

Company number: 3988903

Charity Number: 1081654

# Voluntary Sector North West

Report and financial statements  
For the year ended 31 March 2024

Voluntary Sector North West  
Reference and administrative information  
for the year ended 31 March 2024

**Company number** 3988903

**Charity number** 1081654

**Registered office and operational address** 3rd Floor Swan Buildings, 20 Swan Street, Manchester, M4 5JW

**Trustees** Trustees, who are also directors under company law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

Sally Yeoman	Chair
Alison Page	Chair (resigned 1 June 2023)
Gill Bainbridge	Treasurer
Circle Steele	
Margaret Cheshire	
Yakub Patel	(appointed 20 April 2023)
Jeremy Hodgkinson	(appointed 17 May 2023)

<b>Key management</b>	Warren Escadale	Chief Executive
<b>personnel</b>	Yen Siang Tan	Operations Director

**Bankers** The Co-operative Bank plc  
P.O. Box 250, Skelmersdale, WN8 6WT

Unity Trust Bank  
PO Box 7193, Planetary Road, Willenhall, WV1 9DG

**Auditors** Slade & Cooper Limited  
Beehive Mill, Jersey St, Manchester, M4 6JG

Voluntary Sector North West  
Trustees' annual report  
for the year ended 31 March 2024

The trustees present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024. Included within the trustees' report is the directors' report as required by company law.

Reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

### Objectives and activities

The Charity's objects ("the Objects") were updated on 26 September 2000. They are: To promote such purposes as are charitable according to the law of England and Wales for the benefit of the public in the North West of England by:

- (a) Providing a channel of information between voluntary organisations and local and central government agencies or other organisations in the region.
- (b) Providing a network of communication for voluntary organisations and agencies in the region.
- (c) Bringing together representatives from voluntary organisations, statutory authorities and other agencies in the region to identify the funding and policy needs of voluntary organisations.

The area of benefit, the North West of England is defined as the ceremonial counties of Lancashire, Cheshire, Greater Manchester, Cumbria and Merseyside.

### Ensuring our work delivers our object & aims

The Trustee Board of VSNW reviews the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year to ensure activities remain focused on our stated purposes. The trustees established in consultation with member organisations, a strategic plan for 2022-2025. The following four strategic aims were established:

- Increase **connectivity** within the sector
- Enable **influence** for the sector
- Demonstrate the **value** of VSNW and the sector as a whole
- Build an effective **voice** for the North West VCFSE sector

Underpinning this is our annual delivery plan, high level KPIs, and work to ensure VSNW is a well governed and financially sound organisation. This report looks at what the Charity has achieved and the outcomes of its work in the reporting period. The Trustees report the success of each key activity and the benefits the Charity has brought to those groups of people that it is set up to help. The Trustees have referred to the

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guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities. In particular, the Trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set.

### **Achievements and performance**

The Charity's principal activities and target beneficiaries are outlined below. All charitable activities are carried out to advance public benefit in line with Voluntary Sector North West's (VSNW) charitable objectives.

During the year, we continued to deliver on VSNW's mission, strategic aims, and the priorities set for 2022-2025. This ensured that our efforts remained aligned with the needs of the North West's voluntary and community sector while reflecting the broader priorities of the region.

### **Core Activities**

The North West is a diverse region, consisting of five sub-regions (Cheshire, Cumbria, Greater Manchester, Merseyside and Lancashire) with a mixture of economic success and areas of marginalisation. Through our members and networks, we maintain connections with over 50,000 organisations and groups working across the region's communities. VSNW's work is centred around three core elements:

- Supporting the sector's role in social and economic impact: We focus on developing effective economic strategies that deliver meaningful outcomes for communities.
- Championing the sector's involvement in key areas of health and social care: This includes influencing the future direction of City Regions, Combined Authorities, and the NHS's Integrated Care Systems, to ensure the sector's voice is heard.
- Providing general support for the sector: Acting as a bridge between national policy and local implementation, we aim to be a system leader and drive positive change, guided by the membership, networks, and relationships that are fundamental to VSNW's work.

This work ensures that we remain at the forefront of supporting the voluntary sector in driving social and economic progress across the North West.

The report illustrates our performance in delivering VSNW's strategic priorities and our high-level metrics.

### **Strategic priority: Increase connectivity within the VCFSE sector**

Our vision is: **"Through the strengths of the VCFSE sector, put communities in charge of driving change."** To fulfil this vision, we continue to foster and support healthy, connected partnerships that bring value to the sector in each sub-region. By leveraging local networks and relationships, we focus on maximising positive impact. Supporting strong partnerships across the North West's VCFSE sector remains at the core of our operating model.

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In 2023/24, VSNW provided formal support to VCFSE partnerships in Cheshire and Warrington, Liverpool City Region, Lancashire, and Greater Manchester. In Cumbria, where Cumbria CVS leads this work, we complemented their efforts by building connections and offering alternative support.

In **Liverpool City Region (LCR)**, VSNW, through Laura Tilston (Research and Policy Manager), Francesca McIntosh (Research and Communications Co-ordinator) and Yoaby Tsang (Events, Admin and Membership Officer), provides support to the VS6 Partnership. VS6, through the 2021/24 VCFSE Manifesto developed, delivered in partnership and connected to the 11,500 groups operating across the City Region, continued to champion VCFSE-led models of delivery to address social, economic and health inequalities.

During the year, VS6 developed VCFSE networks to tackle food poverty, support digital inclusion, mental wellbeing and VCFSE-models of wealth creation. Building on work to champion race equality, and through the leadership of One Knowsley's CEO Racheal Jones, VS6 and VSNW supported the beginnings of the new *Cheshire and Merseyside Ethnic Communities Network* which now has over a 100 member organisations. The region now has three ethnic community networks up and running across Lancashire & South Cumbria, Greater Manchester and Cheshire & Merseyside. A further major achievement in Liverpool City Region, was the launch of The LCR Volunteering Hub which provides a single front door for volunteers and organisations looking to recruit and manage volunteers in the City Region.

In **Lancashire**, we connect to two partnerships: firstly, working in support of the VCFSE Lancashire & South Cumbria Alliance; secondly, following our development work on the Locally Organised Communities Across Lancashire (LOCAL) VCFSE Manifesto, the movement being created behind this headed by the Lancashire Association of CVS. Through this work we look to connect with as many of the 10,000 local groups as possible.

In **Greater Manchester (GM)**, VSNW through the work of Anna Cooper (Greater Manchester Programme Manager), Kassandra Banks (Partnerships Officer) and Tom Jackson (Communications Officer), VSNW continues to provide secretariat support to the Greater Manchester VCFSE Leadership Group. Our Chief Executive, Warren Escadale, currently serves as the chair.

The Leadership Group connects with and supports collaboration across a wide range of VCFSE networks, representing diverse communities such as Black, Asian, and minority ethnic groups, older people, young people, LGBTQ+, disability, faith communities, carers, mental health advocates, sports organisations, refugees and women. This partnership model includes key partners like 10GM and GMCVO, social enterprises, and VCFSE service providers, such as the groundbreaking Alternative Provider Collaborative. The Leadership Group has a direct mailing list of over 1,500 sector leaders and, collectively, through infrastructure bodies and equalities networks, the group is linked to the 17,000 plus VCFSE organisations and groups working for Greater Manchester's communities.

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Warren Escadale, Alison Cullen (CWIP's lead for health and care work) and Yoaby Tsang have been key parts of our support for the **Cheshire and Warrington Infrastructure Partnership (CWIP)** and links to the 8,000 local VCFSE organisations.

Through VS6, CWIP and the **Cheshire and Merseyside VCFSE Health and Care Leaders Group (HCLG)** we have looked to link the sector into a rapidly change health and care environment, supporting mechanisms and connections for sector voice and accountability. Now in its second year, the HCLG works closely with 60 plus sector connected leaders from across Cheshire and Merseyside, ensuring the voice of infrastructure, equalities organisations and providers.

We maintain a robust stakeholder contact list, which includes VCFSE Chief Executives and senior staff from across the region. These stakeholders receive a range of bulletins, such as those from VSNW, GM VCFSE Leadership, VS6 Partnership, Social Prescribing, and GM Cancer Champions.

VSNW managed 128 events, network meetings, roundtables, and workshops with 695 different North West VCFSE leaders and supported 17 strategic VCFSE networks in 2023-24. This level of engagement marks significant activity in line with the Board's ambitious KPI to engage 1,000 different VCFSE leaders.

As of 31st March 2024, VSNW membership includes 190 members, consisting of 128 full members and 62 associate members.

Going forward the organisation continues to invest in internal capacity from reserves in order to ensure we can reach across the North West, and engage larger numbers of VCFSE leaders and organisations..

**Strategic priorities: Enable influence and be an effective voice for the sector**

Through consultation, task and finish groups, workshops, and surveys, we have helped to develop **collective, sector-led strategies and implementation plans** across the North West. These include manifestos and delivery plans for the sector in Liverpool City Region (VCFSE Manifesto 24/28), Lancashire (LOCAL Manifesto), Cheshire and Warrington (setting core priorities) and Greater Manchester (VCFSE Manifesto 24/28). At our series of Metro-Mayor hustings, held with just under 200 sector leaders, Steve Rotherham and Andy Burnham signed their respective VCFSE manifesto, and confirmed their continued commitment to working with us as a sector and as a partner.

Over the last two years, our influencing and demonstration of the sector's value, has resulted in **£18.4m investment into the sector**, this includes £7.1m in 2023/24 against a board KPI of £5m. This investment supports the sector's role in skills and employment, health and social care, tackling poverty, community-led economic development, and wellbeing and prevention. While we feel this is a notable achievement, we recognise that our work, alongside our partners, has driven far greater investment into the local sector than any single VCFSE organisation could accomplish independently. In terms of impact, one element of this

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investment (LCR Cares, £400k), benefited at least 15,000 people in terms of digital inclusion, wellbeing support, and community wealth-building. This work was made possible with the help of over 500 volunteers.

Through our work and our partnerships, we have been able to **champion the VCFSE role in essential, community-centred delivery** and look to be an effective voice for the sector: supporting people out of hospital to stay healthy and home, championing community ownership, advancing food strategies beyond foodbanks, provision of warm hubs, tackling digital exclusion, supporting the sector role in the criminal justice system, ensuring the sector role in the skills and employment pipeline, influencing public sector commissioning, procurement and fair funding for groups, supporting sector workforce initiatives, championing new partnerships with NHS Providers through place-partnerships and the Alternative Provider Collaboration (Greater Manchester), advancing the sector role in mental health and wellbeing, supporting volunteering and access to volunteering, building large-scale grass-roots and sector-led initiatives around cancer prevention and other health conditions, championing VCFSE partnerships with primary care including and beyond social prescribing, developing VCFSE children and young people services and models, pushing for VCFSE good employment models, sector role in and needs around net zero, sector intelligence and models of coproduction, sector access to data and research, sector role in tackling homelessness, in local regeneration and in creating welcoming communities for refugees and asylum seekers.

Our work in population health, as one example of the above, has helped develop new VCFSE-led models of working with the sector. The **Answer Cancer Programme** has pioneered new models of working with the sector: mobilising hundreds of community organisations and 4,621 community champions, providing on the ground engagement, campaign-tools, training and grants. The work of Jacqui Naraynsingh (VSNW Project Coordinator) and Fiona Chow (Database and Admin Officer) and Yen Siang Tan (Operations Director) have been fundamental to the success of our work in partnership with Salford CVS (Programme lead), BHA for Equality and Unique Improvements. Through our *Bee Seen, Get Screened* Campaign, over 80,000 people can now access paid time off to attend NHS cancer screenings. Answer Cancer continues to demonstrate the vital role of the VCFSE sector in tackling health inequality and driving population health and prevention initiatives, particularly in communities where previous models and approaches have been less successful.

Through our regional partnerships, the sector now has streamlined means to appoint and support **sector representation** at the highest levels across the region. Kassandra Banks (Partnerships Officer), with a good deal of debt to colleagues in Lancashire and South Cumbria VCFSE Alliance, has driven this work forward such that in Greater Manchester, there are 50 leaders sitting on just under 100 boards and committees, representing our sector and communities.

The **North West** is now the first region to have the VCFSE sector as full partner members on all of our Integrated Care NHS Boards, a full set of health inequalities strategies with the sector embedded, the sector universally embedded in currently delivering the post-EU UK Shared Prosperity Fund programme, and clear,

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published evidence of the size and scope of the sector across the North West. As part of this, VSNW, VS6 and CWIP, launched the flagship *Cheshire and Merseyside State of the Sector Report*. The report evidences the size, scale and scope of the VCFSE sector across Cheshire and Merseyside and is being widely shared, embedded in Steve Rotherham's own manifesto and soon to be presented to the chairs of our 17 acute trusts.

Our **Cheshire and Merseyside** (C&M) VCFSE Health and Care Transformation Programme secured over £400k funding from NHS C&M in 2023-2024 and shows the integrated care boards commitment to recognising the sector as an equal strategic and delivery partner.

This commitment to the sector and VSNW, is repeated in our work with the **Greater Manchester** Combined Authority and NHS via the Accord, where VSNW works with a broad and diverse range of VCFSE Leaders and in partnership with 10GM and GMCVO.

As of April 2024, the **VS6-Lottery Reaching Communities** project, managed on behalf of VS6, successfully completed and we continue to support the VS6 Partnership through a new VCFSE manifesto, with ambitions for how the sector can nurture a stronger, inclusive economy.

Last year also marked the start for us in terms of developing a new set of partnerships and relationships with the region's **National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR)** agencies. Francesca McIntosh (Research & Engagement Coordinator), has led on this work, working with NIHR agencies who have now formally committed to working in partnership with the sector. Francesca and Emma Newman (Communications Officer) are now developing tools and models to scale up sector-academia partnership working.

**Nationally**, we have maintained our links to NHS England's voluntary sector team. Over the past five years, we have successfully lobbied for a VCSE Partnership programme, linked to the NHS's 42 Integrated Care Systems (ICS), modelled on our work in Greater Manchester, to be rolled out. VCSE Partnerships or Alliances are now established right across England, this includes all four areas that operate in the North West (Cheshire & Merseyside, Lancashire and South Cumbria, Greater Manchester, North East and North Cumbria).

While our Social Prescribing programme for groups in the North West, led on by Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale CVS and funded through NASP, came to an end in September, we continue to be a voice for sector as a member of **National Social Prescribing Network** steering group

For our regional work, VSNW has been successful in securing 4 year funding from the Lottery, to deliver the "**VCFSE Sector influencing the Future of the North West project**" providing us with the means to scale up our work, including influencing commissioning and procurement, fair funding, codesign and coproductions models, sector's role in skills and employment, sector role in health creation and links to the convention of the north and emerging Combined Authorities. Laura Tilston (Research and Policy Manager), Emma Newman, Yen Siang Tan (Operations Director) and Warren Escadale are working on the programme, which



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sets VSNW well for supporting the sector in the North West as new challenges and opportunities, and new ways of working and influencing, head towards our sector.

### **An effective NW VCFSE leadership organisation**

The Board has prioritised ensuring VSNW is a fit-for-purpose organisation with the capacity to connect, influence, and drive positive change in the sector. Our organisational development has progressed steadily, maintaining 12 staff roles as of March 2024. Our development supports new projects, including the VCFSE Sector influencing the Future of the North West, funded by the Lottery, and the ICS Research Engagement Network Development Programme, broadening our reach and influence.

Income generation is strong, with long-term funding secured for projects in Greater Manchester and Cheshire & Merseyside until 2026. A 4 year funding was secured from the Lottery to deliver the "VCFSE Sector influencing the Future of the North West project", which offers opportunities and capacity to do more across the North West, the North and nationally.

Yen Siang Tan, Operations Director, working with the Chief Executive, Board and colleagues, continues to play a key role in VSNW's operations and ongoing development. In terms of leadership, and the Board continues to work effectively in guiding and supporting VSNW's strategic direction.

### **Plans for the Future**

VSNW will continue to deliver against the current strategic plan 2022/25, and seek to develop the following strategic plan with members once there is greater clarity on the political and policy landscape. We know that there are likely to be significant changes linked to devolution in particular, and uncertainty over significant investment streams like the Shared Prosperity Fund.

In order to boost internal capacity, and support good practice in managing reserves, the board has designated £62,583. This investment includes additional support for engagement, membership and event activity which will help increase our ability to meet ambitious headline key performance indicators around engagement and membership in particular.

### **Financial review**

The charity held reserves of £564,885 at the year end (2023: £429,240) of which £74,511 (2023: £8,840) were restricted and £107,036 (2023: £11,970) designated leaving a general reserve of £383,338 (2023: £408,430). VSNW is in a reasonable financial position at this point. A review of our financial position is conducted quarterly by the Resources Group and is then considered by the Trustee Board. This review is ongoing.

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## **Reserves policy**

The VSNW reserves policy is to maintain sufficient levels of reserves for the delivery of existing programs of work to be completed and/or transferred to alternative providers should a shortfall in income occur. The required time to do this effectively is a minimum 6 months and the level of reserves required to achieve this is £130,265.

The general reserve, as stated above, is higher than this, however, given the short term funding environment and reliance on short-term and project funding, we will periodically review our reserves.

## **Structure, governance and management**

### **Governing document**

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 10 April 2000 and registered as a charity on 19 February 1998.

The company was established under a memorandum of association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its articles of association.

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantees at 31 March 2024 was 128 full members. The trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity. Any expenses reclaimed from the charity are set out in note 9 to the accounts.

### **Trustee selection methods**

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the company's Articles. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association half the members of the Trustee Board elected to serve must be re-elected at the Annual General Meeting.

Both business and strategic skills are required on the Trustee Board and the Board has made a firm commitment to appoint trustees with strong strategic connections to the VCSE sector in each subregion whilst also being sensitive to inclusion and diversity. An annual skills audit is conducted to identify any skills gaps.

Trustees are appointed via an electoral process at the Annual General Meeting elections. Other Trustees can be co-opted by the Trustee Board throughout the year, in accordance with the constitution. The Trustee Board meets every six weeks.

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### **Induction and training of trustees**

New Trustees meet with the Chair and Chief Executive where the current financial position and the governing framework are presented, and the obligations of Board members and future plans and objectives are outlined. The NCVO booklet Trustees and Trustees Members National Occupational Standards is given to all new trustees.

### **Organisational structure**

VSNW has a Trustee Board of up to 12 members who are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. As at 31st March 2024 the Board has six members from a variety of backgrounds relevant to the work of the charity.

VSNW's decision making process rests with the Trustee Board. Decisions regarding implementation of the charity's work and staff supervision are delegated to the Chief Executive, who has one-to-ones with the Chair.

Sub groups are established and agreed by the Trustees to meet between Trustee Board meetings to address any issues that require immediate attention and report any actions for agreement to the full Trustee Board.

The Board delegates day-to-day management of the charity to the Chief Executive, Warren Escadale. The Board takes advice from VSNW staff, in particular the Chief Executive and the Operations Director, Yen Siang Tan, and are informed by their relationships with VSNW's subregional VCFSE partnerships and their own VCFSE organisations, networks and partnerships operating in VSNW's area of benefit, North West England.

### **Related parties and relationships with other organisations**

In so far as it is complementary to the charity's objectives, VSNW is guided by local, regional and national policy. Sub regional partnerships ensure engagement with thematic, geographic and specialist VCSE infrastructure and provides VSNW with a wide reach into the VCSE sector across the region.

### **Remuneration policy for key management personnel**

A subgroup of the board reviews remuneration with advice from our HR consultant, using comparable pay rates within and beyond the sector, including equivalent relationships.

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**Risk management**

The Trustee Board conducts a risk analysis with its budget at outset each year. There is a Risk Register and Policy in place and the register is reviewed on a regular basis. Procedures are implemented internally to ensure proper authorisation for all transactions and projects. Procedures are in place to ensure Health and Safety compliance. These are currently under review for future improvement.

**Fundraising**

VSNW did not conduct public fundraising activities in 2023/24.

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**Statement of responsibilities of the trustees**

The trustees (who are also directors of Voluntary Sector North West for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation

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

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

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

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Auditors

Slade & Cooper Ltd were re-appointed as the charitable company's auditors during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees' annual report has been approved by the trustees on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2024 and signed on their behalf by

Sally Yeoman (Chair)

Gill Bainbridge (Treasurer)

Independent auditor's report  
to the members of Voluntary Sector North West

## Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Voluntary Sector North West (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2024, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (including the income and expenditure account), the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

## Prior year unaudited

The financial statements of Voluntary Sector North West for the year ended 31 March 2023 were unaudited. An independent examination was performed which expressed an unmodified opinion on those statements.

## Basis for opinion

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

## Conclusions relating to going concern

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

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability

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to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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

### **Other information**

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

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

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

- the information given in the trustees' report (incorporating the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

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

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report.

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or



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- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

### **Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 12, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

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

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The specific procedures for this engagement and the extent to which these are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims.
- enquiry of the charity's staff, management and those charged with governance to identify any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

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to the members of Voluntary Sector North West

- auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, and evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

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

**Use of our report**

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

Christy Yun Hing Lau FCCA DChA CTA  
Senior Statutory Auditor

*for and on behalf of*

Slade & Cooper Limited  
Statutory Auditors  
Beehive Mill  
Jersey Street  
Manchester  
M4 6JG  
20<sup>th</sup> December 2024

Voluntary Sector North West  
Statement of Financial Activities  
(including Income and Expenditure account)  
for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
<b>Income from:</b>					
Charitable activities:	3	535,606	792,634	1,328,240	600,178
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total income</b>		<b>535,606</b>	<b>792,634</b>	<b>1,328,240</b>	<b>600,178</b>
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable activities:	4	465,632	726,963	1,192,595	603,080
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>465,632</b>	<b>726,963</b>	<b>1,192,595</b>	<b>603,080</b>
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) before net gains/(losses) on investments</b>		69,974	65,671	135,645	(2,902)
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) for the year</b>	7	<b>69,974</b>	<b>65,671</b>	<b>135,645</b>	<b>(2,902)</b>
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	-
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Net movement in funds for the year</b>		<b>69,974</b>	<b>65,671</b>	<b>135,645</b>	<b>(2,902)</b>
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		420,400	8,840	429,240	432,142
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>490,374</b>	<b>74,511</b>	<b>564,885</b>	<b>429,240</b>
		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.  
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

A full comparative SOFA is available on the last page of the financial statements.

Voluntary Sector North West  
Company number 3988903  
Balance sheet as at 31 March 2024

	Note	2024	2023
		£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	12	843	1,781
<b>Total fixed assets</b>		<b>843</b>	<b>1,781</b>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	13	18,782	218,760
Cash at bank and in hand	14	658,852	275,143
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>677,634</b>	<b>493,903</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Creditors: amounts falling due in less than one year	15	(113,592)	(66,444)
<b>Net current assets</b>		<b>564,042</b>	<b>427,459</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>564,885</b>	<b>429,240</b>
<b>Net assets</b>		<b>564,885</b>	<b>429,240</b>
<b>The funds of the charity:</b>			
Restricted income funds	17	74,511	8,840
Unrestricted income funds	18	490,374	420,400
<b>Total charity funds</b>		<b>564,885</b>	<b>429,240</b>

These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006 and are for circulation to members of the company.

The notes on pages 21 to 36 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the trustees on 29/10/2024 and signed on their behalf by:

Sally Yeoman (Chair)

Gill Bainbridge (Treasurer)

Voluntary Sector North West  
Statement of Cash Flows  
for the year ending 31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Cash provided by/(used in) operating activities</b>	20	<b>383,709</b>	<b>(81,060)</b>
Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents in the year		383,709	(81,060)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		275,143	356,203
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>		<b>658,852</b>	<b>275,143</b>

# Voluntary Sector North West

## Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

### 1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgments and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

#### 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 (FRS 102), second edition - October 2019 (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Voluntary Sector North West meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

#### b Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

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

The trustees have made no key judgments which have a significant effect on the accounts.

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

#### 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.

Income received in advance of a provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

## Voluntary Sector North West

### Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

#### **d Donated services and facilities**

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), general volunteer time is not recognised; refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

#### **e Interest receivable**

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

#### **f Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose.

Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

#### **g Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

#### **h Tangible fixed assets**

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis as follows:

Fixtures & fittings	5 years
Computer equipment	3, 4 or 5 years

## Voluntary Sector North West

### Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

#### **i Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

#### **j Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

#### **k Creditors and provisions**

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

#### **l Financial instruments**

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### **m Pensions**

Employees of the charity are opted into a Pension Scheme (defined contribution 'money purchase' schemes) with an employer's contribution. The charity's contribution is restricted to the contributions disclosed in note 8. There were outstanding contributions of £2,745 (2023: £2,599) at the year end.

### **2 Legal status of the charity**

The charity is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales and has no share capital. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The registered office address is disclosed on page 1.



# Voluntary Sector North West

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

## 3 Income from charitable activities

<b>Current reporting period</b>	<b>Unrestricted £</b>	<b>Restricted £</b>	<b>Total 2024 £</b>
Social Prescribing Network NW NHS England	-	15,120	15,120
VCFSE Transformation Programme (Cheshire & Merseyside)	-	438,758	438,758
C&M Research	-	56,461	56,461
Salford CVS (GM Cancer Screening Engagement Project)	-	101,001	101,001
VS6 (Reaching Community Fund)	-	123,303	123,303
GMCA (Accord)	526,826	-	526,826
National Lottery	-	57,991	57,991
Burnley Pendle & Rossendale CVS (400 Voices)	4,280	-	4,280
Community Futures	4,500	-	4,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>535,606</b>	<b>792,634</b>	<b>1,328,240</b>
<b>Previous reporting period</b>	<b>Unrestricted £</b>	<b>Restricted £</b>	<b>Total 2023 £</b>
Social Prescribing Network NW NHS England	-	40,470	40,470
VCFSE Transformation Programme (Cheshire & Merseyside)	-	143,758	143,758
Salford CVS (GM Cancer Screening Engagement Project)	-	113,608	113,608
VS6 (Reaching Community Fund)	-	91,215	91,215
GMCA (Accord)	183,800	-	183,800
Lloyds Bank Foundation	17,250	-	17,250
Other income	10,077	-	10,077
<b>Total</b>	<b>211,127</b>	<b>389,051</b>	<b>600,178</b>

# Voluntary Sector North West

## Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

### 4 Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Staff costs	426,657	376,696
Other Staff costs	4,794	19,136
Administration	18,282	23,008
Accommodation	10,831	7,164
Associates/Sub-contractors	163,486	135,797
Conferences & events	9,965	5,710
Other project costs	29,981	18,763
Grants to institutions (see note 6)	495,024	-
Depreciation	938	938
Bad debt	10,000	-
Governance costs (see note 5)	22,637	15,868
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,192,595	603,080
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
	2024 £	2023 £
Restricted expenditure	726,963	392,267
Unrestricted expenditure	465,632	210,813
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,192,595	603,080
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

## Voluntary Sector North West

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

### 5 Analysis of governance and support costs

<b>Current reporting period</b>	Basis of apportionment	Governance £	<i>Total 2024</i> £
Auditor fees	Governance	3,816	3,816
Professional fees	Governance	18,391	18,391
AGM and trustee costs	Governance	430	430
		22,637	22,637
		22,637	22,637

<b><i>Previous reporting period</i></b>	<i>Basis of apportionment</i>	<i>Governance</i> £	<i>Total 2023</i> £
<i>Independent examiner fees</i>	<i>Governance</i>	<i>1,700</i>	<i>1,700</i>
<i>AGM and trustee costs</i>	<i>Governance</i>	<i>3,435</i>	<i>3,435</i>
		15,868	15,868
		15,868	15,868

### 6 Grants to institutions

Analysis of total grants paid:

	2024 £	2023 £
10GM	202,965	-
Cheshire West Voluntary Action	20,000	-
Community & Voluntary Services Cheshire East	20,000	-
GMCVO	112,059	-
Halton & St Helens VCA	40,000	-
Liverpool Charity & Voluntary Services	20,000	-
One Knowsley	20,000	-
Sefton CVS	20,000	-
Warrington Voluntary Action	20,000	-
Wirral CVS	20,000	-
	495,024	-
	495,024	-

## Voluntary Sector North West

### Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

#### 7 Net income/(expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging/(crediting):	2024	2023
	£	£
Depreciation	938	938
Operating lease rentals:		
Property	10,831	8,064
Auditor's / (2023: Independent examiner's) fees:		
Accountancy	1,180	1,130
Audit	2,000	-
Independent examination	-	570
Bookkeeping	1,100	4,400
Payroll bureau	394	983
	<u>426,657</u>	<u>376,696</u>

#### 8 Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	378,975	322,313
Social security costs	21,833	28,375
Pension costs	25,849	22,529
Redundancy costs	-	3,479
	<u>426,657</u>	<u>376,696</u>

No employees has employee benefits in excess of £60,000 (2023: Nil).

The average number of staff employed during the period was 12 (2023: 10).

The average full time equivalent number of staff employed during the period was 11 (2023: 10.8).

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Chief Executive and the Operations Director. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £122,531 (2023: £101,324).

**9 Trustee remuneration and expenses, and related party transactions**

Neither the trustees nor any persons connected with them received any remuneration during the year (2023: Nil).

One (2023: four) member of the board of trustees received travel and subsistence expenses of £18 during the year (2023: £494).

**GM Cancer Screening Engagement Project**

In December 2018 VSNW worked in partnership with Salford CVS, BHA for Equality and Unique Improvements to secure a contract with NHS England (on behalf of GM Health and Social Care Partnership) in response to an OJEU tender to deliver the GM Cancer Screening Engagement Project. Salford CVS were the named lead provider within this partnership, on behalf of 10GM. The contract was awarded to this VCSE partnership (now known as Answer Cancer), with Salford CVS as the accountable body. Delivery commenced in the year 2019/20 and during 2023/24 Salford CVS made payments of £101,001 to VSNW (2023: £113,607) in relation to delivery of this project (as per the partnership's revised budget submission). It should be noted that the former Chair of VSNW (resigned 01/06/2023), Alison Page, is also the Chief Executive of Salford CVS.

**Cheshire and Merseyside NHS VCFSE Transformation Programme**

This programme aims to drive better VCFSE integration and partnership with health and social care at system, local authority-level ('Place'), and health neighbourhood. Accordingly, the programme included £180,000 to support better Place-VCSE partnership working. £20,000 was allocated for each of the nine Places (or boroughs) in Cheshire and Merseyside. The fund was open to VCFSE Strategic Place lead organisations, who had to complete an application form proposing how they would develop local sector-wide working relationships across their Place. Each proposal had to be signed and endorsed by their NHS Place Director and then reviewed by a cross-sector Cheshire and Merseyside panel. As part of this process, Halton and St Helens VCA, the VCFSE Strategic Place lead organisation for both Halton and St Helens was awarded funding to develop improved sector-wide Place-VCSE partnerships. The Principles of Good Grant Making (Directory of Social Change) were followed throughout the process which included a number of additional checks and balances to ensure accountability. It should be noted that the Chair of VSNW, Sally Yeoman, is the Chief Executive of Halton and St Helens VCA.

## Voluntary Sector North West

### Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

#### 10 Government grants

The government grants recognised in the accounts were as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Cheshire and Merseyside Health and Care Partnership (via Liverpool CCG)	495,219	143,758
GMCA	526,826	183,800
	<u>1,022,045</u>	<u>327,558</u>

See note 17 for restricted funds carried forward. Conditions attached are to complete the project, which we expect to do in the forthcoming financial years.

#### 11 Corporation tax

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within Chapter 3 of Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the charity.

#### 12 Fixed assets: tangible assets

	Fixtures & fittings £	Computer equipment £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>			
At 1 April 2023	500	5,772	6,272
Disposals	-	-	-
	<u>500</u>	<u>5,772</u>	<u>6,272</u>
At 31 March 2024	500	5,772	6,272
<b>Depreciation</b>			
At 1 April 2023	500	3,991	4,491
Charge for the year	-	938	938
	<u>500</u>	<u>4,929</u>	<u>5,429</u>
At 31 March 2024	500	4,929	5,429
<b>Net book value</b>			
At 31 March 2024	-	843	843
	<u>-</u>	<u>843</u>	<u>843</u>
At 31 March 2023	-	1,781	1,781
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,781</u>	<u>1,781</u>

# Voluntary Sector North West

## Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

### 13 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Grants and fees receivable	15,000	213,719
Bad debt provision	(10,000)	-
Prepayments and accrued income	13,782	5,041
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	18,782	218,760
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

### 14 Cash at bank and in hand

	2024 £	2023 £
Short term deposits	100,000	-
Cash at bank and on hand	558,852	275,143
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	658,852	275,143
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

### 15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	7,456	15,868
Short term compensated absences (holiday pay)	5,714	-
Other creditors and accruals	59,800	40,571
Deferred income (see note 16)	37,250	-
Taxation and social security costs	3,372	10,005
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	113,592	66,444
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

### 16 Deferred income

	2024 £	2023 £
Deferred grant brought forward	-	-
Grant received	37,250	-
Released to income from charitable activities	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Deferred grant carried forward	37,250	-
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

# Voluntary Sector North West

## Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

### 17 Analysis of movements in restricted funds

<b>Current reporting period</b>	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Social Prescribing Network NW	-	15,120	(15,120)	-	-
GMCSE Answer Cancer	-	101,001	(100,372)	-	629
VCFSE Transformation Programme	-	438,758	(430,718)	-	8,040
C&M Research	-	56,461	(26,405)	-	30,056
VS6	8,840	123,303	(113,994)	-	18,149
National Lottery	-	57,991	(40,354)	-	17,637
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,840</b>	<b>792,634</b>	<b>(726,963)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>74,511</b>
<b>Previous reporting period</b>	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Social Prescribing Network NW	-	40,470	(40,470)	-	-
GMCSE Answer Cancer	12,056	113,608	(125,664)	-	-
VCFSE Transformation Programme	-	143,758	(143,758)	-	-
VS6	-	91,215	(82,375)	-	8,840
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,056</b>	<b>389,051</b>	<b>(392,267)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,840</b>



## Voluntary Sector North West

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

### 17 Analysis of movements in restricted funds (cont.)

<b>Name of restricted fund</b>	<b>Description, nature and purposes of the fund</b>
Social Prescribing Network NW	Funding from National Academy for Social Prescribing (NASP), via Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale CVS, to support VCSE role in Social Prescribing in North West England
GMCSE Answer Cancer	Subcontracted from Salford CVS delivery of the GM Cancer Screening Engagement service
VCFSE Transformation Programme	To support the VCFSE role in the transformation of health and care across Cheshire and Merseyside.
C&M Research	To support VCFSE sector to engage in health and care research, funded via C&M NHS.
VS6	Reaching Communities Lottery Funds held on behalf of the VS6 Partnership in order to support the VCFSE role in shaping the future of Liverpool City Region
National Lottery	Four year funding from the National Lottery Communities Fund to enable the "VCFSE Sector to influence the Future of the North West" project.

# Voluntary Sector North West

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

## 18 Analysis of movement in unrestricted funds

<b>Current reporting period</b>	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	As at 31 March 2024 £
General fund	408,430	8,780	28,711	(62,583)	383,338
Designated Funds:					
GM Accord	11,970	526,826	(494,343)	-	44,453
Organisational Development	-	-	-	62,583	62,583
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	420,400	535,606	(465,632)	-	490,374
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Previous reporting period</b>	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	As at 31 March 2023 £
General fund	289,883	211,127	(189,914)	97,334	408,430
Designated Funds:					
Carers C&M	10,666	-	(10,666)	-	-
Lloyds Bank Foundation	15,000	-	-	(15,000)	-
GM Accord	56,665	-	-	(44,695)	11,970
Organisational Development	47,872	-	(10,233)	(37,639)	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	420,086	211,127	(210,813)	-	420,400
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

# Voluntary Sector North West

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

## 18 Analysis of movement in unrestricted funds (cont.)

Name of unrestricted fund	Description, nature and purposes of the fund
General fund	The free reserves after allowing for all designated funds
Designated Funds	
GM Accord	The GM VCFSE Accord is a collaboration agreement between the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA), NHS Greater Manchester, and the Voluntary, Community, Faith, and Social Enterprise (VCFSE) sector, represented by the GM VCFSE Leadership Group. Its purpose is to strengthen partnerships between these sectors to improve outcomes for the communities in Greater Manchester.
Carers C&M	Funding to support carers in Cheshire and Merseyside linked to NHS workforce development
Lloyds Bank Foundation	Lloyds Bank Foundation grant investment in VSNW's core funding
Organisational Development	Funding designated by VSNW's Board for future development and sustainability and to support delivery, in line with our priorities, across the North West and the five subregions.

## 19 Analysis of net assets between funds

Current reporting period	General fund £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	843	-	-	843
Net current assets/(liabilities)	382,495	107,036	74,511	564,042
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	383,338	107,036	74,511	564,885
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Previous reporting period	General fund £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	1,781	-	-	1,781
Net current assets/(liabilities)	406,649	11,970	8,840	427,459
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	408,430	11,970	8,840	429,240
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

# Voluntary Sector North West

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

## 20 Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Net income/(expenditure) for the year</b>	135,645	(2,902)
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation charge	938	938
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	199,978	(88,365)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	47,148	9,269
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) operating</b>	383,709	(81,060)
	<hr/>	<hr/>

# Voluntary Sector North West

## Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

### 21 Prior year Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure account)

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
<b>Income from:</b>				
Donations and legacies	-	-	-	3,000
Charitable activities:	211,127	389,051	600,178	431,740
<b>Total income</b>	<b>211,127</b>	<b>389,051</b>	<b>600,178</b>	<b>434,740</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Charitable activities:	210,813	392,267	603,080	389,448
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>210,813</b>	<b>392,267</b>	<b>603,080</b>	<b>389,448</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) before net gains/(losses) on investments</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>(3,216)</b>	<b>(2,902)</b>	<b>45,292</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) for the year</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>(3,216)</b>	<b>(2,902)</b>	<b>45,292</b>
Transfer between funds	-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds for the year</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>(3,216)</b>	<b>(2,902)</b>	<b>45,292</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward	420,086	12,056	432,142	386,850
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>420,400</b>	<b>8,840</b>	<b>429,240</b>	<b>432,142</b>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.  
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.