BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

England & Wales · Charity number 1076995

Details

Other names	BRIGHTON AND HOVE SPEAK OUT
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	03807112
Registered	1999-08-11
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	The Brighthelm Centre 40 North Road Brighton East Sussex BN1 1YD
Phone	01273421921
Email	info@bhspeakout.org.uk
Website	www.bhspeakout.org.uk

Activities

Objects: The relief of people who have learning difficulties and who live in Brighton & Hove or East Sussex or West Sussex.

Activities: Speak Out provides a range of advocacy support for adults with learning disabilities in Brighton and Hove. The charity aims to support people with learning disabilities to: - express their views and have control over their lives - understand and claim their rights - access the support and services they need - participate in and contribute to their communities.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability
- **Who:** People With Disabilities

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Geography

- **Area of benefit:** BRIGHTON OR HOVE OR THE IMMEDIATELY SURROUNDING AREA
- Brighton And Hove

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£330,838	£331,434	-	-
2024-03-31	£320,869	£310,690	-	-
2023-03-31	£300,379	£292,358	-	-
2022-03-31	£286,666	£293,659	-	-
2021-03-31	£333,132	£299,453	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Isabel Hope-Urwin		2024-09-30
Margaret Wood		2023-11-29
Nathaniel Lawford		2023-11-29
Rohan Lowe		2016-01-26
Sally Jones		2024-09-30
Seth Farsides		2024-09-30
Sophie Cook		2024-05-20
Victoria Goldfield		2023-06-19

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BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

England & Wales - Charity number 1076995

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 03807112 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1076995

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND

UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

FOR

BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

F1 CRT Limited
Flat 24 Wellingtonia Court
Laine Close
Brighton
East Sussex
BN1 6TD

BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. 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

Objectives and aims

Speak Out's Objects

The Charitable objects are : 'the relief of people who have learning difficulties and who live in Brighton and Hove or the immediately surrounding area'.

Speak Out believes people with a learning disability should have the support they need to speak up and be heard participate in decisions made about their lives and access the services they need.

Speak Out's Aims

-People with learning disabilities to claim their rights , and deliver the skills , confidence and knowledge to make choices and take control of their lives.
-People with learning disabilities to get support to speak up and be listened to.
-Services to change in a way that people with learning disabilities wan.
-The needs of people with learning disabilities to be included in local policies and public service plans.

BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Significant activities

Speak out's activities

Brighton and Hove Speak Out is a dynamic, independent advocacy charity supporting people with learning disabilities to speak up and take action about the things that matter to them. Our mission is to work alongside people with learning disabilities to make sure they get their voices heard and can address problems they face and live fulfilling lives.

We deliver advocacy with impact, through which people with learning disabilities develop networks, skills and confidence so that they can:

- Challenge discrimination and access their rights
- Make their own choices and have control in their lives
- Access the support and services they need
- Build community links and take an active part in and contribute to community life
- Reduce isolation and improve their wellbeing
- Raise awareness of issues that matter them, challenge policy and campaign for change

We do this by offering a unique range of advocacy services and community projects for adults and young pwld (17+yrs). A team of staff and volunteers supported 427 beneficiaries in 2024/25 with a wide range of issues. Service users were supported to build their skills and confidence and develop community/peer networks leading to greater resilience, reduced isolation and improved wellbeing.

Our current services include:

1-1 issue advocacy. People with learning disabilities are supported by a trained advocate to solve problems, express opinions and make choices about issues in their life. We are part of the Sussex Advocacy Partnership which delivers community and statutory Care Act advocacy and also advocacy support for learning disabled parents going through child protection proceedings.

Citizen advocacy - People with learning disabilities are partnered with volunteers who provide longer term individual advocacy.

Self-advocacy groups and user led campaigning - We facilitate a number of self-advocacy groups which support members to explore and problem solve themes and issues whilst developing the confidence to speak out, learn new skills have a voice in the provision of local health, social care and mainstream services via close work with the Brighton and Hove Learning Disability Partnership Board. The Learning Disability Voices Network enables people to come together and campaign about the shared issues and positive changes for the wider learning-disabled community.

Transitions advocacy - We support young people with learning disabilities and autism aged 17 - 25 years who are going through transition from childhood to adulthood, through 1:1 advocacy and self-advocacy groups and drop-in sessions.

Weekly drop-in sessions - Drop ins offer a space for people to meet and support each other, access immediate short-term advocacy, information and signposting whilst providing peer support to each other.

Consultation activities. We run a variety of focus groups and interviews around themed consultations in conjunction with the Council in order to design services to meet local needs better. Speak Out's engagement work and partnership with the Council and NHS Sussex enables people with learning disabilities to have a voice and positively influence service development.

Easy read and training. We support people with learning disabilities to become trainers and run learning disability awareness training for a variety of services in order to improve the understanding and support of people locally. We also run Accessible Information Training. Additionally, we support local organisations to create accessible easy read information in order that their information can be understood by their learning-disabled service users.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in the planning of future activities.

Speak Out has many links with council, health, leisure and other services in the city and we use these links to positively influence how they work with the learning disabled community. Through our group work and awareness raising training, we ensure that local services understand the needs and priorities of learning disabled people and have tools to help them work more effectively. Additionally, we work more formally with the council in facilitating the Learning Disability Partnership Board and the NHS in order to make plans for people with learning disabilities locally.

BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Achievements and Performance in 2024-25

2024/25 was a year at Speak Out where, alongside our established advocacy services we tried new things. The Speak Out team held some unique events this year which helped to increase numbers of unique beneficiaries to **427**, and overall service beneficiaries to **532**. We completed our yearlong campaign on Housing. We succeeded in raising awareness about housing issues affecting people with learning disabilities in Brighton and Hove. We achieved this through:

- A big Open Advocacy meeting about Housing
- Creative workshops enabling people to explore housing issues and share their experiences
- Exhibition/private view at Jubilee Library
- Sharing experiences at the Learning Disability Partnership Board
- Sharing podcasts about housing, made by people with learning disabilities
- Speaking to partners, stakeholders, and local politicians
- Working towards an easy read housing roadmap with the local Council

We were particularly proud of our Exhibition at Jubilee library, which included art work, narrative, and film where local people with learning disabilities gave a realistic account of what it is like to navigate housing in the city when you have a learning disability.

'Such an important exhibition thankyou to Speak Out for shining a great big spotlight on a huge problem - everyone has the right to a safe home and we should all keep shouting until that happens! Wonderful art work, fantastic film, a great creative campaign well done everyone!'

Over the year we engaged 94 young people with a learning disability aged 17 - 25 through our young people's transition project, includes workshops/events/self-advocacy groups, in partnership with Team Dominica, Amaze, and St Johns College. A group of young self-advocates got very much involved in the housing campaign producing a Graffiti Wall.

In June 24 Speak Out partnered with Grace Eyre to run an accessible Hustings for people with learning disabilities, ahead of the general election. The event was attended by 30 - 40 people with learning disabilities who questioned the main candidates about various issues. Self-Advocates on our Learning Disability Voices Network project organized open advocacy meetings addressing topics such as housing, transport, and benefits/employment. 168 people with learning disabilities came to drop-ins, workshops, and self-advocacy groups/meetings

In July 2024 we held our first ever 'Speak Out East' festival: a day of creative activities at our Speak Out East drop-in, attracting over 30 people with learning disabilities. Speak Out took part in the 2024 Pride Parade, with some of our self-advocates getting involved for the first time, and we started a pilot LGBTQ+ group at the request of regular self-advocates. We also held a successful Speak Out Central drop-in open day where we ensured accessible activities were available for people with profound and multiple learning disabilities.

'coming to Speak Out always makes me feel better'

"Sometimes I feel quite lonely and isolated. I feel very disabled sometimes, and it makes me sad. But it helps coming here".
We continued to chair the Learning Disability Partnership Board. Our Link Group who report to the Board undertook assignments including:

- Meeting/consulting LD groups in their own spaces or sessions. In particular, engagement with PMLD (profound and multiple learning disabilities) groups, as we know these groups are often overlooked for consultation but have a high level of interaction with Council services.
- Campaigning and lobbying the DWP to put correspondence into easy read and to provide face to face appointments for Universal Credit migration.
- Consulting 58 people with learning disabilities overall on issues addressed through the Partnership Board.

The Thumbs Up team worked with the Royal Sussex County Hospital to review the accessibility of their buildings and processes. During the year they trained approximately 350 health and social care professionals and students directly through Thumbs Up learning disability awareness training, and approximately 150 more through work commissioned by NHS Sussex including work on Tobacco Dependency.

BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

During this final year of the Sussex Advocacy Partnership contract with lead provider Powher, Speak Out's Advocates completed 165 cases, assisting 115 people with learning disabilities with complex issues. We look forward to continuing our good track record with the new Advocacy partnership, led by The Advocacy People.

Speak Out had an excellent year delivering training and easy read work. Most notable was our partnership with Sussex Gender service where we produced numerous documents to help people with learning disabilities and other disabilities who may need accessible information when accessing the service. Our team also led training sessions on learning disability awareness, accessible information, advocacy, communication, and self-advocacy: recipients were both people with learning disabilities and those who support them.

Work with our governance board to deliver the charities strategic plan continued and we welcomed Sophie Cook as our new Chair on the Speak Out Board, Sally Jones as our new Treasurer, and Isobel Hope-Urwin and Seth Farsides to our Board, bringing skills, experience and enthusiasm, including campaigning, charity awareness, comms, finance, and life experience. We were sorry to see Jo Carden step down as Chair of the Board. Jo has been a Trustee since 2015 and has led Speak Out's Board for the past five contributing so much to the organisation - especially her wisdom and wealth of charity sector and advocacy knowledge. We thank Jo from the bottom of our hearts and wish her well.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The year ended 31st March 2025 recorded a net expenditure over income deficit of £596, with a £7,770 deficit on unrestricted funds and a surplus of £7,174 on restricted funds. Total reserves now stand at £127,233 of which £102,804 is unrestricted funds and £24,429 restricted funds. Total reserves in 2024 stood at £127,829 of which £110,574 was unrestricted and £17,255 was restricted funds.

Total income for the year ended 31st March 2025 amounted to £330,838 compared to £320,869 in the previous year, an increase of £9,969 from 2024.

Total expenditure for the year ended 31st March 2025 amounted to £331,434 compared to £310,690 in the previous year, an increase of £20,744 from 2024.

Reserves policy

Brighton & Hove Speak Out is committed to using its resources in pursuit of its charitable objectives. It is also committed however to maintaining a level of reserves that is prudent to meet on-going liabilities. In seeking to balance these priorities, the trustees have agreed to hold a level of reserves that equates to 4 months of current expenditure. At, 31 March 2025 there is £102,804 in general unrestricted reserves which equates to 3.8 months of expenditure at 2025/26 levels.

As this is slightly below the level set by our policy, the future financial outlook is to continue to pursue a policy of increasing reserves, both by diversifying income generation and by continuing to effectively manage resources. The trustees are confident they have sufficient reserves for funding forthcoming commitments in the coming year. The board of trustees monitors the level of reserves and takes appropriate action if reserves fall outside the desired range.

FUTURE PLANS

In 2024/25 we aim to secure long term funding for our self-advocacy work in Brighton and Hove, campaign more on issues that affect the lives of people with learning disabilities, and develop self-advocacy work in West Sussex, where there is little or no self-advocacy. We expect to continue to deliver high quality 1:1 advocacy under the new Sussex Advocacy Partnership led by Advocacy People. We will continue to target our funding strategy where there are gaps in services, identified by our members with learning disabilities. Where appropriate and possible, we will work in partnership with other organisations to give people with learning disabilities more opportunities to speak up and be heard.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is constituted as a company limited by guarantee incorporated on 14 July 1999.

It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

It gained charitable status on 11 August 1999.

In the event of the company being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Organisational structure

Brighton & Hove Speak Out is currently governed by a Board of 8 people who are voted in at the AGM. Of the wider board, four people have a learning disability and/or autism. One Trustee resigned in 2024 and 4 new Trustees joined the Board in 2024. The board has two subgroups: Operations (overseeing finance, HR, and strategy), and Comms (overseeing comms, marketing and promotion). The board is advised by people with learning disabilities and Speak Out volunteers via focus groups and workshops and their feedback is incorporated into planning direct project work and longer-term goals. New board members are provided with training to understand their governance role and can attend external training about this.

Speak Out employed 12 permanent staff during 2023/24, two of whom are full time with the remaining working part time. The posts comprised the CEO, the Deputy, and project workers delivering front line advocacy, group work and outreach. One member of staff has a learning disability and other people with learning disabilities were employed on an ad hoc basis to deliver Learning Disability Awareness, Accessibility, and Health Training across the city. Our work was supported by a team of 18 volunteers including trustees.

Decision making

The Charity produces an annually updated 3 year development plan which outlines the project work plans for the year ahead and potential developments for future years. All staff and Board members participate in deciding the priorities for future work and fundraising. User views are influential in this process , supplied by evaluation and individual feedback throughout the year and the views provided by the Advisors Group. Staff make regular work reports to the Governance Board who monitor progress and targets reached throughout the year.

Risk review

The Trustees have conducted their own review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed and systems have been established to mitigate those risks. Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and events and by ensuring consistent quality of delivery for all operational aspects of the charity. These procedures are reviewed periodically to ensure that they still meet the needs of the charity.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

03807112 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1076995

Registered office

The Brighthelm Centre
40 North Road
Brighton
East Sussex
BN1 1YD

BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Trustees
Kate Mclachlan (resigned 6.6.25)
Rohan Lowe
Jo-Anne Carden (resigned 1.8.25)
Victoria Goldfield
Sophie Cook (Chair) (appointed 20.5.24)
Rahul Bhoopal Sarnaik
Margaret Wood
Nathaniel Lawford
Isabel Hope-Urwin (appointed 30.9.24)
Seth Farsides (appointed 30.9.24)
Sally Jones (appointed 30.9.24)

Independent Examiner
Christopher Robert Tyler FCA DChA FCIE
F1 CRT Limited
Flat 24 Wellingtonia Court
Laine Close
Brighton
East Sussex
BN1 6TD

Bankers
CafCash Limited
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4TA

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES
The trustees (who are also the directors of Brighton & Hove Speak Out 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).

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.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 29th September 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Sophie Cook - Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Brighton & Hove Speak Out ('the Company')
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2025.

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

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

Independent examiner's statement
Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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

Christopher Robert Tyler FCA DChA FCIE

F1 CRT Limited
Flat 24 Wellingtonia Court
Laine Close
Brighton
East Sussex
BN1 6TD

Date: 4th October 2025

BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	7,264	-	7,264	3,825
Charitable activities	4				
Grants		39,790	172,741	212,531	227,717
Other income		5,000	-	5,000	5,000
Sales		17,009	-	17,009	11,016
Contracts		-	88,052	88,052	72,353
Investment income	3	982	-	982	958
Total		70,045	260,793	330,838	320,869
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	5	2,488	-	2,488	3,566
Charitable activities	6				
Charitable activities		75,327	253,619	328,946	307,124
Total		77,815	253,619	331,434	310,690
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(7,770)	7,174	(596)	10,179
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		110,574	17,255	127,829	117,650
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		102,804	24,429	127,233	127,829

The notes form part of these financial statements

BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

BALANCE SHEET
31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	13	20,759	-	20,759	9,103
Cash at bank and in hand		88,215	24,429	112,644	130,010
		108,974	24,429	133,403	139,113
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	14	(6,170)	-	(6,170)	(11,284)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		102,804	24,429	127,233	127,829
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		102,804	24,429	127,233	127,829
NET ASSETS		102,804	24,429	127,233	127,829
FUNDS	15				
Unrestricted funds				102,804	110,574
Restricted funds				24,429	17,255
TOTAL FUNDS				127,233	127,829

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

(a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and

(b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

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 and authorised for issue on 29th September 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

Sophie Cook - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard FRS102 '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.

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

The trustees/directors consider that there are no material uncertainties about the company's ability to continue as a going concern.

Income
Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds , any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met , it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants , whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants , is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds , any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met , it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Incoming resources from charitable activities are recognised on an earned basis in the year in which the conditions for receipt are met.

Expenditure
Expenditure is recognised in the period in which it is incurred.

Expenditure on grants is recorded once the Charity has made an unconditional commitment to pay the grant and this has been communicated to the beneficiary or the grant has been paid , whichever is the earlier.

Expenditure is allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on the basis consistent with the use of resources. Allocations are predominantly based on usage and staff time expended.

Tangible fixed assets
Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful life , or where specifically for a project , over the life of the project. The company has a minimum value of £750 for capitalisation of fixed assets.

Depreciation policy applied:

Equipment - over 2 years on a straight line basis.

Taxation
The charity 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. Accordingly the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 , to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

continued...

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Operating leases
Rentals payable under operating leases are charged on a straight line basis over the terms of the lease.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Donations	7,262	3,825

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2025	2024
	£	£
Deposit account interest	982	958

4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

		2025	2024
	Activity	£	£
Grants	Grants	212,531	227,717
Online filing incentive	Other income	5,000	5,000
Contracts	Sales	17,009	11,016
Contracts	Contracts	88,056	72,353
		322,596	316,086

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Access to Work	5,586	-
Bailey Thomas	10,000	-
Brighton and Hove City Council	65,495	64,322
Chalk Cliff Trust	2,000	-
East Brighton Trust	750	-
Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust	6,000	-
The February Foundation	-	5,000
Garfield Weston	10,000	10,000
Henry Smith Trust	108,500	89,100
Independent Lives	3,200	-
NHS Sussex ICB	-	27,395
The Open University - Social History Group	-	2,400
Postcode Society Trust	-	25,000
Rozinoor Foundation	1,000	-
Sussex Community Foundation	-	750
Trust for Developing Communities	-	3,750
	212,531	227,717

continued...

5. RAISING FUNDS

Raising donations and legacies

	2025	2024
	£	£
Raising funds	2,488	3,566

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs (see note 7)
	£
Charitable activities	328,946

7. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Project costs	30,333	28,042
Staff costs	253,847	231,330
Premises and office costs	30,864	28,889
Professional costs	10,544	14,403
Governance costs	3,358	4,460
	328,946	307,124

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2025	2024
	£	£
Independent examiner's fee	1,000	1,000

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Trustees' expenses

Two trustees were reimbursed travel expenses of £21 (2024 : £9).

continued...

10. STAFF COSTS

Staff costs were as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Salaries	219,032	202,776
Social security costs	16,662	14,734
Pension costs	4,579	3,663
	240,273	221,173
Other staff costs	13,574	10,157
	253,847	231,330
Average number of employees	7	7

No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000 (2024 : none).

Brighton & Hove Speak Out considers that the key management personnel comprise the Board of Trustees and the Director. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £41,215 (2024 : £37,977).

11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (2024)

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	3,823	2	3,825
Charitable activities			
Grants	55,305	172,412	227,717
Other income	5,000	-	5,000
Sales	11,016	-	11,016
Contracts	-	72,353	72,353
Investment income	958	-	958
Total	76,102	244,767	320,869
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	3,566	-	3,566
Charitable activities			
Charitable activities	61,243	245,881	307,124
Total	64,809	245,881	310,690
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	11,293	(1,114)	10,179
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	99,280	18,370	117,650
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	110,573	17,256	127,829

continued...

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Office equipment £
COST	
At 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025	870
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025	870
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2025	-
At 31 March 2024	-

13. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025 £	2024 £
Other debtors	18,896	7,246
Rent deposit	1,000	1,000
Prepayments and accrued income	863	857
	20,759	9,103

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	1,179	6,796
Social security and other taxes	3,991	3,488
Accruals	1,000	1,000
	6,170	11,284

continued...

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.24 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.25 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	102,301	(7,770)	8,273	102,804
Designated fund - towards website development and extra core staffing support around marketing.	8,273	-	(8,273)	-
	110,574	(7,770)	-	102,804
Restricted funds				
Brighton and Hove City Council - Advocacy	-	1,299	-	1,299
Brighton and Hove City Council - Speak Out East	519	(519)	-	-
Cardiovascular Disease Prevention	3,011	(3,011)	-	-
Henry Smith Trust - LDVN	13,095	(3,112)	-	9,983
Henry Smith Trust - Transitions	630	18	-	648
Hydration	-	4,999	-	4,999
West Sussex Self Advocacy	-	7,500	-	7,500
	17,255	7,174	-	24,429
TOTAL FUNDS	127,829	(596)	-	127,233

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	70,045	(77,815)	(7,770)
Restricted funds			
Brighton and Hove City Council - Advocacy	72,353	(71,054)	1,299
Brighton and Hove City Council - Engagement	38,722	(38,722)	-
Brighton and Hove City Council - Speak Out East	13,290	(13,809)	(519)
Cardiovascular Disease Prevention	-	(3,011)	(3,011)
Henry Smith Trust - LDVN	59,899	(63,011)	(3,112)
Henry Smith Trust - Transitions	48,600	(48,582)	18
Housing Campaign Project	2,750	(2,750)	-
Hydration	4,999	-	4,999
NHS Sussex - Tobacco Dependency Resource Project	9,980	(9,980)	-
West Sussex Self Advocacy	10,200	(2,700)	7,500
	260,793	(253,619)	7,174
TOTAL FUNDS	330,838	(331,434)	(596)

continued...

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	99,280	11,294	(8,273)	102,301
Designated fund - towards website development and extra core staffing support around marketing.	-	-	8,273	8,273
	99,280	11,294	-	110,574
Restricted funds				
Brighton and Hove City Council - Speak Out East	-	519	-	519
Cardiovascular Disease Prevention	-	3,011	-	3,011
Henry Smith Trust - LDVN	18,370	(5,275)	-	13,095
Henry Smith Trust - Transitions	-	630	-	630
	18,370	(1,115)	-	17,255
TOTAL FUNDS	117,650	10,179	-	127,829

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	76,102	(64,808)	11,294
Restricted funds			
Archive Project	2,400	(2,400)	-
Brighton and Hove City Council - Advocacy	72,354	(72,354)	-
Brighton and Hove City Council - Engagement	38,000	(38,000)	-
Brighton and Hove City Council - Speak Out East	15,517	(14,998)	519
Cardiovascular Disease Prevention	27,395	(24,384)	3,011
Henry Smith Trust - LDVN	59,401	(64,676)	(5,275)
Henry Smith Trust - Transitions	29,700	(29,070)	630
	244,767	(245,882)	(1,115)
TOTAL FUNDS	320,869	(310,690)	10,179

The purpose of each restricted funding was as follows:

Learning Disability Voices Network (LDVN)
The LDVN is funded by The Henry Smith Charity, ir is a user led project which brings together people with learning disabilities to have a strong collective voice in order to address issues they face and bring about positive change for themselves and the wider community. The project supports a range of activities including group work, drop ins and other events.

continued...

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Transitions
The Henry Smith Foundation funds this project providing a range of advocacy support, including groups and one to one advocacy for young people aged 17 - 25 going through the transition from children to adults' services and resulting in greater independence.

Speak Out East
Brighton & Hove City Council (BHCC) funds Speak Out East —The council fund Speak Out East, a drop in based in East Brighton which brings together people with learning disabilities and volunteers on a weekly basis and supports people with learning disabilities to link in with the local community. I believe the funding ran out end of April, so correct for this period. They are now funding for another year through the Community Catalyst Fund.

Engagement
Brighton & Hove City Council funds engagement work with people with learning disabilities through self-advocacy and focus groups, including the Link Group and Thumbs Up. It also funds Speak Out to lead the Learning Disability Partnership Board in the city. This work is part of a citywide engagement and community development partnership which is led by another local charity, The Trust for Developing Communities.

Cardiovascular Disease Prevention (CVDP)
Funded by NHS Sussex this project focusses on Improving access to cardiovascular disease prevention (CVDP) and management for those with a learning disability and autistic people.
Delivery of co-produced short films, training and easy read resources.

Tobacco Dependency Resource project
Funded by NHS Sussex this project followed on from funding for the cardiovascular disease prevention work: focussing on tobacco dependency.

West Sussex Self Advocacy
Funded by Independent Lives and the Ernest Kleinwort Trust the project supports people with learning disabilities in West Sussex to have a voice and be heard.

Housing Campaign Project
Funded by the Chalk Cliff Trust and East Brighton Trust. This campaign focusses on gaining a better understanding of experiences of local people with leaning disabilities and their housing needs through participation in art projects supporting the campaign.

16. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2025.

17. COMMITMENTS UNDER OPERATING LEASES

At 31 March 2025 , the charity had the following commitments under non-cancellable operating leases , payable as follows:

Premises	2025	2024
Payments due:	£	£
Within one year	19,310	18,390
Between two and five years	-	-
	19,310	18,390

The lease for the office premises at Brighthelm Church and Community Centre , North Road , Brighton, BN1 1YD is on a rolling contract since 1st September 2020.

BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	7,262	3,825
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	982	958
Charitable activities		
Contracts	105,063	83,369
Online filing incentive	5,000	5,000
Grants	212,531	227,717
	322,594	316,086
Total incoming resources	330,838	320,869
EXPENDITURE		
Raising donations and legacies		
Raising funds	2,488	3,566
Charitable activities		
Project costs	30,333	28,042
Staff costs	253,847	231,330
Premises and office costs	30,864	28,889
Professional costs	10,544	14,403
Governance costs	3,358	4,460
	328,946	307,124
Total resources expended	331,434	310,690
Net (expenditure)/income	(596)	10,179

BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

England & Wales - Charity number 1076995

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 03807112 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1076995

CHARITY
COMMISSION

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND

UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

FOR

BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

F1 CRT Limited
Flat 24 Wellingtonia Court
Laine Close
Brighton
East Sussex
BN1 6TD

CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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Independent Examiner's Report	9
Statement of Financial Activities	10
Balance Sheet	11
Notes to the Financial Statements	12 to 19

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes 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
Objectives and aims

Speak Out's Objects

The Charitable objects are : 'the relief of people who have learning difficulties and who live in Brighton and Hove or the immediately surrounding area'.

Speak Out believes people with a learning difficulty/disability should have the support they need to speak up and be heard , participate in decisions made about their lives and access the services they need.

Speak Out's Aims

-People with learning disabilities to claim their rights , and deliver the skills , confidence and knowledge to make choices and take control of their lives.
-People with learning disabilities to get support to speak up and be listened to.
-Services to change in a way that people with learning disabilities wan.
-The needs of people with learning disabilities to be included in local policies and public service plans.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Speak out's activities

Brighton and Hove Speak Out is a dynamic, independent advocacy charity supporting people with learning disabilities to speak up and take action about the things that matter to them. Our mission is to work alongside people with learning disabilities to make sure they get their voices heard and can address problems they face and live fulfilling lives.
We deliver advocacy with impact, through which people with learning disabilities develop networks, skills and confidence so that they can:

- Challenge discrimination and access their rights
- Make their own choices and have control in their lives
- Access the support and services they need
- Build community links and take an active part in and contribute to community life
- Reduce isolation and improve their wellbeing
- Raise awareness of issues that matter them, challenge policy and campaign for change

We do this by offering a unique range of advocacy services and community projects for adults and young pwld (17+yrs). A team of staff and volunteers supported 483 beneficiaries in 2023/24 with a wide range of issues. Service users were supported to build their skills and confidence and develop community/peer networks leading to greater resilience, reduced isolation and improved wellbeing.

Our current services include:

1-1 issue advocacy. People with learning disabilities are supported by a trained advocate to solve problems, express opinions and make choices about issues in their life. We are part of a pan Sussex partnership led by Pohwer which delivers community and statutory Care Act advocacy and also advocacy support for learning disabled parents going through child protection proceedings.

Citizen advocacy - People with learning disabilities are partnered with volunteers who provide longer term individual advocacy.

Self-advocacy groups and user led campaigning - We facilitate a number of self-advocacy groups which support members to explore and problem solve themes and issues whilst developing the confidence to speak out, learn new skills have a voice in the provision of local health, social care and mainstream services via close work with the Brighton and Hove Learning Disability Partnership Board. The Learning Disability Voices Network enables people to come together and campaign about the shared issues and positive changes for the wider learning-disabled community.

Weekly drop-in sessions - Drop ins offer a space for people to meet and support each other, access immediate short-term advocacy, information and signposting whilst providing peer support to each other.

Consultation activities. We run a variety of focus groups and interviews around themed consultations in conjunction with the Council in order to design services to meet local needs better. Speak Out's engagement work and partnership with the Council and NHS Sussex enables people with learning disabilities to have a voice and positively influence service development.

Easy read and training. We support people with learning disabilities to become trainers and run learning disability awareness training for a variety of services in order to improve the understanding and support of people locally. We also run Accessible Information Training. Additionally, we support local organisations to create accessible easy read information in order that their information can be understood by their learning-disabled service users.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in the planning of future activities.

Speak Out has many links with council, health, leisure and other services in the city and we use these links to positively influence how they work with the learning disabled community. Through our group work and awareness raising training, we ensure that local services understand the needs and priorities of learning disabled people and have tools to help them work more effectively. Additionally, we work more formally with the council in facilitating the Learning Disability Partnership Board and the CCG in order to make plans for people with learning disabilities locally.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Achievements and Performance in 2023-24

Speak Out had another successful year in 2023/24, facilitating energetic and varied activity, involving many people with learning disabilities in ensuring the voices of people with learning disabilities were heard by local services, policy and decision makers, other key stakeholders and the wider community.

The year started with Speak Out's new CEO in place, Will Davies, plus other new additions to the staff team: Ana Ballesteros joining the 1:1 advocates team and Sian Klein becoming our new Administrator and Fundraising Assistant. We also welcomed new Trustees; Tor Goldfield, Emily Hindle, Margaret Wood, and Nathaniel Lawford to the Speak Out Board.

Notable achievements this year were:

- Expanding our Transitions Advocacy project for young people with learning disabilities, through successfully securing three more years funding support from Henry Smith Charity

- Launching a Big Focus Housing campaign, aiming to improve housing options and information for people with learning disabilities in Brighton and Hove

- Thumbs Up trainers (who are people with learning disabilities) provided learning disability awareness training to over 260 people in health and social care services

- The Learning Disability Partnership Board was given a fresh start, increasing participation from people with learning disabilities and statutory and non-statutory partners. The new look Board is now more inclusive and has improved impact in delivering outcomes in the Councils Learning Disability 'Big Plan' strategy

- Self Advocates worked with the NHS to improve access to health care and prevention of Cardiovascular Disease through the co-production of accessible resources, films, and training

Our experts by experience also attended conferences, including Speak Out and Grace Eyre joining forces to run a workshop at the Learning Disability England (LDE) annual conference on how people with learning disabilities can get involved in politics. Later in the year we were happy to meet and welcome new Councillors individually and at Open Advocacy events, who were genuinely interested in Speak Out's work and ethos.

Our Projects - Self advocacy

Speak Out's Learning Disability Voices Network (LDVN) is a self-advocacy network that aims to support people with learning disabilities to bring about significant and tangible changes in a number of ways. One of the ways is through quarterly Open Advocacy meetings. We hosted 4 meetings this year, with self-advocates with learning disabilities leading on planning and delivery, covering the **cost of living crisis, mental health, relationships and health & wellbeing.** Over the year 148 people with learning disabilities took part in LDVN self-advocacy groups and events.

The LDVN project's Our Voices Matter group also got busy making podcasts focusing on themes including health & social care, employment, housing, mental health and hate crime/discrimination. Group members said:

"I have gained confidence and made new friends by coming to the Our Voices Matter group".

"The group gives us space to share our stories, connect to one another and have our voices heard by the local community".

Community Drop-in sessions

Speak Out also provides opportunities to speak up through weekly drop-ins in central and east Brighton and Hove, and through 1:1 advocacy. 126 people attended drop-ins to get support, meet people, support their mental health, and find out information. Some comments from the drop-ins included the following:
"I feel confident that I can talk about things in a comfortable environment, without worrying about them".

"It has helped me get my confidence back after I had problems at work".

"I feel part of Speak Out. It's where I see friends and get involved. It's okay to talk to people there."

1-1 Advocacy Casework

The Speak Out Community Advocates exceeded targets, delivering 249 1:1 cases supporting 163 people on a broad range of issues including care planning, accessing health care and housing support - notably we supported 32 parents with a learning disabilities going through child protection proceedings, exceeding our target of 15. Challenges for the team this year include reaching people from some specific underrepresented communities e.g. people with complex needs and those who are isolated with little or no support, people experiencing long waits for support, and lack of support with housing. Comments from beneficiaries about 1:1 advocacy include:

"My advocate has helped me to speak to the council on my behalf, as I felt I wasn't being heard".

"My advocate was very useful. I had an issue and I didn't know what to do. I was panicking. Sometimes I can't do things by myself and Speak Out was by my side".

Overall, this year Speak Out helped **483** people in various ways through advocacy. This is an increase on numbers reached in 2022/23. Lastly, as always, we would like to say a special thank you to our dedicated team of volunteers. This year, 24 volunteers contributed 1,500 hours of time to Speak Out, and to helping us achieve our Mission.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The year ended 31st March 2024 recorded a net income over expenditure surplus of £10,179, with a £11,293 surplus on unrestricted funds and a deficit of £1,114 on restricted funds. Total reserves now stand at £127,829 of which £110,573 is unrestricted funds and £17,256 restricted funds. Total reserves in 2023 stood at £117,650 of which £99,280 was unrestricted and £18,370 was restricted funds.

Total income for the year ended 31st March 2024 amounted to £320,869 compared to £300,379 in the previous year, an increase of £20,490 from 2023.

Total expenditure for the year ended 31st March 2024 amounted to £310,690 compared to £292,358 in the previous year, an increase of £18,332 from 2023.

Reserves policy

Brighton & Hove Speak Out is committed to using its resources in pursuit of its charitable objectives. It is also committed however to maintaining a level of reserves that is prudent to meet on-going liabilities.

In seeking to balance these priorities, the trustees have agreed that, it is prudent to hold a level of reserves that equates to 4 months of current expenditure.

The trustees have designated funds towards website development and extra core staffing support around marketing of £8,273. This leaves £102,300 in general unrestricted reserves, which amounts to 3.9 months of budgeted expenditure for 2024/25 in operational reserve. This is slightly below the level set by our policy, the future financial outlook is to pursue a policy of increasing reserves, both by diversifying income generation and by continuing to effectively manage resources, as identified in our Plans for the Future section. However, the trustees are confident they have sufficient reserves for funding forthcoming commitments in the coming year. The board of trustees monitors the level of reserves and takes appropriate action if reserves fall outside the desired range.

FUTURE PLANS

Our plans for 2024/25 include extending and strengthening our drop-in services to parts of the city that experience higher levels of deprivation, secure funding to continue our successful Learning Disability Voices Network, forge closer collaborations and partnerships with other voluntary sector groups to increase opportunities for people we support, and to continue and develop our much need 1:1 advocacy service.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is constituted as a company limited by guarantee incorporated on 14 July 1999.

It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

It gained charitable status on 11 August 1999.

In the event of the company being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Organisational structure

Brighton & Hove Speak Out is currently governed by a Board of 8 people who are voted in at the AGM, 7 of whom are Trustees. Of the wider board, four people have a learning disability and/or autism. One Trustee resigned in 2024 and 4 new Trustees joined the Board in 2024. The board has two subgroups: Operations (overseeing finance, HR, and strategy), and Comms (overseeing comms, marketing and promotion). The board is advised by people with learning disabilities and Speak Out volunteers via focus groups and workshops and their feedback is incorporated into planning direct project work and longer-term goals. New board members are provided with training to understand their governance role and can attend external training about this.

Speak Out employed 12 permanent staff during 2023/24, two of whom are full time with the remaining working part time. The posts comprised the CEO, the Deputy, and project workers delivering front line advocacy, group work and outreach. One member of staff has a learning disability and other people with learning disabilities were employed on an ad hoc basis to deliver Learning Disability Awareness, Accessibility, and Health Training across the city. Our work was supported by a team of 18 volunteers including trustees.

Decision making

The Charity produces an annually updated 3 year development plan which outlines the project work plans for the year ahead and potential developments for future years. All staff and Board members participate in deciding the priorities for future work and fundraising. User views are influential in this process , supplied by evaluation and individual feedback throughout the year and the views provided by the Advisors Group. Staff make regular work reports to the Governance Board who monitor progress and targets reached throughout the year.

Risk review

The Trustees have conducted their own review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed and systems have been established to mitigate those risks. Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and events and by ensuring consistent quality of delivery for all operational aspects of the charity. These procedures are reviewed periodically to ensure that they still meet the needs of the charity.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

03807112 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1076995

Registered office

The Brighthelm Centre
40 North Road
Brighton
East Sussex
BN1 1YD

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

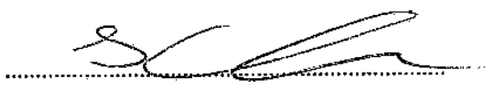
Trustees
Kate Mclachlan
Rohan Lowe
Jo-Anne Carden (Chair)
Shelley Brown (resigned 19.6.23)
Nick Handley (resigned 25.9.23)
Victoria Goldfield (appointed 19.6.23)
Emily Hindle (appointed 25.9.23) (resigned 26.2.24)
Sophie Cook (appointed 20.5.24)
Rahul Bhoopal Sarnaik (appointed 26.2.24)
Margaret Wood (appointed 29.11.23)
Nathaniel Lawford (appointed 29.11.23)

Company Secretary
Jo-Anne Carden

Independent Examiner
Christopher Robert Tyler FCA DChA FCIE
F1 CRT Limited
Flat 24 Wellingtonia Court
Laine Close
Brighton
East Sussex
BN1 6TD

Bankers
CafCash Limited
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4TA

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 25/11/24 and signed on its behalf by:



Jo-Anne Carden - Trustee

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees (who are also the directors of Brighton & Hove Speak Out 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).

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.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Brighton & Hove Speak Out ('the Company')
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2024.

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

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

Independent examiner's statement
Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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

Christopher Robert Tyler FCA DChA FCIE

F1 CRT Limited
Flat 24 Wellingtonia Court
Laine Close
Brighton
East Sussex
BN1 6TD

Date: 24 December 2024

BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	3,823	2	3,825	3,481
Charitable activities	4				
Grants		55,305	172,412	227,717	213,727
Other income		5,000	-	5,000	5,000
Sales		11,016	-	11,016	5,450
Contracts		-	72,353	72,353	72,353
Investment income	3	958	-	958	368
Total		76,102	244,767	320,869	300,379
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	5	3,566	-	3,566	8,050
Charitable activities	6				
Charitable activities		61,243	245,881	307,124	284,308
Total		64,809	245,881	310,690	292,358
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		11,293	(1,114)	10,179	8,021
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		99,280	18,370	117,650	109,629
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		110,573	17,256	127,829	117,650

The notes form part of these financial statements

BALANCE SHEET
31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	13	9,103	-	9,103	10,166
Cash at bank and in hand		112,755	17,255	130,010	154,384
		121,858	17,255	139,113	164,550
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	14	(11,284)	-	(11,284)	(46,900)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		110,574	17,255	127,829	117,650
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		110,574	17,255	127,829	117,650
NET ASSETS		110,574	17,255	127,829	117,650
FUNDS	15				
Unrestricted funds				110,574	99,280
Restricted funds				17,255	18,370
TOTAL FUNDS				127,829	117,650

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

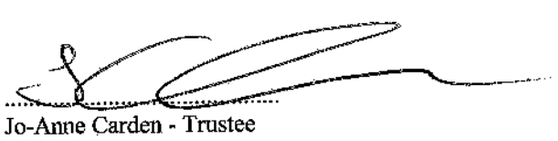
The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

(a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and

(b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

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 and authorised for issue on 25/11/24 and were signed on its behalf by:



Jo-Anne Carden - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard FRS102 '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.

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

The trustees/directors consider that there are no material uncertainties about the company's ability to continue as a going concern.

Income
Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds , any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met , it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants , whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants , is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds , any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met , it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Incoming resources from charitable activities are recognised on an earned basis in the year in which the conditions for receipt are met.

Expenditure
Expenditure is recognised in the period in which it is incurred.

Expenditure on grants is recorded once the Charity has made an unconditional commitment to pay the grant and this has been communicated to the beneficiary or the grant has been paid , whichever is the earlier.

Expenditure is allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on the basis consistent with the use of resources. Allocations are predominantly based on usage and staff time expended.

Tangible fixed assets
Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful life , or where specifically for a project , over the life of the project. The company has a minimum value of £750 for capitalisation of fixed assets.

Depreciation policy applied:

Equipment - over 2 years on a straight line basis.

Taxation
The charity 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. Accordingly the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 , to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

continued...

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Operating leases
Rentals payable under operating leases are charged on a straight line basis over the terms of the lease.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Donations	3,825	3,481

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2024	2023
	£	£
Deposit account interest	958	368

4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Activity	2024	2023
		£	£
Grants	Grants	227,717	213,727
Online filing incentive	Other income	5,000	5,000
Contracts	Sales	11,016	5,450
Contracts	Contracts	72,353	72,353
		316,086	296,530

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Barchester Charitable Foundation	-	400
Boshier Hinton Foundation	-	800
Brighton and Hove City Council	64,322	64,322
Chalk Cliff Trust	-	800
Douglas Arter Foundation	-	500
Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust	-	5,000
The February Foundation	5,000	-
Garfield Weston	10,000	-
Good Things Foundation	-	2,000
The Hendy Foundation	-	810
Henry Smith Trust	89,100	86,600
Learning Disability England	-	3,300
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	16,228
NHS Sussex ICB	27,395	16,000
The Open University - Social History Group	2,400	-
The Pebble Trust	-	4,667
Postcode Society Trust	25,000	-
South Coast Ambulance Service	-	1,800
Sussex Community Foundation	750	3,000
Trust for Developing Communities	3,750	7,500
	227,717	213,727

continued...

4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - continued

The following grants received in 2023/24 have been deferred to 2024/25:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Transitions - Henry Smith Trust	-	14,850
CVDP - NHS Sussex ICB	-	27,395

5. RAISING FUNDS

Raising donations and legacies

	2024	2023
	£	£
Raising funds	3,566	8,050

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs (see note 7)
	£
Charitable activities	307,124

7. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Project costs	28,042	17,164
Staff costs	231,330	215,759
Premises and office costs	28,889	29,183
Professional costs	14,403	15,898
Governance costs	4,460	6,304
	307,124	284,308

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2024	2023
	£	£
Independent examiner's fee	1,000	1,000

continued...

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Trustees' expenses

One trustee was reimbursed travel expenses of £9 (2023 : £75).

10. STAFF COSTS

Staff costs were as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Salaries	202,776	186,661
Social security costs	14,734	13,931
Pension costs	3,663	3,479
	221,173	204,071
Average number of employees	7	7

No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000 (2023 : none).

Brighton & Hove Speak Out considers that the key management personnel comprise the Board of Trustees and the Director. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £37,977 (2023 : £38,279).

11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (2023)

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	3,481	-	3,481
Charitable activities			
Grants	50,655	163,072	213,727
Other income	5,000	-	5,000
Sales	5,450	-	5,450
Contracts	72,353	-	72,353
Investment income	368	-	368
Total	137,307	163,072	300,379
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	8,050	-	8,050
Charitable activities			
Charitable activities	121,745	162,563	284,308
Total	129,795	162,563	292,358
NET INCOME	7,512	509	8,021

continued...

11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (2023) - continued

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	91,767	17,862	109,629
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	99,279	18,371	117,650

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Office equipment £
COST	
At 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024	870
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024	870
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2024	-
At 31 March 2023	-

13. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
Other debtors	7,246	8,329
Rent deposit	1,000	1,000
Prepayments and accrued income	857	837
	9,103	10,166

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	6,796	1,062
Social security and other taxes	3,488	2,563
Other creditors	-	30
Accruals	1,000	1,000
Deferred income	-	42,245
	11,284	46,900

continued...

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	99,280	11,294	(8,273)	102,301
Designated fund - towards website development and extra core staffing support around marketing.	-	-	8,273	8,273
	99,280	11,294	-	110,574
Restricted funds				
Brighton and Hove City Council - Speak Out East	-	519	-	519
Cardiovascular Disease Prevention	-	3,011	-	3,011
Henry Smith Trust - LDVN	18,370	(5,275)	-	13,095
Henry Smith Trust - Transitions	-	630	-	630
	18,370	(1,115)	-	17,255
TOTAL FUNDS	117,650	10,179	-	127,829

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	76,102	(64,808)	11,294
Restricted funds			
Archive Project	2,400	(2,400)	-
Brighton and Hove City Council - Advocacy	72,354	(72,354)	-
Brighton and Hove City Council - Engagement	38,000	(38,000)	-
Brighton and Hove City Council - Speak Out East	15,517	(14,998)	519
Cardiovascular Disease Prevention	27,395	(24,384)	3,011
Henry Smith Trust - LDVN	59,401	(64,676)	(5,275)
Henry Smith Trust - Transitions	29,700	(29,070)	630
	244,767	(245,882)	(1,115)
TOTAL FUNDS	320,869	(310,690)	10,179

continued...

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	91,767	7,513	99,280
Restricted funds			
Covid Stories	7,162	(7,162)	-
Help Line	438	(438)	-
Henry Smith Trust - LDVN	-	18,370	18,370
Henry Smith Trust - Transitions	1,016	(1,016)	-
The National Lottery Community Fund - LDVN	9,246	(9,246)	-
	17,862	508	18,370
TOTAL FUNDS	109,629	8,021	117,650

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	137,307	(129,794)	7,513
Restricted funds			
Brighton and Hove City Council - Engagement	38,001	(38,001)	-
Brighton and Hove City Council - Speak Out East	16,166	(16,166)	-
Covid Stories	800	(7,962)	(7,162)
Help Line	1,667	(2,105)	(438)
Henry Smith Trust - LDVN	59,400	(41,030)	18,370
Henry Smith Trust - Transitions	27,200	(28,216)	(1,016)
The National Lottery Community Fund - LDVN	18,228	(27,474)	(9,246)
Parent and Mother Project	1,610	(1,610)	-
	163,072	(162,564)	508
TOTAL FUNDS	300,379	(292,358)	8,021

The purpose of each restricted funding was as follows:

Learning Disability Voices Network (LDVN)
The LDVN is funded by The Henry Smith Charity, ir is a user led project which brings together people with learning disabilities to have a strong collective voice in order to address issues they face and bring about positive change for themselves and the wider community. The project supports a range of activities including group work, drop ins and other events.

Transitions

continued...

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

The Henry Smith Foundation funds this project providing a range of advocacy support, including groups and one to one advocacy for young people going through the transition from children to adults' services and resulting in greater independence.

Speak Out East
Brighton & Hove City Council (BHCC) funds Speak Out East —The council fund Speak Out East, a drop in based in East Brighton which brings together people with learning disabilities and volunteers on a weekly basis and supports people with learning disabilities to link in with the local community.

Engagement
Brighton City Council funds engagement work with people with learning disabilities in the City via a network ofself-advocacy groups and regular external focus groups. This work is part of a citywide engagement and community development partnership which is led by another local charity, The Trust for Developing Communities.

Cardiovascular Disease Prevention (CVDP)
Funded by NHS Sussex this project focusses on Improving access to cardiovascular disease prevention (CVDP) and management for those with a learning disability and autistic people.
Delivery of co-produced short films, training and easy read resources.

Archive Project
A research project, funded by the Open University Social History Research group.
Involved Speak Out members undertaking research into the accessibility of archives and the recorded history of people with learning disabilities.

16. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2024.

17. COMMITMENTS UNDER OPERATING LEASES

At 31 March 2024 , the charity had the following commitments under non-cancellable operating leases , payable as follows:

Premises	2024	2023
	£	£
Payments due:		
Within one year	18,390	17,683
Between two and five years	-	-
	18,390	17,683

The lease for the office premises at Brighthelm Church and Community Centre , North Road , Brighton, BN1 1YD is on a rolling contract since 1st September 2020.

BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

England & Wales - Charity number 1076995

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 03807112 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1076995

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND

UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

FOR

BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

F1 CRT Limited
Flat 24 Wellingtonia Court
Laine Close
Brighton
East Sussex
BN1 6TD

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BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. 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

Objectives and aims

Speak Out's Objects

The Charitable objects are : 'the relief of people who have learning difficulties and who live in Brighton and Hove or the immediately surrounding area'.

Speak Out believes people with a learning difficulty/disability should have the support they need to speak up and be heard , participate in decisions made about their lives and access the services they need.

Speak Out's Aims

-People with learning disabilities to claim their rights , and deliver the skills , confidence and knowledge to make choices and take control of their lives.
-People with learning disabilities to get support to speak up and be listened to.
-Services to change in a way that people with learning disabilities wan.
-The needs of people with learning disabilities to be included in local policies and public service plans.

BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Speak out's activities

Brighton and Hove Speak Out is a dynamic, independent advocacy charity supporting people with learning disabilities to speak up and take action about the things that matter to them. Our mission is to work alongside people with learning disabilities to make sure they get their voices heard and can address problems they face and live fulfilling lives.

We deliver advocacy with impact, through which people with learning disabilities develop networks, skills and confidence so that they can:

- Challenge discrimination and access their rights
- Make their own choices and have control in their lives
- Access the support and services they need
- Build community links and take an active part in and contribute to community life
- Reduce isolation and improve their wellbeing
- Raise awareness of issues that matter them, challenge policy and campaign for change

We do this by offering a unique range of advocacy services and community projects for adults and young pwld (17+yrs). A team of staff and volunteers supported 439 beneficiaries in 2022-23 with a wide range of issues. Service users were supported to build their skills and confidence and develop community/peer networks leading to greater resilience, reduced isolation and improved wellbeing.

Our current services include:

1-1 issue advocacy. People with learning disabilities are supported by a trained advocate to solve problems, express opinions and make choices about issues in their life. We are part of a pan Sussex partnership led by Pohwer which delivers community and statutory Care Act advocacy and also advocacy support for learning disabled parents going through child prote ction proceedings.

Citizen advocacy - People with learning disabilities are partnered with volunteers who provide longer term individual advocacy.

Self-advocacy groups and user led campaigning - We facilitate a number of self-advocacy groups which support members to explore and problem solve themes and issues whilst developing the confidence to speak out, learn new skills have a voice in the provision of local health, social care and mainstream services via close work with the Brighton and Hove Learning Disability Partnership Board. The Learning Disability Voices Network enables people to come together and campaign about the shared issues and posit ive changes for the wider learning-disabled community.

Weekly drop-in sessions - Drop ins offer a space for people to meet and support each other, access immediate short-term advocacy, inf ormation and signposting whilst providing peer support to each other.

Consultation activities. We run a variety of focus groups and interviews around themed consultations in conjunction with the Council in order to design services to meet local needs better. Speak Out's engagement work and partnership with the Council and NHS Sussex enables people with learning disabilities to have a voice and positively influence service development.

Easy read and training. We support people with learning disabilities to become trainers and run learning disability awareness training for a variety of services in order to improve the understanding and support of people locally. We also run Accessible Information Training. Additionally, we support local organisations to create accessible easy read information in order t hat their information can be understood by their learning-disabled service users.

BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in the planning of future activities.

Speak Out has many links with council, health, leisure and other services in the city and we use these links to positively influence how they work with the learning disabled community. Through our group work and awareness raising training, we ensure that local services understand the needs and priorities of learning disabled people and have tools to help them work more effectively. Additionally, we work more formally with the council in facilitating the Learning Disability Partnership Board and the CCG in order to make plans for people with learning disabilities locally.

BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Achievements and Performance in 2022-23

2022/23 was a year of rebuilding capacity after the Covid pandemic. For many of our members, supporters, and staff the first half of this year was still about adjusting to a post covid world: returning to groups, re-establishing in person working, and supporting people to build up confidence. We have been focused on encouraging people to return to our services whilst maintaining safe environments. We have worked hard to re-establish our services to pre covid levels and supporting members to feel secure attending in person activities. It has been a year of change and a positive one at that.

We were sad to bid farewell to Sarah Pickard, Speak Out Director of the charity from 2013 and with Speak Out since 2005 Sarah, along with Emily Barratt, was instrumental in getting Speak Out off the ground and building it into the strong advocacy organisation that it is today. We thank her for her great work and commitment to Speak Out over the years. We also said goodbye to Dawn Thorpe Self Advocacy team leader who coordinated The Learning Disability Voices network from its beginning, Chris Mansour, who established and coordinated our Transitions advocacy project for Young people with Learning Disabilities since its beginning in 2018, Emma Lopez, Engagement Coordinator, and Sarah Coombes, Volunteer Coordinator, who had been at Speak Out since 2012. We wish them all well and the very best of luck for the future. We were pleased to welcome the following new team members:

Will Davies, joined Speak Out in March 23 as the new CEO. Will brings a wealth of experience from his time as CEO at Lewisham Speaking Up in South East London. We were also joined by Sarah Charsley as the new Transitions Advocacy Coordinator, Alex Kaye as Self-Advocacy Team leader, and Frances Sulikowski as Engagement Coordinator. No doubt they will enhance and strengthen the charity's work with the variety of skills and experience they bring.

This year our team has continued to deliver and develop our services and meet funder targets, including; delivery of 1:1 advocacy case work, support to parents in child protection proceedings and young people in transition to adult services, providing self-advocacy groups and drop ins, offered learning disability awareness training and worked locally with partners to improve services for people with learning disabilities (pwld).

Speak Out's work continued to enable pwld to have a voice and take action about the things they care about. Demand for advocacy support remained high, particularly in relation to housing, isolation and mental health issues. This year, we successfully secured funding for all core services until 2025; we continue to seek core funding and additional funding to extend our community drop-in sessions to other locations in the city.

Some highlights this year include receiving 2 national Learning Disability and Autism Leaders Awards in 2022 for Danielle Garratt (staff member with a learning disability) for her self-advocacy, research and film work during the pandemic, and for our ever successful 'Thumbs Up' project for their Better Health campaign. An exhibition of artwork and recordings from our Covid Stories project took place at the Jubilee library, Brighton in September 22 - depicting how people with learning disabilities navigated the pandemic. We have also successfully launched the next phase of our user-led Learning Disability Voices Network project with three year funding from Henry Smith Charity. We continued to work with the Learning Disability Partnership Board around delivery of the BHCC LD strategy, which aims to provide better support and services to people with learning disabilities living in the City.

Our services

This year we assisted **439** people with a learning disability in different ways.

We delivered **189** 1-1 advocacy cases supporting **121** people with learning disabilities. A high proportion of pwld supported through 1-1 advocacy have been supported to access other support organisations or had community support increased. Over the past year numbers of people accessing 1:1 advocacy has remained high. Key issues addressed include access to health and social care, access to mental health services and other wellbeing support, inappropriate housing, safeguarding, criminal justice, support for parents going through child protection proceedings and young people moving to more independent accommodation during their transition to adult services. We were pleased that people reported feeling that their voices were heard during meetings/ decision in their lives with support from an advocate.

141 pwld attending drop ins this year; **107** sessions were held. There was an increase in numbers attending drop-in sessions over the year, indicating more people felt comfortable to attend in-person activities following the pandemic. Isolation remained an issue for many pwld and high numbers of participants in groups and drop-ins told us how important seeing others/ accessing peer support at Speak Out is to them: 'I have some where to come to talk about the difficult things.'

52 pwld attended advocacy groups and **92** meetings were held. **207** pwld took part in consultations/ focus groups and interviews and **71** people attended workshops and events. Other work this year included producing and sharing easy read document relating to health and local council strategy including accessible City, anti-racism, voting rights, and cost of living support. Speak Out also produced and widely shared films on the experience of pwld during the pandemic and the 50-year history o f self-advocacy.

Volunteers continued to be pivotal to Speak Out's work, adding value across both 1:1 and self-advocacy projects. Collectively, **18** volunteers contributed **1,228** hours for the charity as Citizen Advocates, supporting drop-ins, supporting our Board as Trustees, and assisting with our Covid Stories project.

Feedback

Feedback is important to us as a charity as it tells us if we doing good work and meeting people's needs or if we need to change anything. We were delighted to receive some very positive feedback in 2022/23:

- **54%** pwld reported increased wellbeing/resilience

- **53%** of respondents from Speak Out reported increased skills and confidence to particulate in economic life

- **84%** respondents reported that groups and drop ins helped to build support networks and reduce feelings of isolation

- **100%** of respondents reported that their voices are heard and their views are taken into account through contact with Speak Out

Speak Out had a successful year with fundraising securing grants from Trusts and Foundations, as well as statutory contracts, earned income, donations and community fundraising.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The year ended 31st March 2023 recorded a net income over expenditure surplus of £8,021, with a £7,512 surplus on unrestricted funds and a surplus of £509 on restricted funds. Total reserves now stand at £117,650 of which £99,279 is unrestricted funds and £18,371 restricted funds. Total reserves in 2022 stood at £109,629 of which £91,767 was unrestricted and £17,862 was restricted funds.

Total income for the year ended 31st March 2023 amounted to £300,379 compared to £286,666 in the previous year, an increase of £13,713 from 2022.

Total expenditure for the year ended 31st March 2023 amounted to £292,358 compared to £293,659 in the previous year, a decrease of £1,301 from 2022.

Reserves policy

Brighton & Hove Speak Out is committed to using its resources in pursuit of its charitable objectives. It is also committed however to maintaining a level of reserves that is prudent to meet on-going liabilities.

In seeking to balance these priorities, the trustees have agreed that, it is prudent to hold a level of reserves that equates to 4 months of current expenditure.

At 31 March 2023 there is £99,279 in general unrestricted reserves which equates to 4.0 months of expenditure at 2022/23 levels. As this is slightly below the level set by our policy, the future financial outlook is to pursue a policy of increasing reserves, both by diversifying income generation and by continuing to effectively manage resources, as identified in our Plans for the Future section. However, the trustees are confident they have sufficient reserves for funding forthcoming commitments in the coming year. The board of trustees monitors the level of reserves and takes appropriate action if reserves fall outside the desired range.

FUTURE PLANS

We continue to work hard on our strategic aim to offer advocacy services to more people with learning disabilities in the City. We are particularly keen to engage people who were left behind after Covid, people with hidden learning disabilities who are less likely to get support, and younger people with learning disabilities. We want to help more people who experiencing hardship because of cost of living, housing difficulties, and not enough support.

We will continue to deliver on our other strategic aims to:

- Build and develop our current successful projects
- Develop new projects where there are gaps in provision
- Increase our campaigning - making it stronger with more impact
- Develop regional and national partnerships to strengthen self-advocacy
- Develop new approaches to bring in additional income
- Build a stronger Board

We are excited as we go into 23/24 with a new team who have a variety of excellent skills. We want Speak Out to be agile, responsive, and more reactive as we move forward.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is constituted as a company limited by guarantee incorporated on 14 July 1999.

It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

It gained charitable status on 11 August 1999.

In the event of the company being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Organisational structure

Brighton & Hove Speak Out is currently governed by a Board of 8 people who are voted in at the AGM, 5 of whom are Trustees. Of the wider board, four people have a learning disability. Two Trustees resigned in 2023 and two new Trustees joined the Board in 2023: one in June and another in September. The board has two subgroups: Operations (overseeing finance, HR, and strategy), and Comms (overseeing comms, marketing and promotion). The board is advised by people with learning disabilities and Speak Out volunteers via focus groups and workshops and their feedback is incorporated into planning direct project work and longer-term goals. New board members are provided with training to understand their governance role and can attend external training about this.

Speak Out employed 12 permanent staff during 2022-23, two of whom are full time with the remaining working part time. The posts comprised the CEO, the Deputy, Operations and Finance Officer, and 9 project workers delivering front line advocacy, group work and outreach. One member of staff has a learning disability and other people with learning disabilities were employed on an ad hoc basis to deliver Learning Disability Awareness, Accessibility, and Health Training across the city. Our work was supported by a team of 18 volunteers including trustees.

Decision making

The Charity produces an annually updated 3 year development plan which outlines the project work plans for the year ahead and potential developments for future years. All staff and Board members participate in deciding the priorities for future work and fundraising. User views are influential in this process , supplied by evaluation and individual feedback throughout the year and the views provided by the Advisors Group. Staff make regular work reports to the Governance Board who monitor progress and targets reached throughout the year.

Risk review

The Trustees have conducted their own review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed and systems have been established to mitigate those risks. Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and events and by ensuring consistent quality of delivery for all operational aspects of the charity. These procedures are reviewed periodically to ensure that they still meet the needs of the charity.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

03807112 (England and Wales)

BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Registered Charity number
1076995

Registered office
The Brighthelm Centre
40 North Road
Brighton
East Sussex
BN1 1YD

Trustees
Kate Mclachlan
Rohan Lowe
Jo-Anne Carden (Chair)
Shelley Brown (resigned 19.6.23)
Nick Handley (resigned 25.9.23)
Victoria Goldfield (appointed 19.6.23)
Emily Hindle (appointed 25.9.23)

Company Secretary
Jo-Anne Carden

Independent Examiner
Christopher Robert Tyler FCA DChA FCIE
F1 CRT Limited
Flat 24 Wellingtonia Court
Laine Close
Brighton
East Sussex
BN1 6TD

Bankers
CafCash Limited
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4TA

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES
The trustees (who are also the directors of Brighton & Hove Speak Out 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).

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.

BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 13th Nov 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Jo-Anne Carden - Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Brighton & Hove Speak Out ('the Company')
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2023.

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

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

Independent examiner's statement
Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the **ERROR - relevant professional body must be completed**, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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



Christopher Robert Tyler FCA DChA FCIE

F1 CRT Limited
Flat 24 Wellingtonia Court
Laine Close
Brighton
East Sussex
BN1 6TD

Date: 13th December 2023

BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	3,481	-	3,481	3,241
Charitable activities	4				
Grants		50,655	163,072	213,727	197,733
Other income		5,000	-	5,000	4,000
Sales		5,450	-	5,450	9,334
Contracts		72,353	-	72,353	72,353
Investment income	3	368	-	368	5
Total		137,307	163,072	300,379	286,666
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	5	8,050	-	8,050	266
Charitable activities	6				
Charitable activities		121,745	162,563	284,308	293,393
Total		129,795	162,563	292,358	293,659
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		7,512	509	8,021	(6,993)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		91,767	17,862	109,629	116,622
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		99,279	18,371	117,650	109,629

BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

BALANCE SHEET
31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	13	10,166	-	10,166	9,895
Cash at bank and in hand		136,014	18,370	154,384	139,259
		146,180	18,370	164,550	149,154
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	14	(46,900)	-	(46,900)	(39,525)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		99,280	18,370	117,650	109,629
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		99,280	18,370	117,650	109,629
NET ASSETS		99,280	18,370	117,650	109,629
FUNDS	15				
Unrestricted funds				99,280	91,767
Restricted funds				18,370	17,862
TOTAL FUNDS				117,650	109,629

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

(a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and

(b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

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 and authorised for issue on 13th Nov 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

Jo-Anne Carden - Trustee

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard FRS102 '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.

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

The trustees/directors consider that there are no material uncertainties about the company's ability to continue as a going concern.

Income
Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds , any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met , it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants , whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants , is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds , any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met , it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Incoming resources from charitable activities are recognised on an earned basis in the year in which the conditions for receipt are met.

Expenditure
Expenditure is recognised in the period in which it is incurred.

Expenditure on grants is recorded once the Charity has made an unconditional commitment to pay the grant and this has been communicated to the beneficiary or the grant has been paid , whichever is the earlier.

Expenditure is allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on the basis consistent with the use of resources. Allocations are predominantly based on usage and staff time expended.

Tangible fixed assets
Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful life , or where specifically for a project , over the life of the project. The company has a minimum value of £750 for capitalisation of fixed assets.

Depreciation policy applied:

Equipment - over 2 years on a straight line basis.

Taxation
The charity 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. Accordingly the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 , to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Operating leases
Rentals payable under operating leases are charged on a straight line basis over the terms of the lease.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2023	2022
	£	£
Donations	3,481	3,241

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2023	2022
	£	£
Deposit account interest	368	5

4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Activity	2023	2022
		£	£
Grants	Grants	213,727	197,733
Online filing incentive	Other income	5,000	4,000
Contracts	Sales	5,450	-
Sales	Sales	-	9,334
Contracts	Contracts	72,353	72,353
		296,530	283,420

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Barchester Charitable Foundation	400	-
Boshier Hinton Foundation	800	-
Brighton and Hove City Council	64,322	31,222
CCG	-	8,000
Chalk Cliff Trust	800	-
Douglas Arter Foundation	500	-
East Brighton Trust	-	500
Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust	5,000	-
The February Foundation	-	5,000
Friargate Trust	-	2,000
Good Things Foundation	2,000	-
The Hendy Foundation	810	-
Henry Smith Trust	86,600	28,900
Learning Disability England	3,300	3,300
The National Lottery Community Fund	16,228	104,228
NHS Sussex ICB	16,000	-
The Pebble Trust	4,667	3,333
South Coast Ambulance Service	1,800	-
Sussex Community Foundation	3,000	7,500
Carried forward	206,227	193,983

4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - continued

	2023	2022
	£	£
Brought forward	206,227	193,983
Trust for Developing Communities	7,500	3,750
	213,727	197,733

The following grants received in 2022/23 have been deferred to 2023/24:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Sussex Community Foundation	-	2,500
Speakfast East - Barchester Charitable Foundation	-	400
Transitions - Henry Smith Trust	14,850	13,600
CVDP - NHS Sussex ICB	27,395	-
LDVN - The National Lottery Community Fund	-	16,228
LDVN - Good Things Foundation	-	2,000
Helpline - The Pebble Trust	-	1,667
Parents Project - The Hendy Foundation	-	810
Parents Project - Boshier Hinton Foundation	-	800

5. RAISING FUNDS

Raising donations and legacies

	2023	2022
	£	£
Raising funds	8,050	266

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs (see note 7)
	£
Charitable activities	284,308

7. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2023	2022
	£	£
Project costs	17,164	13,317
Staff costs	215,759	231,843
Premises and office costs	29,183	27,970
Professional costs	15,898	13,583
Governance costs	6,304	6,680
	284,308	293,393

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2023	2022
	£	£
Independent examiner's fee	1,000	1,000

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor for the year ended 31 March 2022.

One trustee was reimbursed expenses of £75 (2022 : £82).

10. STAFF COSTS

Staff costs were as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Salaries	186,661	204,862
Social security costs	13,931	14,334
Pension costs	3,479	3,943
	204,071	223,139
Average number of employees	7	9

No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000 (2022 : none).

Brighton & Hove Speak Out considers that the key management personnel comprise the Board of Trustees and the Director. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £38,279 (2022 : £40,565).

11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (2022)

	Unrestricted fund	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	3,239	2	3,241
Charitable activities			
Grants	26,104	171,629	197,733
Other income	4,000	-	4,000
Sales	9,334	-	9,334
Contracts	72,353	-	72,353
Investment income	5	-	5
Total	115,035	171,631	286,666
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	266	-	266

11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (2022) - continued

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Charitable activities			
Charitable activities	111,005	182,388	293,393
Total	111,271	182,388	293,659
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	3,764	(10,757)	(6,993)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	88,000	28,622	116,622
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	91,764	17,865	109,629

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Office equipment £
COST	
At 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023	870
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023	870
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2023	-
At 31 March 2022	-

13. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023 £	2022 £
Other debtors	8,329	7,179
Taxes and SSC	-	358
Rent deposit	1,000	1,000
Staff loan	-	334
Prepayments and accrued income	837	1,024
	10,166	9,895

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	1,062	488
Social security and other taxes	2,563	-
Other creditors	30	32
Accruals	1,000	1,000
Deferred income	42,245	38,005
	46,900	39,525

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.22	Net movement in funds	At 31.3.23
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	91,767	7,513	99,280
Restricted funds			
Covid Stories	7,162	(7,162)	-
Help Line	438	(438)	-
Henry Smith Trust - LDVN	-	18,370	18,370
Henry Smith Trust - Transitions	1,016	(1,016)	-
The National Lottery Community Fund - LDVN	9,246	(9,246)	-
	17,862	508	18,370
TOTAL FUNDS	109,629	8,021	117,650

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	137,307	(129,794)	7,513
Restricted funds			
Brighton and Hove City Council - Engagement	38,001	(38,001)	-
Brighton and Hove City Council - Speak Out East	16,166	(16,166)	-
Covid Stories	800	(7,962)	(7,162)
Help Line	1,667	(2,105)	(438)
Henry Smith Trust - LDVN	59,400	(41,030)	18,370
Henry Smith Trust - Transitions	27,200	(28,216)	(1,016)
The National Lottery Community Fund - LDVN	18,228	(27,474)	(9,246)
Parent and Mother Project	1,610	(1,610)	-
	163,072	(162,564)	508
TOTAL FUNDS	300,379	(292,358)	8,021

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	88,000	3,767	91,767
Restricted funds			
CCG - Consultation and Engagement	2,937	(2,937)	-
Covid Stories	-	7,162	7,162
The Edward Gostling Foundation - Transitions	5,000	(5,000)	-
Help Line	-	438	438
Henry Smith Trust - Transitions	-	1,016	1,016
Learning Disability England	4,300	(4,300)	-
Lloyds Bank Foundation - Transitions	1,000	(1,000)	-
The National Lottery Community Fund - LDVN	15,385	(6,139)	9,246
	28,622	(10,760)	17,862
TOTAL FUNDS	116,622	(6,993)	109,629

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	115,036	(111,269)	3,767
Restricted funds			
Brighton and Hove City Council - Speak Out East	15,268	(15,268)	-
CCG - Consultation and Engagement	38,000	(40,937)	(2,937)
CCG - Engage	8,000	(8,000)	-
Covid Stories	9,544	(2,382)	7,162
The Edward Gostling Foundation - Transitions	-	(5,000)	(5,000)
Friargate Trust - Transitions	2,000	(2,000)	-
Help Line	13,234	(12,796)	438
Henry Smith Trust - Transitions	28,900	(27,884)	1,016
Learning Disability England	-	(4,300)	(4,300)
Lloyds Bank Foundation - Transitions	-	(1,000)	(1,000)
The National Lottery Community Fund - LDVN	56,684	(62,823)	(6,139)
	171,630	(182,390)	(10,760)
TOTAL FUNDS	286,666	(293,659)	(6,993)

The purpose of each restricted funding was as follows:

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Learning Disability Voices Network
The National Lottery Community Fund - LDVN (April - June 22)
The Henry Smith Charity (July 22 - March 23)
The Learning Disability Voices Network, is a user led project which brings together people with learning disabilities to have a strong collective voice in order to address issues they face and bring about positive change for themselves and the wider community. The project supports a range of activities including group work, drop ins and other events.

Transitions
The Henry Smith Foundation funds this project providing a range of advocacy support, including groups and one to one advocacy for young people going through the transition from children to adults' services and resulting in greater independence.

Speak Out East
Brighton & Hove City Council (BHCC) funds Speak Out East - The council fund Speak Out East, a drop in based in East Brighton which brings together people with learning disabilities and volunteers on a weekly basis and supports people with learning disabilities to link in with the local community.

Engagement
Brighton City Council funds engagement work with people with learning disabilities in the City via a network of self-advocacy groups and regular external focus groups. This work is part of a citywide engagement and community development partnership which is led by another local charity, The Trust for Developing Communities.

Covid Stories & Helpline
Learning Disability England, Sussex Community Fund, The Chalk Cliff Trust, The February Foundation and the Pebble Trust funded
Speak Out's Covid emergency response. This work included quickly reconfiguring our advocacy services and establishing ways to continue supporting people remotely, over the phone and online so they had the support they needed to navigate the complexities of lockdowns, reduction in other support services and associated problems as they arose. Work included improving digital access, equipment and IT costs and the production of a film highlighting the experiences of people with learning disabilities during covid.

Parent & Mothers Project
The Hendy Foundation and Boshier Hinton Foundation funded a project to:
Provides specialist advocacy support to parents with a learning disability who are going through child protection proceedings. At such a challenging time advocacy can be vital to helping these parents understand their rights and navigate the complicated assessments and legal procedures they have to engage with.

CCG - Consultation and Engagement
NHS Sussex funded
Speak Out was funded by the CCG to provide consultation and engagement about the health needs of people with learning disabilities, especially in relation into the effects of covid

16. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2023.

17. COMMITMENTS UNDER OPERATING LEASES

At 31 March 2023 , the charity had the following commitments under non-cancellable operating leases , payable as follows:

Premises	2023	2022
Payments due:	£	£
Within one year	17,683	17,683
Between two and five years	-	-
	17,683	17,683

The lease for the office premises at Brighthelm Church and Community Centre , North Road , Brighton, BN1 1YD is on a rolling contract since 1st September 2020.

BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	3,481	3,241
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	368	5
Charitable activities		
Contracts	77,803	72,353
Online filing incentive	5,000	4,000
Grants	213,727	197,733
Sales	-	9,334
	296,530	283,420
Total incoming resources	300,379	286,666
EXPENDITURE		
Raising donations and legacies		
Raising funds	8,050	266
Charitable activities		
Project costs	17,164	13,317
Staff costs	215,759	231,843
Premises and office costs	29,183	27,970
Professional costs	15,898	13,583
Governance costs	6,304	6,680
	284,308	293,393
Total resources expended	292,358	293,659
Net income/(expenditure)	8,021	(6,993)

BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

England & Wales - Charity number 1076995

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 03807112 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1076995

CHARITY
COMMISSION

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND

UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

FOR

BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

F1 CRT Limited
Flat 24 Wellingtonia Court
Laine Close
Brighton
East Sussex
BN1 6TD

BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

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BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022. 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

Objectives and aims

Speak Out's Objects

The Charitable objects are : 'the relief of people who have learning difficulties and who live in Brighton and Hove or the immediately surrounding area'.

Speak Out believes people with a learning difficulty/disability should have the support they need to speak up and be heard , participate in decisions made about their lives and access the services they need.

Speak Out's Aims

-People with learning disabilities to claim their rights , and deliver the skills , confidence and knowledge to make choices and take control of their lives.
-People with learning disabilities to get support to speak up and be listened to.
-Services to change in a way that people with learning disabilities wan.
-The needs of people with learning disabilities to be included in local policies and public service plans.

BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Speak out's activities

Brighton and Hove Speak Out is a dynamic, independent advocacy charity for people with learning disabilities to speak up and take action about the things that matter to them. Our mission is to work alongside people with learning disabilities to make sure they get their voices heard and can address problems they face and live fulfilling lives.

We deliver advocacy with impact, through which people with learning disabilities develop networks, skills and confidence so that they can:
- Challenge discrimination and access their rights
- Make their own choices and have control in their lives
- Access the support and services they need
- Build community links and take an active part in and contribute to community life
- Reduce isolation and improve their wellbeing
- Raise awareness of issues that matter them, challenge policy and campaign for change

We do this by offering a unique range of advocacy services and community projects for adults and young people (17+yrs). A team of staff and volunteers supported 382 beneficiaries in 2021-22 with a wide range of issues including accessing health, social care or mental health support, addressing housing/ financial problems, bullying and isolation. Service users were supported to build their skills and confidence and develop community/peer networks leading to greater resilience, reduced isolation and improved wellbeing.

Our current services include:

1-1 issue advocacy - People with learning disabilities are supported by a trained advocate to solve problems, express opinions and make choices about issues in their life. We are part of a pan Sussex partnership led by Pohwer which delivers community and statutory Care Act advocacy and also advocacy support for learning disabled parents going through child prot ection proceedings.

Citizen advocacy - People with learning disabilities are partnered with volunteers who provide longer term individual advocacy.

Self-advocacy groups and user led campaigning - We facilitate a number of self-advocacy groups which support members to explore and problem solve themes and issues whilst developing the confidence to speak out, learn new skills have a voice in the provision of local health, social care and mainstream services via close work with the Brighton and Hove Learning Disability Partnership Board. The Learning Disability Voices Network enables people to come together and campaign about the shared issues and posi tive changes for people with learning disabilities.

Weekly drop-in sessions - Drop ins offer a space for people to meet and support each other, access immediate short -term advocacy, informat ion and signposting whilst providing peer support to each other.

Consultation activities - We run a variety of focus groups and interviews around themed consultations in conjunction with the Council in order to design services to meet local needs better. Speak Out's engagement work and partnership with the Council and NHS Sussex enables people with learning disabilities to have a voice and positively influence service development.

Easy read and training - We support people with learning disabilities to become trainers and run learning disability awareness training for a variety of services in order to improve the understanding and support of people locally. In conjunction with this, we also support local organisations to create accessible easy read information in order that their information can be und erstood by their learning-disabled service users.

BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in the planning of future activities.

Speak Out has many links with council, health, leisure and other services in the city and we use these links to positively influence how they work with the learning disabled community. Through our group work and awareness raising training, we ensure that local services understand the needs and priorities of learning disabled people and have tools to help them work more effectively. Additionally, we work more formally with the council in facilitating the Learning Disability Partnership Board and the CCG in order to make plans for people with learning disabilities locally.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Achievements and Performance in 2021-22

The pandemic has increased many of the issues for people with learning disabilities including isolation, poor mental and physical health. Speak Out has creatively addressed these needs despite covid restrictions which meant we have had to deliver our work online, via calls and more recently reintroducing face to face work. Our staff have continued to provide a wide range of services to support people with learning disabilities including 1:1 advocacy case work, support to parents in child protection proceedings, groups, drop ins and engagement /consultation activities for the council and health authorities. Alongside this we have also continued to support people with learning disabilities to provide LD awareness raising training to local services and to carry out GP quality checks.

At the start of the pandemic, we set up individual welfare calls to those that needed them due to the isolation and stress caused by covid restrictions. The need for these calls continued well into 2021. However, as the risk from covid reduced, we were able to reduce them in favour of face-to-face groups and drop ins which offered a place which offered people a place to re-connect post pandemic and start to reshape their lives.

Speak Out has been recognised locally and nationally for delivering quality work with impact. Our recently awarded QPM (Quality Performance Mark for advocacy) awarded in April 2022 reported how dedicated and impressive Speak Out staff have been at continuing to deliver high class services despite working under very difficult circumstances. They said 'The enthusiasm of staff in Speak Out to continually develop the services they are involved with is astonishing; and the level of energy, despite the stresses of the last two years, demonstrates that there is a strong and committed team.' This year also saw the Being Heard in Government Group winning the national Learning Disability and Autism leader award for their part in making democracy more accessible for people with learning disabilities. Group members have developed in confidence and skills to stand up for the rights of people with learning disabilities.

This year, we have been successful in fundraising to cover existing work and also covid related support for people with learning disabilities. Highlights include refunding the Learning Disabilities Voices Network with 3-year funding from Henry Smith, 3-year funding for our transition project and continued engagement with the CCG amongst other funds.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The year ended 31st March 2022 recorded a net income over expenditure deficit of £6,993, with a £3,764 surplus in unrestricted funds and a deficit of £10,757 in restricted funds. Total reserves now stand at £109,629 of which £91,764 is unrestricted funds and £17,865 restricted funds. Total reserves in 2021 stood at £116,622 of which £88.000 was unrestricted and £28,622 was restricted funds.

Total income for the year ended 31st March 2022 amounted to £286,666 compared to 333,132 in the previous year, a decrease of £46,466 from 2021.

Total expenditure for the year ended 31st March 2022 amounted to £293,393 compared to £299,453 in the previous year, a decrease of £5,794 from 2021.

BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

Brighton & Hove Speak Out is committed to using its resources in pursuit of its charitable objectives. It is also committed however to maintaining a level of reserves that is prudent to meet on-going liabilities.

In seeking to balance these priorities, the trustees have agreed that, it is prudent to hold a level of reserves that equates to 4 months of current expenditure.

At 31 March 2022 there is £91,764 in general unrestricted reserves which equates to 3.7 months of expenditure at 2021/22 levels. As this is slightly below the level set by our policy, the future financial outlook is to pursue a policy of increasing reserves, both by diversifying income generation and by continuing to effectively manage resources, as identified in our Plans for the Future section. However, the trustees are confident they have sufficient reserves for funding forthcoming commitments in the coming year. The board of trustees monitors the level of reserves and takes appropriate action if reserves fall outside the desired range.

FUTURE PLANS

Our refreshed Strategic Plan 2021-24 gives a clear steer for our future plans and is based on feedback we gathered from 120 local stakeholders for our Advocacy Needs Assessment in 2021.

Broadly speaking, we aim to:

1. Increase the numbers of people we work with locally and broaden the range and flexibility of our offer in order to support people in the way they need. We plan to do this by:
- Maintaining and creating successful projects supporting people with learning disabilities to be more confident and able to self-advocate whilst learning transferable skills and knowledge for their future development.
- Developing a new project to support parents with learning disabilities who are at risk of having their children taken into care.
- Outreaching to more people with learning disabilities so that all those that need advocacy know about Speak Out and can access our services.
-Re-establishing links with people with learning disabilities who we have reduced contact with as a result of covid.

2. Increase the visibility of people with learning disabilities and raise awareness of the things they care about. We plan to do this by:
- Supporting more people with learning disabilities to become strong self-advocates by attending training courses, groups and campaigning activities as part of our refunded Voices Network project.
- Raise the profile of the issues facing people with learning disabilities and develop effective, impactful campaigning that brings about positive change for the learning-disabled community locally, regionally and nationally.
- Develop local, regional and national partnerships to increase positive change as a result of self-advocacy.
-Develop Speak Out's easy read and training offer in order to improve services.

3. Diversify income generation and manage resources effectively in order to adapt to change.
-Explore opportunities to develop and implement new approaches to income generation post covid including corporate, legacy and community fundraising.
- Increase unrestricted income from community fundraising, trusts and foundations, easy read services and training.

4. Ensure sustainability and stability throughout the organisation in order to deliver our services.
- Grow, develop and strengthen volunteering opportunities across Speak Out's projects and infrastructure.
- Develop the organisational infrastructure in order that Speak Out can grow and meet the needs of more people with learning disabilities.
-Ensure we can evidence the impact and quality of our work.
- Raise Speak Out's profile.
- Ensure organisational growth is sustainable.

BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is constituted as a company limited by guarantee incorporated on 14 July 1999.

It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

It gained charitable status on 11 August 1999.

In the event of the company being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Organisational structure

Brighton & Hove Speak Out is currently governed by a Board of 6 people who are voted in at the AGM, 5 of whom are Trustees.

Of the wider board, two people have a learning disability and another trustee is also a current volunteer for Speak Out. An additional trustee resigned in February 2022. The board has two subgroups, the Operations and the Strategic sub groups. The Operations Group focuses on project delivery, HR, policies, finances and health and safety. The Strategy Group focus on longer term organisational planning and strategy. The board is advised by people with learning disabilities and Speak Out volunteers via focus groups and workshops and their feedback is incorporated into planning direct project work and longer-term goals. New board members are provided with training to understand their governance role and can attend external training about this.

Speak Out employed 12 permanent staff during 2021-22, two of whom are full time with the remaining working part time. The posts comprised the Director, the Deputy, 9 project workers delivering front line advocacy, group work and outreach and a part time Administrator/ fundraising assistant. One member of staff has a learning disability and other people with learning disabilities were employed on an ad hoc basis to deliver Learning Disability Awareness Training across the city. Our work was supported by a team of 18 volunteers including trustees.

Decision making

The Charity produces an annually updated 3 year development plan which outlines the project work plans for the year ahead and potential developments for future years. All staff and Board members participate in deciding the priorities for future work and fundraising. User views are influential in this process , supplied by evaluation and individual feedback throughout the year and the views provided by the Advisors Group. Staff make regular work reports to the Governance Board who monitor progress and targets reached throughout the year.

Risk review

The Trustees have conducted their own review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed and systems have been established to mitigate those risks. Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and events and by ensuring consistent quality of delivery for all operational aspects of the charity. These procedures are reviewed periodically to ensure that they still meet the needs of the charity.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

03807112 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1076995

Registered office

The Brighthelm Centre
40 North Road
Brighton
East Sussex
BN1 1YD

BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Trustees
Kate Mclachlan
Rohan Lowe
Elizabeth Hall (resigned 28.2.22)
Jo-Anne Carden (Chair)
Phil Seddon (resigned 28.6.21)
Shelley Brown
Nick Handley

Company Secretary
Jo-Anne Carden

Independent Examiner
Christopher Robert Tyler FCA DChA FCIE
Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
F1 CRT Limited
Flat 24 Wellingtonia Court
Laine Close
Brighton
East Sussex
BN1 6TD

Bankers
CafCash Limited
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4TA

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES
The trustees (who are also the directors of Brighton & Hove Speak Out 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).

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.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 31/10/22 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Jo-Anne Carden - Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Brighton & Hove Speak Out ('the Company')
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2022.

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

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

Independent examiner's statement
Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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



Christopher Robert Tyler FCA DChA FCIE
Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
F1 CRT Limited
Flat 24 Wellingtonia Court
Laine Close
Brighton
East Sussex
BN1 6TD

Date: 9th December 2022

BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	3,239	2	3,241	2,209
Charitable activities					
Grants		26,104	171,629	197,733	245,590
Other income		4,000	-	4,000	-
Sales		9,334	-	9,334	850
Contracts		72,353	-	72,353	84,469
Investment income	3	5	-	5	14
Total		115,035	171,631	286,666	333,132
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	5	266	-	266	216
Charitable activities	6				
Charitable activities		111,005	182,388	293,393	299,237
Total		111,271	182,388	293,659	299,453
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		3,764	(10,757)	(6,993)	33,679
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		88,000	28,622	116,622	82,943
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		91,764	17,865	109,629	116,622

BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

BALANCE SHEET
31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	13	9,895	-	9,895	9,714
Cash at bank and in hand		121,397	17,862	139,259	113,079
		131,292	17,862	149,154	122,793
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	14	(39,525)	-	(39,525)	(6,171)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		91,767	17,862	109,629	116,622
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		91,767	17,862	109,629	116,622
NET ASSETS		91,767	17,862	109,629	116,622
FUNDS	15				
Unrestricted funds				91,767	88,000
Restricted funds				17,862	28,622
TOTAL FUNDS				109,629	116,622

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

(a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and

(b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

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 and authorised for issue on 31/10/22 and were signed on its behalf by:

Jo-Anne Carden - Trustee

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard FRS102 '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.

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

The trustees/directors consider that there are no material uncertainties about the company's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees have taken advantage of the various sources of Government support during the COVID-19 pandemic and consider that it will not have a significant impact on the company's ability to continue trading. Income from trading activities is expected to reduce due to the lockdown conditions and steps are being taken to make cost savings. The trustees regard any impact to be short term rather than affecting the company's ability to continue as a going concern. There are no material uncertainties affecting the current year's accounts.

Income
Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds , any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met , it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants , whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants , is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds , any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met , it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Incoming resources from charitable activities are recognised on an earned basis in the year in which the conditions for receipt are met.

Expenditure
Expenditure is recognised in the period in which it is incurred.

Expenditure on grants is recorded once the Charity has made an unconditional commitment to pay the grant and this has been communicated to the beneficiary or the grant has been paid , whichever is the earlier.

Expenditure is allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on the basis consistent with the use of resources. Allocations are predominantly based on usage and staff time expended.

Tangible fixed assets
Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful life , or where specifically for a project , over the life of the project. The company has a minimum value of £750 for capitalisation of fixed assets.

Depreciation policy applied:

Equipment - over 2 years on a straight line basis.

Taxation
The charity 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. Accordingly the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 , to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Operating leases
Rentals payable under operating leases are charged on a straight line basis over the terms of the lease.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2022	2021
	£	£
Donations	3,241	2,209

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2022	2021
	£	£
Deposit account interest	5	14

4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Activity	2022	2021
		£	£
Grants	Grants	197,733	245,590
Online filing incentive	Other income	4,000	-
Sales	Sales	9,334	850
Contracts	Contracts	72,353	84,469
		283,420	330,909

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust	-	5,000
The Edward Gostling Foundation	-	5,000
Brighton District Nursing Association Trust	-	3,000
Ian Askew Trust	-	1,000
The National Lottery Community Fund	104,228	107,023
Lloyds Bank Foundation	-	30,200
Brighton and Hove City Council	31,222	67,822
CCG	8,000	4,973
Sussex Community Foundation	7,500	10,000
Learning Disability England	3,300	5,000
SeeAbility Royal School	-	1,572
Bailey Thomas	-	5,000
Trust for Developing Communities	3,750	-
East Brighton Trust	500	-
Henry Smith Trust	28,900	-
The February Foundation	5,000	-
Carried forward	192,400	245,590

4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - continued

	2022	2021
	£	£
Brought forward	192,400	245,590
The Pebble Trust	3,333	-
Friargate Trust	2,000	-
	197,733	245,590

The following grants received in 2021/22 have been deferred to 2022/23:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Sussex Community Foundation	2,500	-
Speakfast East - Barchester Charitable Foundation	400	-
Transitions - Henry Smith Trust	13,600	-
LDVN - The National Lottery Community Fund	16,228	-
LDVN - Good Things Foundation	2,000	-
Helpline - The Pebble Trust	1,667	-
Parents Project - The Hendy Foundation	810	1,650
Parents Project - Boshier Hinton Foundation	800	-

5. RAISING FUNDS

Raising donations and legacies

	2022	2021
	£	£
Raising funds	266	216

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs (see note 7)
	£
Charitable activities	293,393

7. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2022	2021
	£	£
Project costs	13,317	9,228
Staff costs	231,843	222,348
Premises and office costs	27,970	44,968
Professional costs	13,583	9,981
Governance costs	6,680	7,768
Bad debt	-	4,944
	293,393	299,237

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2022	2021
	£	£
Independent examiner's fee	1,000	650

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2022 nor for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2022 nor for the year ended 31 March 2021.

One trustee was reimbursed expenses of £82 (2021 : none).

10. STAFF COSTS

Staff costs were as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Salaries	204,862	204,300
Social security costs	14,334	14,188
Pension costs	3,943	3,860
	223,139	222,348
Average number of employees	9	9

No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000 (2021 : none).

Brighton & Hove Speak Out considers that the key management personnel comprise the Board of Trustees and the Director. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £40,565 (2021 : £40,305).

11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (2021)

	Unrestricted fund	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	2,209	-	2,209
Charitable activities			
Grants	34,055	211,535	245,590
Sales	850	-	850
Contracts	84,469	-	84,469
Investment income	14	-	14
Total	121,597	211,535	333,132
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	216	-	216

11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (2021) - continued

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Charitable activities			
Charitable activities	115,807	183,430	299,237
Total	116,023	183,430	299,453
NET INCOME	5,574	28,105	33,679
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	82,426	517	82,943
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	88,000	28,622	116,622

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Office equipment £
COST	
At 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2022	870
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2022	870
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2022	-
At 31 March 2021	-

13. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022 £	2021 £
Other debtors	7,179	6,023
Taxes and SSC	358	1,832
Rent deposit	1,000	1,000
Staff loan	334	237
Prepayments and accrued income	1,024	622
	9,895	9,714

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade creditors	488	-
Other creditors	32	2,318
Accruals	1,000	2,203
Deferred income	38,005	1,650
	39,525	6,171

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.21	Net movement in funds	At 31.3.22
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	88,000	3,767	91,767
Restricted funds			
The National Lottery Community Fund - LDVN	15,385	(6,139)	9,246
Lloyds Bank Foundation - Transitions	1,000	(1,000)	-
CCG - Consultation and Engagement	2,937	(2,937)	-
The Edward Gostling Foundation - Transitions	5,000	(5,000)	-
Learning Disability England	4,300	(4,300)	-
Henry Smith Trust - Transitions	-	1,016	1,016
Covid Stories	-	7,162	7,162
Help Line	-	438	438
	28,622	(10,760)	17,862
TOTAL FUNDS	116,622	(6,993)	109,629

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	115,036	(111,269)	3,767
Restricted funds			
The National Lottery Community Fund - LDVN	56,684	(62,823)	(6,139)
Lloyds Bank Foundation - Transitions	-	(1,000)	(1,000)
Brighton and Hove City Council - Speak Out East	15,268	(15,268)	-
CCG - Consultation and Engagement	38,000	(40,937)	(2,937)
The Edward Gostling Foundation - Transitions	-	(5,000)	(5,000)
Learning Disability England	-	(4,300)	(4,300)
Henry Smith Trust - Transitions	28,900	(27,884)	1,016
CCG - Engage	8,000	(8,000)	-
Covid Stories	9,544	(2,382)	7,162
Help Line	13,234	(12,796)	438
Friargate Trust - Transitions	2,000	(2,000)	-
	171,630	(182,390)	(10,760)
TOTAL FUNDS	286,666	(293,659)	(6,993)

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	82,426	5,574	88,000
Restricted funds			
The National Lottery Community Fund - LDVN	517	14,868	15,385
Lloyds Bank Foundation - Transitions	-	1,000	1,000
CCG - Consultation and Engagement	-	2,937	2,937
The Edward Gostling Foundation - Transitions	-	5,000	5,000
Learning Disability England	-	4,300	4,300
	517	28,105	28,622
TOTAL FUNDS	82,943	33,679	116,622

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	121,597	(116,023)	5,574
Restricted funds			
The National Lottery Community Fund - LDVN	107,023	(92,155)	14,868
Lloyds Bank Foundation - Transitions	30,200	(29,200)	1,000
Brighton and Hove City Council - Speak Out East	14,767	(14,767)	-
Brighton and Hove City Council - Engagement	38,000	(38,000)	-
CCG - Consultation and Engagement	4,973	(2,036)	2,937
The Edward Gostling Foundation - Transitions	5,000	-	5,000
Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust	5,000	(5,000)	-
Learning Disability England	5,000	(700)	4,300
SeeAbility	1,572	(1,572)	-
	211,535	(183,430)	28,105
TOTAL FUNDS	333,132	(299,453)	33,679

The National Lottery Community Fund - LDVN
The National Lottery Community Fund funds the Learning Disability Voices Network, a user led project which brings together people with learning disabilities to have a strong collective voice in order to address issues they face and bring about positive change for themselves and the wider community. The project supports a range of activities including group work, drop ins and other events.

Lloyds Bank Foundation - Transitions
Henry Smith Foundation Transitions
Friargate Trust - Transitions
This project provides a range of advocacy support, including groups and one to one advocacy for young people going through the transition from children to adults' services and resulting in greater independence.

Brighton & Hove City Council - Speak Out East
Brighton & Hove City Council (BHCC) Speak Out East -The council fund Speak Out East, a drop in based in East Brighton which brings together people with learning disabilities and volunteers on a weekly basis and supports people with learning disabilities to link in with the local community.

Brighton & Hove City Council - Engagement
The council funds engagement work with people with learning disabilities in the City via a network of self-advocacy groups and regular external focus groups. This work is part of a citywide engagement and community development partnership which is led by another local charity, The Trust for Developing Communities.

CCG - Consultation and Engagement
Speak Out was funded by the CCG to provide consultation and engagement about the health needs of people with learning disabilities, especially in relation into the effects of covid

The Edward Gostling Foundation - Transitions

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

This provides additional funding towards our Transitions Project for young people with learning disabilities including advocacy and peer support for young people aged 17-26+ years.

Learning Disability England
Covid Stories
Helpline
All of the above contributed towards Speak Out's Covid-19 emergency response. This work included quickly reconfiguring our advocacy services and establishing ways to continue supporting people remotely, over the phone and online so they had the support they needed to navigate the complexities of lockdowns, reduction in other support services and associated problems as they arose. Work included improving digital access, equipment and IT costs and the production of a film highlighting the experiences of people with learning disabilities during covid.

16. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2022.

17. COMMITMENTS UNDER OPERATING LEASES

At 31 March 2022 , the charity had the following commitments under non-cancellable operating leases , payable as follows:

Premises	2022	2021
Payments due:	£	£
Within one year	17,683	7,800
Between two and five years	-	-
	17,683	7,800

The lease for the office premises at Brighthelm Church and Community Centre , North Road , Brighton, BN1 1YD is on a rolling contract since 1st September 2020.

BRIGHTON & HOVE SPEAK OUT

England & Wales - Charity number 1076995

Accounts

BRIGHTON & HOVE
SPEAK OUT
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Financial Statements
31 March 2021

Company Number: 03807112
Charity Number: 1076995

BRIGHTON & HOVE
SPEAK OUT
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
Company Number: 03807112
Charity Number: 1076995

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BRIGHTON & HOVE
SPEAK OUT
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
Company Number: 03807112
Charity Number: 1076995

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees (who are also directors)	Kate Mclachlan Rohan Lowe Elizabeth Hall Jo-Anne Carden (Chair) – appointed 15th July 2020 Phil Seddon – resigned 28th June 2021 Shelley Brown Nick Handley
Company Secretary	Jo-Anne Carden
Registered Office and Operation Address	Brighton & Hove Speak Out The Brighthelm Centre 40 North Road Brighton East Sussex BN1 1YD
Independent Examiner	Clare Osbond Voluntary Sector Services 12 Silverdale Road Hove East Sussex BN3 6FE
Bankers	CafCash Limited Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4TA

BRIGHTON & HOVE
SPEAK OUT
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
Company Number: 03807112
Charity Number: 1076995

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees of Brighton & Hove Speak Out are pleased to present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2021.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document
The charity is constituted as a company limited by guarantee and is therefore governed by a memorandum and articles of association. The Directors of the company are also Trustees of the charity. In the event of the company being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Organisational structure
Brighton & Hove Speak Out is governed by a Board of 8 people who are voted in at the AGM, 7 of whom are Trustees. Of the wider board, two people have a learning disability and another trustee is also a current volunteer for Speak Out. The board has two subgroups, the Operations and the Strategic sub groups. The Operations Group focuses on project delivery, HR, policies, finances and health and safety. The Strategy Group focus on longer term organisational planning and strategy. The board is advised by people with learning disabilities and Speak Out volunteers via focus groups and workshops and their feedback is incorporated into planning direct project work and longer-term goals. New board members are provided with training to understand their governance role and can attend external training about this provided by a local organisation.

Speak Out employed 12 permanent staff during 2020-21. The posts comprised the Director, the Deputy, 9 project workers delivering front line advocacy, group work and outreach and a part time Administrator/ fundraising assistant. One member of staff has a learning disability and other people with learning disabilities were employed on an ad hoc basis to deliver Learning Disability Awareness Training across the city. Our work was supported by a team of 12 volunteers in 2020-21.

Decision making
The Charity produces an annually updated 3 year development plan which outlines the project work plans for the year ahead and potential developments for future years. All staff and Board members participate in deciding the priorities for future work and fundraising. User views are influential in this process, supplied by evaluation and individual feedback throughout the year and the views provided by the Advisors Group. Staff make regular work reports to the Governance Board who monitor progress and targets reached throughout the year.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Speak Out's Objects
The Charitable objects are: 'the relief of people who have learning difficulties & who live in Brighton & Hove or the immediately surrounding area'.

Speak Out believes people with a learning difficulty/ disability should have the support they need to speak up and be heard, participate in decisions made about their lives and access the services they need.

Speak Out's Aims

- People with learning disabilities to claim their rights, and develop the skills, confidence and knowledge to make choices and take control of their lives.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES - CONTINUED

- People with learning disabilities to get support to speak up and be listened to.
- Services to change in a way that people with learning disabilities want.
- The needs of people with learning disabilities to be included in local policies and public service plans.

Speak Out Activities

Brighton and Hove Speak Out is a dynamic, independent advocacy charity for people with learning disabilities to speak up and take action about the things that matter to them. Our work aims to give a voice to one of the most marginalised groups in society, enabling them to:

- Express their views, have control over their lives and find solutions to their problems
- Take action to challenge discrimination they face and uphold their rights
- Access the support and services they need
- Have a say about and influence positive change in the services they use
- Participate in and positively contribute to their community.

We do this by offering a unique range of advocacy services and community projects for adults and young pwld (17+yrs). A team of staff and volunteers supported 394 beneficiaries in 2020-21 with a wide range of issues including accessing health, social care or mental health support, addressing housing/ financial problems, bullying and isolation. Service users are supported to build their skills and confidence and develop community/peer networks that lead to resilience, reduced isolation and improved wellbeing. Our services include:

1-1 issue advocacy - People with learning disabilities are supported by a trained advocate to solve issues, express opinions and make choices about issues in their life. This work is part of a pan Sussex partnership led by Pohwer which delivers community and statutory Care Act advocacy and also advocacy support for learning disabled parents going through child protection proceedings.

Citizen advocacy – People with learning disabilities are partnered with volunteers who provide longer term individual advocacy support

Self-advocacy groups and user led campaigning - We support a number of self-advocacy groups which include an older people's group, a user led training group and a group supporting the work of the Learning Disability Partnership Board which we co run with the council. Group members can explore and problem solve themes and issues whilst developing the confidence to speak out, learn new skills have a voice in the provision of local health, social care and mainstream services. The Learning Disability Voices Network enables people to come together and campaign about the shared issues and positive changes for people with learning disabilities.

Weekly drop-in sessions – Drop ins offer a space for people to meet and support each other, access immediate short term advocacy, information and signposting whilst providing peer support to each other.

Consultation activities - We run a variety of focus groups and interviews around themed consultations in conjunction with the Council in order to design services to meet local needs better. Speak Out's engagement work and partnership with the Council and CCG enables people with learning disabilities to have a voice and positively influence service development.

Easy read and training - We support people with learning disabilities to become trainers and run learning disability awareness training for a variety services in order to improve the understanding and support of people locally. In conjunction with this, we also support local organisations to create accessible easy read information in order that their information can be understood by their learning disabled service users.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES - CONTINUED

How Brighton & Hove Speak Out's activities deliver public benefit

Speak Out has many links with council, health, leisure and other services in the city and we use these links to positively influence how they work with the learning disabled community. Through our group work and awareness raising training, we ensure that local services understand the needs and priorities of learning disabled people and have tools to help them work more effectively. Additionally, we work more formally with the council in facilitating the Learning Disability Partnership Board and the CCG in order to makes plans for people with learning disabilities locally.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE IN 2020-2021

Covid has dominated our work throughout 2020-21 and has necessitated a complete change of delivery model in order to meet the needs of people with learning disabilities through the various stages of restrictions and lockdowns. Early in the pandemic, Speak Out staff became homebased and successfully moved all services to phone support and online in order to reach and support as many people with learning disabilities as possible. Advocates carried out all one to one work over the phone and via zoom initially, introducing face to face work as restrictions eased. Groups and drop ins moved online and provided a key support network for many people with learning disabilities. They provided a place to meet and connect with peers whilst finding ways to support each other through covid lockdowns and restrictions.

Covid proved to be particularly difficult for many people with learning disabilities to navigate as guidance was often confusing and inaccessible with many people struggling to understand restrictions during the different lockdown phases. To meet this need, we set up a Coronavirus Helpline that enabled service users to call in for a chat, get support and guidance in dealing with covid issues, be signposted to other organisations as necessary and, for the most vulnerable, receive regular welfare calls to ensure that people were coping and getting the support they needed.

Moving our group work online highlighted digital access issues that many people with learning disabilities. In order to improve digital access for service users, Speak Out successfully supported 69 people with learning disabilities to learn new IT skills and in addition to that distributed 20 new devices to people, enabling them to get online.

In addition to covid focussed work, 2020 -21 saw our Speak Out East drop in and engagement project successfully refunded in partnership with Trust for Developing Communities and other local partners. We also were successful getting new funding from April 2021 for our Transitions Project which provides one to one advocacy, groups work and workshops to young people with learning disabilities who are transitioning between children's and adult services.

The pandemic has focussed our attention on how the needs of people with learning disabilities have changed and where we should focus our attention in the future. In order to understand this picture clearly, this year we carried out an advocacy needs assessment by speaking to 120 local stakeholders including 60 people with learning disabilities and asked what the main areas of need were and how Speak Out could support these. In addition to this, we have carried out a review of the structure of the charity in order to maximise our impact in the future.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The financial statements are set out on pages 10 to 20. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES - CONTINUED

Overview

The year ended 31st March 2021 recorded net income over expenditure of £33,679, of which after transfers, £5,574 is in unrestricted funds and £28,105 is in restricted funds. Total reserves now stand at £116,622 of which £88,000 is unrestricted funds and £28,622 is restricted funds. By comparison, the year ended 31st March 2020 recorded net income over expenditure of £248 of which after transfers, £8,879 was in unrestricted funds and a negative amount of £8,631 was in restricted funds. Total reserves in 2020 stood at £82,943 of which £82,426 was unrestricted funds and £517 was restricted funds.

Speak Out has a historic outstanding debt of £5,129 from Croydon Council for work carried out between 2019 -20. A County Court Judgement has found in Speak Out's favour but to date this money remains unpaid. Speak Out also believes that the charity has overpaid HMRC by £3,145 but it has not been possible to resolve this due to the pandemic. Trustees have decided that it is prudent to write off both debts this year with the understanding that the charity will continue to pursue recovering of these debts.

Total income for the year ended 31st March 2021 amounted to £333,132 compared to £271,046 in the previous year, an increase of £62,086 from 2020. A breakdown of donations and grants received is shown in Note 2 and 3 of the accounts.

Total expenditure for the year ended 31st March 2021 amounted to £299,453 compared to £270,798 in the previous year, an increase of £28,655 from 2020.

In line with SORP FRS (102), expenditure is analysed into two main categories; charitable activities and raising funds for the charity. In the year ended 31st March 2021 there was £299,237 expenditure on charitable activities (2020: £270,254) and £216 (2020: £544) expenditure on fundraising.

Reserves Policy

Brighton & Hove Speak Out is committed to using its resources in pursuit of its charitable objectives. It is also committed however to maintaining a level of reserves that is prudent to meeting on-going liabilities.

In seeking to balance these priorities, the trustees have agreed that, it is prudent to hold a level of reserves that equates to 4 months of current expenditure of the charity.

As at 31st March 2021 there is £88,000 in general unrestricted reserves which equates to 3.5 months of expenditure at 2020/21 levels. As this is slightly below the level set by our policy, the future financial outlook is to pursue a policy of increasing reserves, both by diversifying income generation and by continuing to effectively manage resources, as identified in our Plans for the Future section below. However, the trustees are confident they have sufficient reserves for funding forthcoming commitments in the coming year. The Board of Trustees monitors the level of reserves and takes appropriate action if reserves fall outside the desired range.

RISK REVIEW

The Trustees have conducted their own review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed and systems have been established to mitigate those risks. Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and events and by ensuring consistent quality of delivery for all operational aspects of the charity. These procedures are reviewed periodically to ensure that they still meet the needs of the charity.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – CONTINUED

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

The Needs Assessment and internal review have highlighted commons areas of advocacy need for people with learning disabilities and potential changes to the way we work that will increase our reach and impact. As a result of this work, we are currently in the process of updating our 4 Year Plan which will direct our work in the following areas.

- Maintain and create successful projects supporting people with learning disabilities to be more confident and able to self-advocate whilst learning transferable skills and knowledge for their future development.
- Refund the Learning Disability Voices Network, a campaigning self - advocacy project that brings together people with learning disabilities both locally and regionally.
- Ensure that more people with learning disabilities in the city and their carers/ families members know about our work and can access our support if needed. This relates particularly to those that are harder to reach such as people with complex needs and profound learning disabilities.
- Raise the profile of the issues facing people with learning disabilities and develop effective, impactful campaigning that brings about positive change for the learning disabled community locally, regionally and nationally.
- Further develop user led awareness and easy read training to improve services accessed by the learning disabled community and bring in unrestricted income.
- Diversify income generation and manage resources effectively in order to adapt to change.
- Develop Speak Out's core infrastructure to meet the demands of future work.
- Grow, develop and strengthen volunteering opportunities across Speak Out's projects and infrastructure.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – CONTINUED

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

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

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the 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 of the Charities SORP;
- 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; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is appropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enables 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.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities and in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by the Trustees on ..30th Sept 21...and signed on their behalf by:

.....

Jo-Anne Carden (Chair of Trustees)

BRIGHTON & HOVE
SPEAK OUT

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
Company Number: 03807112
Charity Number: 1076995

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2021, which are set out on pages 10 to 20.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner
The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report
My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 or are not consistent with the Charities SORP (FRS102)

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021 - CONTINUED

Clare Osbond, FCIE
Voluntary Sector Services
12 Silverdale Road
Hove
BN3 6FE

Signature..... C Osbond ..... Date.....13/10/21.....

BRIGHTON & HOVE
SPEAK OUT
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
Company Number: 03807112
Charity Number: 1076995

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2020 £
Income from:							
Donations and grants	2	**6,209**	**10,000**	**16,209**	23,708	-	23,708
Charitable activities:							
Grants	3	**30,055**	**201,535**	**231,590**	1,397	174,062	175,459
Fees	4	**84,469**	**-**	**84,469**	71,833	-	71,833
Other trading activities		**850**	**-**	**850**	-	-	-
Investments		**14**	**-**	**14**	46	-	46
Other		**-**	**-**	**-**	-	-	-
Total		**121,597**	**211,535**	**333,132**	96,984	174,062	271,046
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds		**216**	**-**	**216**	544	-	544
Charitable activities	6	**115,807**	**183,430**	**299,237**	87,448	182,806	270,254
Total		**116,023**	**183,430**	**299,453**	87,992	182,806	270,798
Net Income / (Expenditure)		**5,574**	**28,105**	**33,679**	8,992	(8,744)	248
Transfers between funds		**-**	**-**	**-**	(113)	113	-
Net movement in funds	5	**5,574**	**28,105**	**33,679**	8,879	(8,631)	248
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		**82,426**	**517**	**82,943**	73,547	9,148	82,695
Total funds carried forward		**88,000**	**28,622**	**116,622**	82,426	517	82,943

All amounts relate to continuing activities.

There have been no recognised gains or losses other than the result for the financial year and all surpluses or deficits have been accounted for on an historical cost basis.

The notes on pages 12 to 20 form part of these financial statements

BRIGHTON & HOVE
SPEAK OUT
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
Company Number: 03807112
Charity Number: 1076995

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31ST MARCH 2021

	Note	2021 £	2021 £	2020 £	2020 £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible Assets	9		-		-
Current Assets					
Debtors	10	9,714		22,507	
Cash at Bank and in hand		113,079		71,136	
		122,793		93,643	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within 1 year	11	6,171		10,700	
Net Current Assets			116,622		82,943
Net Assets	13		116,622		82,943
Reserves					
Unrestricted Funds			88,000		82,426
Restricted Funds			28,622		517
Total Funds	14		116,622		82,943

For the year ending 31 March 2021, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 under Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for:

a) ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006;
b) preparing financial statements that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of each financial year and of its profit and loss for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance to the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

The financial statements on pages 10 to 20 were approved by the board of Directors on 30th Sept 21 and were signed on it's behalf by:

.....
Jo-Anne Carden (Chair of Trustees)

The notes on pages 12 to 20 form part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) ***Basis of Preparation***

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

These financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis. The charity has sufficient reserves, and the trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

b) ***Fund Accounting***

The accounts distinguish between restricted and unrestricted funds. The former have been raised by the charity for specific purposes or are received from donors and are subject to restrictions on the purposes for which they may be used. Unrestricted funds are those where there are no externally imposed restrictions and are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees for expenditure on its objects or appropriated to reserves for internally designated purposes.

c) ***Income***

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Incoming resources from charitable activities are recognised on an earned basis in the year in which the conditions for receipt are met.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021 - CONTINUED

d) ***Expenditure***

Expenditure is recognised in the period in which it is incurred.

Expenditure on grants is recorded once the Charity has made an unconditional commitment to pay the grant and this has been communicated to the beneficiary or the grant has been paid, whichever is the earlier.

Expenditure is allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on the basis consistent with the use of resources. Allocations are predominantly based on usage and staff time expended.

e) ***Depreciation and Fixed Assets***

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful life, or where specifically for a project, over the life of the project. The company has a minimum value of £750 for capitalisation of fixed assets.

Depreciation policy applied:
Equipment – over 2 years on a straight line basis

f) ***Operating leases***

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged on a straight line basis over the terms of the lease.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021 - CONTINUED

2 INCOME FROM GRANTS AND DONATIONS

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2021 Total	2020 Total
	£	£	£	£
Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust	-	5,000	5,000	4,000
The Edward Gostling Foundation	-	5,000	5,000	-
Brighton District Nursing Association Trust	3,000	-	3,000	-
Ian Askew Trust	1,000	-	1,000	-
Pebble Trust	-	-	-	2,500
Lynn Foundation	-	-	-	500
WHSmith Trust	-	-	-	100
Charities Aid Foundation	-	-	-	200
The JC Robinson Trust	-	-	-	1,000
Sir Jules Thorn Charitable Trust	-	-	-	750
Alchemy Foundation	-	-	-	500
The Chalk Cliff Trust	-	-	-	4,000
St Georges Church Brighton	-	-	-	220
The Grocers Charity	-	-	-	5,000
Other donations	2,209	-	2,209	4,938
	6,209	10,000	16,209	23,708

3 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - GRANTS

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2021 Total	2020 Total
	£	£	£	£
The National Lottery Fund	-	107,023	107,023	70,183
Lloyds Bank Foundation	-	30,200	30,200	19,210
Brighton & Hove Council	15,055	52,767	67,822	-
CCG	-	4,973	4,973	66,851
Sussex Community Foundation	10,000	-	10,000	-
Learning Disability England	-	5,000	5,000	-
SeeAbility Royal School	-	1,572	1,572	-
Bailey Thomas	5,000	-	5,000	-
Comic Relief	-	-	-	3,864
People's Health Trust	-	-	-	13,954
DWP - Access to Work	-	-	-	897
Sussex Community Foundation	-	-	-	500
	30,055	201,535	231,590	175,459

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021 - CONTINUED

4 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - FEES

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2021 Total	2020 Total
	£	£	£	£
POhWER	72,353	-	72,353	54,265
Impetus	-	-	-	3,750
WSCC Capita AP	2,056	-	2,056	3,670
South Coast Ambulance Service	1,650	-	1,650	1,650
Croydon Council	1,977	-	1,978	2,966
MS Society	-	-	-	1,925
Brighton & Hove City Council	1,650	-	1,650	1,280
Learning Disability England	2,770	-	2,770	-
Other fees	2,013	-	2,013	2,327
	84,469	-	84,469	71,833

5 NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	2021	2020
	£	£
This is stating after charging :		
Depreciation	-	-
Independent examiner's fee	650	650

No Trustee received any emoluments (2020: £NIL).
Trustees meeting expenses amounted to £NIL (2020: £15).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021 – CONTINUED

6. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	POhWER - Advocacy	Brighton & Hove City Council - Engagement	Lloyds Bank Foundation	The National Lottery Community Fund	Brighton & Hove City Council - Speak Out East	Other projects	Core	Total 2021
Project costs	**2,385**	**1,281**	**2,176**	**820**	**316**	**2,100**	**150**	**9,228**
Staff costs	**58,821**	**27,886**	**20,894**	**71,232**	**11,896**	**4,581**	**27,038**	**222,348**
Premises and office costs	**4,679**	**6,183**	**5,261**	**17,517**	**1,374**	**2,628**	**7,327**	**44,969**
Professional costs	**2,468**	**2,250**	**868**	**386**	**931**	**-**	**3,077**	**9,980**
Governance costs	**4,000**	**400**	**-**	**2,200**	**250**	**-**	**918**	**7,768**
Bad debt							**4,944**	**4,944**
Total charitable activities	72,353	38,000	29,199	92,155	14,767	9,309	43,454	299,237

	POhWER - Advocacy	Brighton & Hove CCG – Engagement	Lloyds Bank Foundation	The National Lottery Community Fund	Peoples Health Trust	MIND in Brighton & Hove - Advocacy	Other projects	Core	Total 2020
Project costs	1,815	5,403	280	3,968	1,936	93	895	175	14,565
Staff costs	43,198	44,161	16,999	53,407	15,078	9,314	2,591	25,004	209,752
Premises and office costs	3,921	8,000	2,703	9,892	901	2,179	425	5,710	33,731
Professional costs	1,800	500	600	200	150	38	600	2,505	6,393
Governance costs	1,978	-	-	2,200	-	293	-	1,342	5,813
Total charitable activities	11,917	58,064	20,582	69,667	18,065	52,712	4,511	34,736	270,254

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021 - CONTINUED

7 STAFF COSTS

	2021	2020
	£	£
Staff costs were as follows:		
Salaries	204,300	191,760
Social security costs	14,18	13,960
Employer's pension	3,860	3,840
	222,348	209,560
Average number of employees	9	9

No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000

Brighton & Hove Speak Out considers that the key management personnel comprise the Board of Trustees and the Director. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £40,305 in the year (2020: £39,702)

8 TAXATION

The company is a Registered Charity and, under section 505(1) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988, is exempt from Corporation Tax on its charitable activities.

9 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Office Equipment
	£
COST	
At 1st April 2020	870
Additions	-
At 31st March 2021	870
DEPRECIATION	
At 1st April 2020	870
Depreciation on disposals	-
At 31st March 2021	870
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31st March 2021	-
At 31st March 2020	-

10 DEBTORS

	2021	2020
	£	£
Taxes and Social Security costs	1,832	-
Prepayments / Accrued income	622	3,044
Rent deposit	1,000	1,000
Staff loan	237	-
Cycle scheme	-	1,058
Other debtors	6,023	17,405
	9,714	22,507

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021 - CONTINUED

11 CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Taxes and Social Security costs	-	4,266
Pension control account	-	858
Accruals	**2,203**	1,621
Deferred income	**1,650**	1,650
Other creditors	**2,318**	2,305
	6,171	10,700

12 COMMITMENTS UNDER OPERATING LEASES

At 31st March 2021, the charity had the following commitments under non-cancellable operating leases, payable as follows:

Premises	2021	2020
	£	£
Payments due:		
Within one year	**7,800**	6,240
Between two and five years	-	-
	7,800	7,500

The lease for office premises at Brighthelm Church and Community Centre, North Road, Brighton BN1 1YD is with the Brighthelm Church and Community Centre Trust Limited. The current lease agreement is for a period of 12 months from 1st September 2019 to 31st August 2020. Discussions are currently underway between the landlord and the trustees for negotiating of a new lease agreement.

13 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021
	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets	-	-	-
Net Current Assets	88,000	28,622	116,622
Net Assets	**88,000**	**28,622**	**116,622**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021 - CONTINUED

14 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Balance 1 April 2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfer	Balance 31 March 2021
Restricted Funds	£	£	£	£	£
The National Lottery Fund	517	107,023	92,155		15,385
Lloyds Bank Foundation	-	30,200	29,200		1,000
Brighton & Hove City Council - Speak Out East	-	14,767	14,767		-
Brighton & Hove Council - Engagement		38,000	38,000		-
CCG – Consultation & Engagement	-	4,973	2,036		2,937
Learning Disability England	-	5,000	700		4,300
SeeAbility	-	1,572	1,572	-	-
Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust		5,000	5,000		-
The Edward Gostling Foundation	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
	517	211,535	183,430	-	28,622
Unrestricted Funds					
General	82,426	121,597	(116,023)	-	88,000
Total Funds	82,943	333,132	299,453	-	116,622

Purpose of Restricted Funds

The National Lottery

This funds the Learning Disability Voices Network, a user led project which brings together people with learning disabilities to have a strong collective voice in order to address issues they face and bring about positive change for themselves and the wider community. The project supports a range of activities including group work, drop ins and other events.

Lloyds Bank Foundation

This project provides a range of advocacy support, including groups and one to one advocacy for young people going through the transition from children to adults services and resulting in greater independence.

Brighton & Hove City Council (BHCC)

Speak Out East – The council fund Speak Out East, a drop in based in East Brighton which brings together people with learning disabilities and volunteers on a weekly basis and supports people with learning disabilities to link in with the local community.

Engagement - The council funds engagement work with people with learning disabilities in the City via a network of self-advocacy groups and regular external focus groups. This work is part of a citywide engagement and community development partnership which is led by another local charity, The Trust for Developing Communities.

CCG

Speak Out was funded by the CCG to provide consultation and engagement about the health needs of people with learning disabilities, especially in relation to the effects of covid.

The Edward Gostling Foundation

This provides additional funding towards our Transitions Project for young people with learning disabilities including advocacy and peer support for young people aged 17–26+ years.

Covid Emergency Response Funds

Speak Out received money from the following funders which contributed towards Speak Out's Covid-19 emergency response.

- **The National Lottery Fund (£30,778 of the income shown at Note 14)**
- **Lloyds Bank Foundation (£10,290 of the above income shown at Note 14)**
- **Learning Disability England**
- **SeeAbility**
- **Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust**

This work included quickly reconfiguring our advocacy services and establishing ways to continue supporting people remotely, over the phone and online so they had the support they needed to navigate the complexities of lockdowns, reduction in other support services and associated problems as they arose. Work included improving digital access, equipment and IT costs and the production of a film highlighting the experiences of people with learning disabilities during covid.