50,000
NHS Mental Health Programme	19,429	200,699	(206,958)	-	13,170
NHS Mental Health User Voice	3,000	-	-	-	3,000
NHS Mental Health	29,477	161,920	(55,807)	-	135,590
NHS Health Engagement	163,400	-	(29,803)	-	133,597
NHS Long Covid Support	7,192	35,000	(40,492)	-	1,700
NHS Mental Health Grants	235,596	-	(166,958)	-	68,638
NHS UECC Link Worker Scheme	60,241	-	(39,003)	-	21,238
NHS BAME Crisis Grants	26,275	-	(3,374)	-	22,901
NHS SMI Patient Voice	10,000	-	(10,201)	-	201
NHS Micro Commissioning	161,920	(161,920)	-	-	-
NHS Fitter Better Sooner	35,000	(35,000)	-	-	-
NHS PCN Link Workers	7,509	61,728	-	-	69,237
NHS PCN Link Workers	2,018	-	(161)	-	1,857
RMBC Prevention & Early Intervention	-	100,000	-	-	100,000
NHS Social Prescribing Service	248,054	572,981	(566,492)	-	254,543
NHS Andy's Man Club	5,000	-	(1,550)	-	3,450
NHS Community Connectors	110,930	42,923	(12,825)	-	141,028
NHS Stroke Link Workers	36,421	-	(14,227)	-	22,194
Obj 1 HR & Legal	31,999	-	-	-	31,999
Research/Sector	5,900	-	-	-	5,900
Smiles for Miles	146,237	-	(146,237)	-	-
State of the Sector Research	18,000	18,000	(14,600)	-	21,400
	2,458,500	1,600,198	(2,088,441)	-	1,970,257

VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM LIMITED
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	Balance at 1 April 23	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 24
Brought forward	2,458,500	1,600,198	(2,088,441)	-	1,970,257
STP/ ICS Integrated Volunteering	2,000	-	-	-	2,000
SY HR Basis - Big Lottery	6,423	-	-	-	6,423
SY HR Impact	1,528	-	(1,528)	-	-
SYB Cancer Alliance WMTY Kitemark	40,600	-	-	-	40,600
SY ICS VCSE Sector	19,913	3,000	(2,060)	-	20,853
SY ICS Engagement Co-ordinator	81,759	-	(54,471)	-	27,288
VCS Resilience	500,000	-	-	-	500,000
VCS Seasonal Pressurers	115,000	-	-	-	115,000
Violence Reduction Unit	3,958	-	-	-	3,958
VTL Other income	9,509	-	-	-	9,509
SYIP Capital	644,541	-	-	-	644,541
Building Recovery in Communities	79,961	100,000	(119,742)	-	60,219
NAVCA Ukraine	4,972	5,000	(9,972)	-	-
SY ICB	9,750	13,000	-	-	22,750
Single Infrastructure Grant	-	126,000	(126,000)	-	-
Yorkshire Forward - Revenue Cost	-	-	(15,500)	-	(15,500)
ESOL	-	6,817	-	-	6,817
NHS PCN's	-	244,823	(244,621)	-	202
Children & Young People	-	32,844	(60,303)	-	(27,459)
Community Achievement Awards	-	11,000	(10,961)	-	39
Digital Enablement	-	40,000	-	-	40,000
NHS Joint Forward Plan Consultation	-	6,000	(6,000)	-	-
Synergy Project	-	2,500	-	-	2,500
Engaging with Acute Provider	-	10,000	(551)	-	9,449
NHS Timely Presentation Project	-	61,796	(1,372)	-	60,424
NHS UECC ASC Discharge Fund	-	20,000	(31,676)	-	(11,676)
First Step	-	24,703	(1,055)	-	23,648
Rotherham ACS Funding	21,676	-	-	-	21,676
RDaSH Mental Health and Wellbeing					
Navigators	62,794	-	(22,790)	-	40,004
RDaSH Expert by Experience	18,894	-	(1,937)	-	16,957
Shared Prosperity Fund	35,909	40,536	(69,364)	-	7,081
Families Hubs Programme	139,715	282,224	(81,089)	-	340,850
	<u>4,257,402</u>	<u>2,630,441</u>	<u>(2,949,433)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,938,410</u>

Restricted Fund Descriptions

BSC Small Grants

All small grants programme aimed at community groups that can demonstrate and promote good community relations, bring people and neighbourhoods together.

VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM LIMITED
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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Restricted Fund Descriptions (continued)

Be a Good Neighbour	Production of 2 films and design of leaflet around 'being a good neighbour'.
Children & Young People	To promote and provide services for children, young people and families
Children & Young People (SIG)	To promote and provide services for children, young people and families
Community Achievement Awards	Awards in recognition of VCS and volunteers
Creative People and Places (FLUX)	Action-research programme designed to deliver lasting impact on Rotherham communities' participation in arts and culture
COVID Winter Grant	Grants to support local VCS organisations including Community Food Members to enable provision of Christmas & Easter food support to families in Rotherham
COMF Grants	Support a programme of activity with focus on supporting those coming out of shielding, bringing back community infrastructure lost due to COVID-19
Community Champions	Support to deliver the ambitions of the Community Champions programme through effective community engagement. Delivery of services by VAR and other VCS partners in line with the
Community Renewal Fund	Anything's Possible Rotherham project prioritising investment in skills, supporting people into employment and investment in communities and places
Digital Aspirant Funding	Funding from NHSx to enhance digital & IT improvements
Emergency Assistance Grants	Grants to organisations for the provision of food and essential supplies
Feasibility Study	Premises procurement study
Flood Damage	Fixed assets less accumulated depreciation provided by insurers due to the flood damage
Food in Crisis	Support for the Food in Crisis Partnership
Green & Blue SP Data	SP Data monitoring & evaluation
Household Support Fund	Grants to VCS organisation to provide food support to families in Rotherham
Int. Volunteer Approach Advisor	Working with ICS on integrated approaches to volunteering
Neighbourhood Gov. Imp Pilot	Implementation of a resident/ voluntary and community 'neighbourhood governance' structure in a targeted geographical
NHS BAME SPS	Scoping BAME volunteer programme
NHS HEP - BAME insight	Project to increase BAME participation in social prescribing
NHS Cultural Competency	Cultural competency training for GP staff
NHS Children's Social Prescribing	Social prescribing service specifically for children
NHS GP's Activity Support	Support & develop the engagement strategy with GP's beyond the current project
NHS SPS IBCF	Integrated Better Care Funding
NHS Mental Health Social Scheme	Expansion of SPS Mental Health as part of Care Navigation Pilot, linked to targeted GP surgeries

VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM LIMITED
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Restricted Fund Descriptions (continued)

NHS Mental Health Programme	Scheme providing VCS liaison services between mental health professionals, services and patients
NHS Mental Health User Voice	Funding to support consultations with service users
NHS Mental Health Provider Network	Developing and supporting VCS to increase mental health support activity
NHS Health Engagement	Supporting engagement of the public in Health messages
NHS SP Long COVID Support	Social Prescribing service aimed at patients suffering from long COVID.
NHS Mental Health Grants	Capacity building grants programme supporting mental health
NHS Rotherham UECC Link Worker Sc	Social Prescribing in Rotherham Hospital
NHS BAME Crisis Grant	Capacity building grants programme supporting mental health for BAME VCS
NHS SMI Patient Voice	20K to externally commission capacity building for mental health voice
NHS Micro Commissioning	To support the mental health provider network to fill gaps in provision
NHS Fitter, Better, Sooner	Supporting patients to access support pre-surgery
NHS PCN Link Workers	A national initiative to give patients access to link worker to provide non-medical support
NHS PCN SP Link Worker Training	Specific training for link workers
NHS Social Prescribing Service	Project providing VCS liaison services to GP practices
NHS Andy's Man Club	Room hire and refreshments, Andy's Man Club, Rotherham
NHS Community Connectors	Community (Mental Health) Connectors - VAR operating and management costs
NHS Stroke Link Worker	Social Prescribing as part of Stroke Pathway
Obj 1 HR & Legal	HR & Legal service for the voluntary and community sector across South Yorkshire
Research/ Sector	Continuation of surveys of the sector
SPS Link Workers	Delivery of a community asset-based approach to mental health
Single Infrastructure Grant	Rotherham (VCS) Infrastructure Services
Smiles for Miles	Increase provision and support for children and young people in Rotherham. Delivered by 11 VCS members of the Children, Young People & Families Consortium. Managed by VAR on behalf of the consortium
State of the Sector Research	South Yorkshire wide state of the VCS research
STP/ ICS Integrated Vol	Working with ICS on integrated approaches to volunteering
SYB ICS VCS SRO role	To strengthen the relationship with, and embed SYB VCSE partners at all levels within the integrated care system
SY HR-Basis-Big Lottery	To support research into the long-term sustainability of HR in South Yorkshire
SY HR Impact	Continuation of HR service for the voluntary and community sector across South Yorkshire

VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM LIMITED
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Restricted Fund Descriptions (continued)

SYB Cancer Alliance WMTY Kitemark	Developing a programme of activity around cancer patients and what matters to them
SY ICS VCSE Sector	To support VCSE frontline engagement in the design of the ICS & VCSE MoU, and engagement in ICB work
SY ICS VCSE Engagement Co-ordination	Recruitment and employment of Engagement Co-ordination
VCS Resilience	Financial resilience to support sustainability of the sector
VCS Seasonal Pressures	To commission activity that supports reducing pressures on health services
Violence Reduction Unit	Community voice on violence reduction strategy
Volunteer Expenses	Volunteer expenses for Rotherham Heroes through the COVID pandemic
VTL Other Income	Training events income
SYIP Capital	To bring about a step change in the Voluntary and Community Sector to enable greater contribution to the economic regeneration of Rotherham
Building Recovery in Communities	Services and community activities to aid recovery of drug and alcohol addiction
NAVCA Ukraine	The support and development of x3 peer support groups and a VCS providers group to support Ukrainian refugees
SY ICB	ICB Partner VCSE Role - Remuneration of Chief Exec's salary
Rotherham ASC Funding	Supporting patients to stay out of hospital and statutory services, including additional safe and well checks completed on patients discharged from virtual wards.
RDASH Mental Health & Wellbeing Navigators	Mental Health workers to link into VCSE services
RDASH Expert by Experience	Mental Health Services/ Transformation - user input and VAR co-ordination
Shared Prosperity Fund	Financial inclusion and positive activities to alleviate the cost of living crisis
Family Hubs Programme	Funding from RMBC to support VCS involvement in the development of the family hubs model

20 Restricted Funds

2024	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total
Fixed assets	11,312	-	656,208	667,520
Debtors	14,585	-	280,801	295,386
Cash at bank	554,933	558,686	3,292,015	4,405,634
VAR People in Need	-	-	7,933	7,933
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(31,278)	-	(298,547)	- 329,825
Total	549,552	558,686	3,938,410	5,046,648

VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM LIMITED
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2023	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total
Fixed assets	12,088	-	699,569	711,657
Debtors	20,970	-	262,279	283,249
Cash at bank	721,431	581,000	3,346,475	4,648,906
VAR People in Need	-	-	7,842	7,842
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(309,806)	-	(58,763)	(368,569)
Total	444,683	581,000	4,257,402	5,283,085

21 Reconciliation of net (expenditure)/ income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Net income for year	(236,437)	108,994
Interest receivable	(143,496)	(42,291)
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	49,268	52,715
(Increase)/ Decrease in debtors	(12,137)	40,571
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors	(38,744)	(388,287)
	(381,546)	(228,298)

22 Reconciliation of net debt

	At 1 April 2023 £	Cash flows £	At 31 March 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	4,656,748	(243,180)	4,413,568
Debt due within 1 year	-	-	-
Debt due after 1 year	-	-	-
	4,656,748	(243,180)	4,413,568

VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM LIMITED
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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23 Spectrum Futures CIC

Profit and loss account

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Income		
Sales	23,389	23,300
Total Income	23,389	23,300
Expenditure		
Cost of sales	(23,389)	(23,300)
Total Expenditure	(23,389)	(23,300)
Net expenditure	-	-

24 Pensions and other post-recruitment benefits

a) Defined contribution pension plans

The charity operates defined contribution pension plans for its employees. The amount recognised as an expense in the period was £76,204 (2023: £63,263). Outstanding defined contribution payments at year end were £nil (2023: £nil).

b) Multi employer pension plan

The company participates in the scheme, a multi-employer scheme which provides benefits to some 638 non-associated participating employers. The scheme is a defined benefit scheme in the UK. It is not possible for the company to obtain sufficient information to enable it to account for the scheme as a defined benefit scheme. Therefore, it accounts for the scheme as a defined contribution scheme.

The scheme is subject to the funding legislation outlined in the Pensions Act 2004 which came into force on 30 December 2005. This, together with documents issued by the Pensions Regulator and Technical Actuarial Standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council, set out the framework for funding defined benefit occupational pension schemes in the UK.

The scheme is classified as a 'last-man standing arrangement'. Therefore, the company is potentially liable for other participating employers' obligations if those employers are unable to meet their share of the scheme deficit following withdrawal from the scheme. Participating employers are legally required to meet their share of the scheme deficit on an annuity purchase basis on withdrawal from the scheme.

24 Pensions and other post-recruitment benefits (continued)

A full actuarial valuation for the scheme was carried out at 30 September 2020. This valuation showed assets of £800.3m, liabilities of £831.9m and a deficit of £31.6m. To eliminate this funding shortfall, the Trustees' have asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme as follows:

From 1 April 2022 to 31 January 2025	£3,312,000 per annum (payable monthly and increasing by 3% each on 1st April)
From 1 April 2019 to 30 September 2025	£11,243,000 per annum (payable monthly and increasing by 3% each on 1st April)

The recovery plan contributions are allocated to each participating employer in line with their estimated share of the Series 1 and Series 2 scheme liabilities. VAR's share of these revised contributions was £172 during the year to March 2023, previously £590 to March 2022.

Where the scheme is in deficit and where the charity has agreed to a deficit funding arrangement the charity recognises a liability for this obligation. The amount recognised is the net present value of the deficit reduction contributions payable under the agreement that relates to the deficit. The present value is calculated using the discount rate detailed in these disclosures. The unwinding of the discount rate is recognised as a finance cost.

The present value of the deficit repayment obligation, as noted above, has not been provided for in the Balance sheet because it is immaterial.

VAR paid contributions at the rates between 6% and 9% during the accounting period. Members paid contributions at the rates between 0% and 32% during the accounting period.

When an employer withdraws from a multi-employer defined benefit pension scheme which is in deficit, the employer is required by law to pay its share of the deficit calculated on a statutory basis (known as the buy-out basis). The calculation basis that applies to the Growth Plan was amended due to a change in the definition of money purchase contained in the Pensions Act 2011 and therefore Series 3 liabilities have to be included in the calculation of an employer's debt on withdrawal.

VAR has been notified by the Pensions Trust of the estimated employer debt on withdrawal from the Plan based on the financial position of the Plan as at 30 September 2023. As of this date, the estimated employer debt for VAR was £24,759, the estimated debt in the prior year accounts (2023) was £53,718. The decrease in the estimated debt liability is due to greater than expected investment returns, at a time of reduced government bonds yields, which increase liabilities in the scheme. A designated fund has been created by the trustees to reflect this potential future liability.

25 Related party transactions

None of the trustees (or persons connected with them) received any remuneration during the period, but expenses were reimbursed, for travel and internet, totalling £641 (2023: £851).

J Dalton was a Trustee and Director of VAR and the Chair person to Shiloh. During the year VAR made grants of £10,740 (2023: £18,129) to Shiloh.

C Batchford is a Trustee and Director of VAR and is also an employee of Social Supermarket. During the year VAR made grants of £5,000 (2023: £8,948) to Social Supermarket.

Other transactions

Several VAR trustees are also employers of VAR members organisation to which VAR provides payroll and accountancy services. The charges for these services are relatively small and always on an arm's length basis.